



Sponsored by the Maine Principals' Association in  
Partnership with **DrummondWoodsum**

# Maine School Law **SUMMER INSTITUTE**

*We're going VIRTUAL!*

Join us for 8 interactive Zoom sessions!  
July 6-9 & 13-16, 2020  
9 am - 12 pm (*daily*)

Registration | **\$1,150** (Includes tuition & required materials)

**REGISTER NOW**



## About the Institute

We are taking our School Law Institute virtual for 2020 using Zoom, a cloud-based video-conferencing service. The Institute program has been designed with busy educators in mind. Taught by Drummond Woodsum school attorneys who have decades of experience both practicing and teaching school law, the Institute distills from the vast body of education statutes and court decisions the knowledge that educators most need to perform their jobs effectively and to recognize and prevent legal problems before they arise.

The institute involves significant reading in advance from Maine School Law, as well as collected court and arbitration rulings. Participants will complete a written exercise in advance of the course, participate in a virtual mock exercise during the course, prepare and present a short oral argument related to one side of an assigned case, and submit a 5 page paper at the conclusion of the course.

The Institute is an intense and exciting learning experience for educators, so we encourage participants to be fully present during their online sessions. Because of the small class size and casual nature of the Institute, instructors Isabel, Pete, and Elek will be available to continue discussions and talk informally with participants throughout the 8-day period.

## Topics Include:

- Legal Framework of the Public Schools in Maine
- Student Rights
- Special Education
- Employment
- Collective Bargaining
- Litigation and Liability
- Religion in Schools
- School Finance
- COVID-19 Compliance Issues

# More About the Institute

## Required Texts

*Maine School Law, 6th Edition, 2018*, and *Significant Cases in Maine School Law, 3rd Edition, 2013*.

The appropriate texts and assigned topic for the first paper will be forwarded to each student by **June 5<sup>th</sup>**.

## Assignments, Readings, and First Paper

By the first class, students must read the assigned chapters, informational materials and cases.

On **July 6<sup>th</sup>** a written assignment will be due on assigned questions based on specific chapters and cases.

## Individual Presentations

During the class sessions, each student will present a five-minute oral argument on one side of a legal decision from the customized case readings.

## Online Participation

Participants are required to have their own tablet or computer and a stable internet connection. Participants will also need to be able to connect via video and audio. Spirited class discussion is an important part of this course. Students will have multiple opportunities to participate in discussions and virtual group exercises, including a mock hearing.

## Final Paper

A second paper (5 page maximum, double spaced, conventional type) will be **due by July 27**. The instructors will provide this assignment at the Institute.

## Grading

Grades will be based on the papers, active class participation, the case arguments, and mock exercises.

## Registration and Payment

Registration and payment are due by June 24, 2020.

## Cancellation Policy

We understand that plans change. If you find you can no longer attend the Institute, please contact Donna Swiderek at [dswiderek@dwmlaw.com](mailto:dswiderek@dwmlaw.com). A \$250 cancellation fee will apply if we receive your cancellation after July 1, 2020. If materials are returned un-opened you will be credited.

### ***Earn 4.5 C.E.U.s Over 8 Half-Day Sessions!***

The Maine Department of Education has approved the Institute to fulfill the requirement for a course on school law for purposes of administrator certification. Whether you need a course to satisfy a requirement, are looking for an update, or simply have an interest in school law, the course will meet your needs. The course will also qualify for C.E.U.s from UMO for a small fee. Instructions for payment will be provided with the course materials.

*(Note: Although the Institute provides certification and recertification credits, it is not affiliated with a college or university and does not provide graduate school credits.)*

# About Your Instructors

**Isabel Ekman** represents schools on all aspects of school and education law, including special education and disability rights, student discipline, student rights, employment disputes, and investigations. Isabel represents school districts in administrative hearings and complaints before the Maine Department of Education, as well as in discrimination, harassment, and retaliation cases before the Maine Human Rights Commission and state and federal courts. Isabel has served as an instructor for school law courses offered by the University of Southern Maine, as well as for the Institute.

**Peter Felmly** is the chair of Drummond Woodsum's school law practice group and counsels public schools in all aspects of labor law, employment law, and school law. Peter's practice includes counseling in regard to hiring practices, discipline and discharge practices, conducting workplace investigations, compliance with discrimination laws and laws regarding the payment of wages, and the constitutional rights of students and school employees. Peter is a co-author of *Maine School Law* (6th edition 2018), and has served as an instructor for school law courses offered by the University of Southern Maine.

**Elek Miller** is a general school lawyer who works with schools on all manner of legal issues. He advises and represents schools in front of state and federal courts and administrative agencies regarding student discipline and student rights; privacy and technology matters; copyright and trademark disputes, the employment of teachers, school administrators, and other employees; and a number of other subjects. He also counsels schools about compliance with state and federal laws and regulations as well as the implications of efforts to generate alternative revenue streams such as merchandising school apparel and facilities naming rights; and assists schools by conducting personnel and student-related investigations. He is the head of Drummond Woodsum's privacy and data security practice group, and for a number of years he was an adjunct professor at the University of Southern Maine, teaching a course on school law for future school administrators. And, like Peter, he is a co-author of *Maine School Law* (6th edition 2018).