

**MOUNT DESERT ISLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
Participation by Municipal School Board Members**

It is the policy of the Mount Desert Island Regional High School Board (hereinafter: the Board) to encourage the broadest possible representation from the towns that are party to the regional high school. Municipal boards (elementary school boards or committees from Tremont, Southwest Harbor, Mount Desert and Bar Harbor) send either two or three members to serve as voting members of the Board. However the Board actively encourages all municipal board members to attend the high school meetings and participate fully as members, except for voting.

The Board supports the policy for many reasons, including:

- It fosters a greater sense of investment in and responsibility for the well being of the high school.
- It broadens and deepens the diversity of ideas that can be brought to bear on each agenda item.
- It enhances the consideration of educational policy within a K-12 context, not K-8 vs. 9-12, resulting in greater continuity throughout.
- It provides greater opportunity for more work to be done, especially when staffing sub-committees.
- It provides valuable experience and information continuity for those who may not now be high school board members, but will be so in the future.

To further these goals the Board establishes an Advisory Committee, comprised of all municipal board members not designated as Board members. Board and Advisory Committee members may vary from meeting to meeting depending upon the decisions of the municipal boards.

Unless the terms of a superseding law prohibit expanded participation, it is the policy of the Board to seek and allow equal participation by Advisory Committee members, except that motions and voting on matters before the Board shall be done only by Board members.

Members of the Advisory Committee shall be bound by the same responsibilities and requirements as Board members, including but not limited to those enumerated in 20-A M.R.S.A. §1001, 1 M.R.S.A. Cpt 13, Public Records and Proceedings, Subcpt. 1: Freedom of Access, and all board policies and practices.

The minutes of each meeting shall reflect the names of who were the designated Board members and who were the Advisory Committee members in attendance.

First Reading: 05/11/09
Second Reading: 06/08/09
Adoption: 06/08/09