

SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

School District Legal Status

The Constitution of Illinois 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 capacities.

The Constitution of Illinois places the responsibility of establishing and maintaining public schools with the General Assembly and directs the General Assembly to provide for a State Board of Education which has general supervision over all public schools. The School Code of Illinois provides that local school districts shall be governed by a properly elected Board of School Directors or Board of Education. Local school boards are instruments of the Illinois General Assembly and derive their authority from the Illinois Constitution and Statutes and the regulations of the State Board of Education.

The General Assembly has implemented this constitutional mandate through the creation of school districts of various types. Sunset Ridge, a common school district, is governed by the laws set forth for school districts having a population of not fewer than 1,000 and not more than 500,000.

The school board has responsibilities to the local citizenry it serves and to the professional personnel it employs. The School Board of Sunset Ridge District 29 is the policy making body for the District's schools and serves within the framework provided by law, the will of the local citizenry and the ethics of the professional personnel employed by the School Board. The school district constitutes a body corporate which 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.