## MAJOR ROLES OF SCHOOL BOARDS & COUNCILS

### ACADEMICS

**School Board**
- Adopt the annual calendar, including professional development days & holidays
- Monitor district performance
- Develop district improvement plan

**School Council**
- Select instructional materials
- Adopt school curriculum
- Develop school improvement plan to enhance student achievement

### STUDENTS

**School Board**
- Set graduation requirements
- Adopt discipline code for the district
- Expel students
- Set attendance boundaries for schools

**School Council**
- Set and implement discipline practices for the school
- Assign students to classes within the school

### STAFF

**School Board**
- Hire and evaluate the superintendent
- Hire/contract with board attorney
- Establish job descriptions for all staff
- Grant leaves of absences for staff

**School Council**
- Works with superintendent to hire school principal
- Decide number of people in each position in the school
- Assign staff time

### MONEY

**School Board**
- Impose local taxes and set district budget
- Allocate resources to each school
- Set salary schedule for all district staff

**School Council**
- Set the school budget
- Use funding from school board to purchase materials & other student support needs

### EXTRAS

**School Board**
- Approve field trips and fundraisers
- Approve new extracurricular activities

**School Council**
- Select extracurricular activities offered at school
- Set participation requirements for extracurricular activities

### FACILITIES

**School Board**
- Manage district property, including renovation and construction
- Decide how school buildings are used after school hours by community groups

**School Council**
- Adopt policies for use of the school building during the school day
Providing quality education to Kentucky children is a team effort involving many partners. This brochure explores key roles and responsibilities given to local school boards and local school councils.

The Kentucky Constitution grants responsibility to the **General Assembly** for the creation and funding of an efficient system of public education. Under that authority, the legislature has created the **Kentucky Board of Education**, **local school boards**, elected by the local community, and **site-based decision-making councils**. These local school councils are comprised of the principal, as chair, and three **teachers** elected by teachers and two **parents** elected by parents.

This is a general outline of school board and school council responsibilities and is not meant to be all-inclusive or to cover all situations boards and councils may encounter. For more detailed information, please see KSBA’s School Board Leadership Guide at [www.ksba.org/BeingaBoardMember.aspx](http://www.ksba.org/BeingaBoardMember.aspx) or go to [www.kasc.net](http://www.kasc.net), the website of Kentucky Association of School Councils. Relevant state laws include KRS 158, KRS 160, and KRS 160.345, which may be accessed at [www.lrc.ky.gov](http://www.lrc.ky.gov).