

Smith County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in September	Descriptor Term: School District - School Board Legal Status and Authority	Descriptor Code: 1.100	Issued Date: 12/20/05
		Rescinds: p. 2	Issued: 12/28/99

1 The legal basis for education in Tennessee is expressed in the state Constitution and state statutes as
2 interpreted by the courts. Boards are instruments of the state, and members of the Board are state officers
3 representing local citizens and the state in the management of the public schools.¹

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5 The governing body shall be the Board of Education, serving residents within the boundaries of the
6 school system and non-residents under conditions specified by state law and the Board.²

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8 All powers of the Board lie in its action as a group; therefore, individual board members exercise their au-
9 thority over school system affairs only as they vote to take action at an official meeting of the Board.

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11 In other instances, an individual board member, including the chairman, shall have power only when
12 specified by state law or when the Board, by vote, has delegated authority to him.

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Legal References:
1. TCA 49-1-101; TCA 49-1-102 (c); TCA 49-1-103
2. TCA 49-6-3104