

The following Rhode Island law was passed in 2004 which calls for RIASC to develop and implement a professional development program for school committee members.

§ 16-2-5.1 Professional development. – (a) The Rhode Island College in cooperation with the Rhode Island Association of School Committees shall develop a professional development educational program for Rhode Island school committees, that will include instruction in school finance, school law; duties and responsibilities of the committee, duties and responsibilities of the superintendent, ethics, the requirements of the open meetings law, student achievement, strategic planning, educational standards, student assessment, school accountability, data interpretation and analysis, collaboration building, advocacy, annual performance evaluation of the school superintendent and the local school committee, and any other topics as the Rhode Island Association of school committees may deem to be necessary.

(b) In conformity with § 16-60-4(15), the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary education shall approve the professional development program and create a process for recognizing school committee members that successfully complete the program in part or in whole.

Passed in 2010:

§ 16-2-9 General Powers and Duties of school committees – to annually undertake a minimum of six (6) hours of professional development as set forth and described in Section 16-2-5.1

- **RIASC's School Committee Leadership Academy**
- **Improve your effectiveness**
- **Achieve your goals**
- **Successfully meet the challenges of your governance role**
- **Commit to ongoing professional development**

Rhode Island Association of School Committees

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*Rhode Island
Association of
School Committees*

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



***School Committee
Professional
Development Program***

RIASC'S Leadership Academy Program Background

Meeting the responsibilities of being a school committee member requires a wide variety of skills, knowledge and abilities. In 2004 the Rhode Island Association of School Committees was instrumental in passing a law calling for a voluntary professional development program for school committee members. After a year of planning and a national survey of school committee training, the program was unveiled.

Upon completion of 15 hours of approved training, school committee members will receive special recognition from the Rhode Island Board of Regents. Also, School committee members receive a certificate after attending each session. Members can also become graduates of our Master's Academy by attaining 50 to 100+ hours of professional development.

Participate in RIASC's Leadership Academy and you can join the many school committee members who have graduated and received the recognition they so deserved!



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Seminar Topics

Collective Bargaining

- Assess your union contracts negotiation skills and strategies.

Roles & Responsibilities

- Learn your role as a school committee member

New Member Training

- Ethics laws
- Open meetings law
- Parliamentary procedure

School Finance

- Understanding Rhode Island school finance

Strategic Planning

- Develop long range goals and plans for your school committee

Superintendent Evaluations

- Learn how to assess your evaluation instrument

Rhode Island Legislation & Lobbying

- How does the General Assembly work?
- Make it work for your school district

Training for School Committee Chairs

- Community engagement
- Chair mentoring

Media Relations

- Communicate your message effectively to the press

*Why should you participate
in RIASC's
Leadership Academy
Program?*

Leadership Academy participants will be better able to focus on the bottom line — student achievement.

Leadership Academy Recognition increases a school committee member's credibility by demonstrating to their community that they take their governance role seriously and are committed to education.

Leadership Academy participants have a keener sense of their role as policy makers and are able to hone their skills to govern effectively.

Leadership Academy participants become informed decision-makers better able to make sound decisions for their districts.

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