

## **BOARD BYLAWS**

### **SUBJECT: Board Training**

The Governing Board believes that the Board's ability to effectively and responsibly govern the district is essential to promoting student achievement, building positive community relations, and protecting the public interest in district schools. Board members shall be provided sufficient opportunities for professional development that helps them understand their responsibilities, stay abreast of new developments in education, and develop boardsmanship skills.

Board members may be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred when performing authorized services for the district. Expenses for travel, telephone, business meals, or other authorized purposes shall be in accordance with policies established for district personnel and at the same rate of reimbursement.

Authorized purposes may include, but are not limited to, attendance at educational seminars or conferences designed to improve Board members' skills and knowledge; participation in regional, state, or national organizations whose activities affect the district's interests; attendance at district or community events; and meetings with state or federal officials on issues of community concern.

Personal expenses shall be the responsibility of individual Board members. Personal expenses include, but are not limited to, the personal portion of any trip, tips or gratuities, alcohol, entertainment, laundry, expenses of any family member who is accompanying the Board member on district-related business, personal use of an automobile, and personal losses and traffic violation fees incurred while on district business.

Any questions regarding the propriety of a particular type of expense should be resolved by the Board President and Superintendent or designee before the expense is incurred. Travel expenses should be approved by the Board in advance of the travel.

(cf. 3100 – Budget)

(cf. 3350 – Travel Expenses)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

All Board members are encouraged to continuously participate in advanced training offered by the California School Boards Association in order to reinforce boardsmanship skills and build knowledge related to key education issues. Such activities may include online courses, webinars, webcasts, and in-person attendance at workshops and conferences. In addition, workshops and consultations may be held within the district on issues that involve the entire governance team.

Funds for board training shall be budgeted annually for the Board and each Board member. In selecting appropriate activities, the Board and/or individual Board members shall consider activities that are aligned with the district's vision and goals and the needs of the Board or

individual member to obtain specific knowledge and skills. The Board shall annually develop a board training calendar in order to schedule and track board training activities and to schedule opportunities for Board members to report on the activities in which they participated.

Board members may attend a conference or similar public gathering with other Board members and/or with the Superintendent or designee in order to develop common knowledge and understanding of an issue or engage in team-building exercises. In such cases, a majority of the Board members shall not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled program, business of a specified nature that is within the district's jurisdiction, so as not to violate the Brown Act open meeting laws pursuant to Government Code 54952.2.

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

Board members shall report to the Board, orally or in writing, on the board training activities they attend, for the purpose of sharing the acquired knowledge or skills with the full Board and enlarging the benefit of the activity to the Board and district.

Legal Reference:

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:

54952.2 Meeting

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Professional Governance Standards for School Boards

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California County Boards of Education: <http://www.theccbe.org>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.or>