



## **The Thomas B. Fordham Foundation Policy on Community School Management and Operations**

Pursuant to Ohio law, and pursuant to the contract for community school sponsorship between the Thomas B. Fordham Foundation (Fordham Foundation) and the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) executed July 1, 2004, the Fordham Foundation, as a Sponsor of community schools in Ohio, is responsible for:

- monitoring and evaluating the compliance of Fordham-sponsored schools with all laws and rules applicable to the school;
- monitoring and evaluating the academic and fiscal performance and the organization and operation of the school;
- monitoring and evaluating the contractual commitments that the schools have made with the Fordham Foundation, and;
- providing technical assistance to Fordham-sponsored schools in complying with all laws and rules applicable to community schools.

The Fordham Foundation does not conduct functions associated with the day-to-day management or operations of its sponsored schools. The Fordham Foundation encourages the Governing Authorities of schools that it sponsors to engage competent, experienced persons and/or organizations to handle such functions. Whether such persons or organizations are employees of the school, an Education Management Organization, or other school management organizations, any decision to employ or contract with such persons or organizations is the exclusively responsibility of the school's Governing Authority or a school leader responsible to that Governing Authority. The Fordham Foundation is prepared to describe options and make recommendations upon request but it never requires, expects, or encourages a Fordham-sponsored school to employ any particular person or to engage the services of any particular school management organization or firm.