

BOARD OF TRUSTEES LEGAL STATUS

The Jackson Public School District, a political subdivision of the State of Mississippi, is governed by the Board of Trustees, which consists of seven (7) members selected in the manner provided by law.

An individual board member has no legal authority to act individually unless specifically delegated authority to act by this school board at its legal meeting. The Constitution of Mississippi stipulates that the responsibility for establishing and maintaining public schools rests with the Mississippi Legislature. The Constitution provides for a State Board of Education, which has general supervision of the public schools. The Mississippi Constitution further provides that local public schools under the general supervision of the State Board of Education shall be maintained, developed, and operated by locally elected or appointed boards. Therefore, school boards are instruments of the Mississippi Legislature and derive their authority from the Mississippi statutes and the regulations of the State Board of Education.

The Board of Trustees may adopt any orders, resolutions, or ordinances concerning school district affairs, property, and finances that are not inconsistent with the Mississippi Constitution of 1890, the Mississippi Code of 1972, or any other statute or law of the State of Mississippi. Except as otherwise provided in this statutory or constitutional authority, the powers granted to the board in this section are complete without the existence of or reference to any specific authority granted in any other statute or law of the State of Mississippi. This authority shall not authorize the school board to (a) levy taxes of any kind or increase the levy of any authorized tax; (b) issue bonds of any kind; (c) enter into collective bargaining agreements.

SOURCE: JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

LEGAL REF.: MISS. CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE 8, SECTION 201, 203, 204;
MISS. CODE ANN. §37-6-3; §37-6-5; §37-6-7; §37-7-301.1; § 37-7-203

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