

## SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGAL STATUS

~~The Constitution of the State of Wisconsin provides for the establishment of free public schools “...which shall be as nearly uniform as practical” and sets up the basis for School District organization and reorganization.~~

~~The State Constitution further provides for a State Department of Public Instruction, under the supervision of a State Superintendent, to provide leadership and services to local school districts.~~

~~State Delegations: Local school board members legally are regarded as State officers. The view that school boards are agents of the State rather than of a city, township or village has been established by numerous court decisions. General duties of a local school board are established in Section 120.12 of the Wisconsin Statutes. Powers and duties are further enumerated in Section 120.49.~~

~~Corporate Entity: The Board of Education is recognized as a corporate entity and as such exists only when its individual members are meeting together in legal session. The School Board is a continuing body independent of its separate members.~~

The legal and official name of the school district is the Appleton Area School District.

The District is organized and operated as a public school district under the Wisconsin Constitution, under Chapters 115 to 121 of the state statutes, and under other applicable laws and regulations.

The District is a unified school district that operates both elementary and high school grades.

In addition to the public school grades operated by the District, the District operates such other programs and conducts such other activities as may be required by applicable law, and the District may further operate other programs and activities to the extent permitted by applicable law.

**Cross References:** Board Member Authority and Responsibility, 161

**Legal References:** ~~Wisconsin Constitution Article X~~  
Wisconsin State Statutes ~~115.01(3), (5); 120.12, 120.13, 120.41,~~

~~120.44, and 120.49~~ 115.01, 117.27, 118.50, Chapter 120, Section  
120.12, 120.13, and 120.44 (1)

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