

## **PURPOSE AND ROLE OF THE BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

The Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties, otherwise known as Questar III, affirms that it is dedicated to providing quality services to the school districts it serves and to providing excellent educational opportunities to students of those school districts.

To this end, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services is a legislative body responsible for the governance of Questar III in a manner consistent with law. Board members exercise their authority and responsibility collectively, as part of that body, and have no individual authority or right to exercise the authority of the board.

The Board recognizes that Questar III is a service organization and it values and encourages the participation of its component districts in decision-making processes relating to the services Questar III provides and the costs of such services. The Board recognizes that it is in the best interest of students for a close working relationship to exist between the school districts it serves, Questar III staff and the Board.

The Board recognizes the need to select and maintain appropriately trained and experienced administrators, teachers and staff who are dedicated to achieving excellence in the implementation of the policies of the district. Selection and maintenance of such employees shall be premised upon the understanding that students are our first priority at Questar III.

The Board recognizes the right of employee groups to organize and bargain collectively for salaries and other terms and conditions of employment as provided by law, and pledges good faith in this endeavor.