

LA HARPE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 347
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School District Organization

School District Legal Status

The Illinois Constitution requires the State to provide for an efficient system of high-quality public educational institutions and services in order to achieve the educational development of all persons to the limits of their capabilities.

The General Assembly has implemented this mandate through the creation of school districts. The District is governed by the laws for school districts serving a resident population of not fewer than 1,000 and not more than 500,000.

The School Board constitutes a body corporate that possesses all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes, and in that name may sue and be sued, purchase, hold and sell personal property and real estate, and enter into such obligations as are authorized by law.

LEGAL REF.: Ill. Constitution, Art. X, Sec. 1.
105 ILCS 5/10-1 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 2:10 (School District Governance), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification)

School District Organization

District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements

The District is organized and operates as an Elementary District serving the needs of children in grades Pre-School through 8 and others as required by School Code.

The District enters into and participates in joint programs and intergovernmental agreements with units of local government and other school districts in order to jointly provide services and activities in a manner that will increase flexibility, scope of service opportunities, cost reductions, and/or otherwise benefit the District and the community. The Superintendent shall manage these activities to the extent the program or agreement requires the District's participation, and shall provide periodic implementation or operational data and/or reports to the School Board concerning these programs and agreements. The District participates in the following joint programs and intergovernmental agreements:

LEGAL REF.: Ill. Constitution, Art. VII, Sec. 10.
5 ILCS 220/, Intergovernmental Cooperation Act.

School District Organization

Administrative Procedure - Checklist for Handling Intergovernmental Agreement Requests

The Superintendent completes this checklist whenever the District receives a request to enter into an intergovernmental agreement.

- Acknowledge the receipt of the request to the sender.
- Confer with the School Board President as to when to put the request on an open meeting agenda as a discussion and/or action item.
- Inform the request's sender of approximately when the request will be presented to the Board.
- Investigate the factual context and the impact of granting or not granting the request.
- Determine if the request is for procurement purposes and evaluate whether an intergovernmental agreement would be exempt under 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21.
- Prepare an evaluation of the request and a recommendation that takes into account the Board's priorities in the allocation of resources, including funds, time, personnel, facilities, and the transmission of knowledge and culture through which students learn in areas necessary to their continuing development and entry into the world of work.
- Consult the Board attorney for a legal review of the proposed intergovernmental agreement.
- Include the evaluation and recommendation in the appropriate Board meeting packet.

School District Organization

School District Philosophy

The members of the School Board, as legal officials of the State of Illinois, duly elected by the people of our District, are obligated to the youth of our District to ensure that their educational needs are met in the best possible manner. We will exhibit leadership in all endeavors to improve the District's educational program and facilities.

We believe the District should provide an environment which helps students, parents and other community members demonstrate a positive attitude toward learning.

We believe that the educational program should provide each student with the opportunity to develop to his fullest capacity in the areas of mental, physical and emotional needs.

We feel that the following statements should be the goals of a well-rounded education. Each student should:

1. Attain, commensurate with his abilities, his optimum proficiency in the language arts, social studies, science and math.
2. Attain, commensurate with his abilities, his optimum proficiency in listening, speaking and writing skills.
3. Develop an ethical sense which will help him manifest tolerance, kindness and justice to all others.
4. Develop an appreciation for his role in the family, i.e. parental authority, and in civic groups.
5. Have the opportunity to learn and practice the basic principles of democracy in order to perpetuate, improve and maintain the American democratic way of life.
6. Develop knowledge and understanding of his natural environment.
7. Develop economic competence as a consumer.
8. Develop saleable skills and vocational competence.
9. Explore and develop an appreciation of the arts.
10. Develop wise use of leisure time.
11. Develop zeal for continuous learning and self-improvement.
12. Have the opportunity to learn the value and dignity of work.

We will strive to provide the citizens of this community with the most complete education program possible. Every effort will be made to:

1. Make the best use of the physical plant that was provided by the taxpayers.

2. Secure in the judgment of the School Board the best personnel available.
3. Advise and inform the lay public from time to time of all school activities and to seek their advice.
4. Provide the highest moral, ethical and professional leadership.

CROSS REF: 2:10 (School District Governance), 3:10 (Goals and Objectives), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives)