

SCHOOL ATTORNEY

The Mohawk Trail Regional School Committee recognizes that the increasing complexity of school district operations frequently requires procurement of professional legal services. Consequently, it shall retain an attorney or law firm for purposes of systemically securing such services.

A decision to seek legal advice or assistance in behalf of the school district shall normally be made by the superintendent or by persons specifically authorized by the superintendent. Such action shall occur as it is consistent with approved district policy or standard practice and meets an obvious need of the district. It may also take place as a consequence of formal committee direction.

Many types of instances of legal assistance to the district may be considered routine and not necessitating specific committee approval or prior vote. For example, the superintendent may consult with the school attorney to:

- Present an illegal action and ensure required legal action
- Protect rights and interests of the district by removal of prejudiced clauses and requirements from contracts
- Prevent ambiguous wording with potential for conflicting interpretations

However, when the administration concludes that unusual types or amounts of professional legal service may be required, the committee directs the administration to so advise it and to expeditiously seek either initial or continuing authorization for such service.