

**MOUNT DESERT ISLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
Explanation of Consent to Participation Form**

Mount Desert Island Regional High School is governed by a unique law, a "Private and Special Act" of the Maine Legislature that created the island's regional high school in 1963.

The four towns on the island each have a school board of five people (a total of 20). Each of those boards selects from its members a total of ten people to serve as the high school Board. It is the practice of the Board to encourage all twenty elementary school board members to attend high school board meetings and participate fully as members of an Advisory Committee with all the rights and responsibilities of Board members, except for voting on motions.

However, in certain circumstances, the rights and responsibilities of others must be considered when determining who shall participate in high school board meetings.

Nowhere is this clearer than in executive sessions when the rights of a third party, either an employee of the school, or a student, are being considered. **It is the right of that individual to limit participation in his or her executive session to only the ten high school Board members, excluding Advisory Committee members. However, it is also the right of the individual to consent to participation in deliberations (but not voting) by the Advisory Committee.**

This form allowing participation by the Advisory Committee is for your consideration. You are free to sign it or not as you think best and you may consult with anyone you wish before signing including legal counsel.

Board and Advisory Committee members would each exercise independent judgment in assessing any matter under consideration, but you may rest assured that no Board or Committee member's judgment will be affected solely by whether or not you allow Advisory Committee members to participate.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to speak to the Superintendent.

Consent to Participation of Advisory Board Members in Executive Session

I have read and understand the explanation detailed above and hereby:

_____ **Agree to participation of Advisory Board members during executive session**

_____ **Do not agree to participation of Advisory Board members during executive session**

Signature

Date

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