

ROLE OF THE BOARD (POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES)

The Board of Trustees is elected by the community to provide leadership and citizen oversight of the District's school. The Board shall work with the Superintendent/Principal to fulfill its major roles, which include:

1.Establishing a long-term vision for the District. Setting the direction for the district through a process that involves the community, parents/guardians, students, and staff and is focused on student learning and achievement.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 0100 - Philosophy)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

2.Establishing and maintaining a basic organizational structure for the District, including employing the Superintendent and setting policy for hiring of other personnel, overseeing the development and adoption of policies, curriculum, the budget and the collective bargaining agreement.

(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)

(cf. 2120 - Superintendent Recruitment and Selection)

(cf. 2121 - Superintendent's Contract)

(cf. 4000 - Concepts and Roles)

(cf. 4111 - Recruitment and Selection)

(cf. 4211- Recruitment and Selection)

(cf. 4311- Recruitment and Selection)

(cf. 9310 - Board Policies)

3.Ensuring accountability to the local community, including personnel, programmatic and fiscal accountability and service as a judicial and appeals body as needed

4.Providing community leadership and advocacy at the local, state and national levels on behalf of children, District programs and public education

5.Establishing academic expectations and adopting the curriculum and instructional materials

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)

6.Establishing budget priorities and adopting the budget

(cf. 3000 - Concepts and Roles)

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(cf. 3100 - Budget)
(cf. 3312 - Contracts)

7. Providing safe, adequate facilities that support the district's instructional program

(cf. 3517 - Facilities Inspection)
(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)
(cf. 7150 - Site Selection and Development)
(cf. 7210 - Facilities Financing)

8. Setting parameters for negotiations with employee organizations and ratifying collective bargaining agreements

(cf. 4141/4241 - Collective Bargaining Agreement)
(cf. 4143/4243 - Negotiations/Consultation)

9. Providing support to the Superintendent and staff as they carry out the Board's direction by:

a. Establishing and adhering to standards of responsible governance

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)
(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)
(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)
(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

b. Making decisions and providing resources that support district priorities and goals

c. Upholding Board policies

d. Being knowledgeable about district programs and efforts in order to serve as effective spokespersons

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)
(cf. 9400 - Board Self-Evaluation)

10. Ensuring accountability to the public for the performance of the district's schools by:

a. Evaluating the Superintendent and setting policy for the evaluation of other personnel

(cf. 2140- Evaluation of the Superintendent)
(cf. 4115 - Evaluation/Supervision)
(cf. 4215 - Evaluation/Supervision)
(cf. 4315 - Evaluation/Supervision)

b. Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of policies

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c. Serving as a judicial (hearing) and appeals body in accordance with law, Board policies, and negotiated agreements

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)
(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)
(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)
(cf. 4117.3 - Personnel Reduction)
(cf. 4117.4 - Dismissal)
(cf. 4144/4244/4344 - Complaints)
(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)
(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)
(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)
(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 6159.1 - Procedural Safeguards and Complaints for Special Education)
(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

d. Monitoring student achievement and program effectiveness and requiring program changes as necessary

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)
(cf. 0520.2 - Title I Program Improvement Schools)
(cf. 0520.3 - Title I Program Improvement Districts)
(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)
(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)
(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)
(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)

e. Monitoring and adjusting district finances

(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)

f. Monitoring the collective bargaining process

11. Providing community leadership and advocacy on behalf of students, the district's educational program, and public education in order to build support within the local community and at the state and national levels

(cf. 0510 - School Accountability Report Card)
(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)
(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)
(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)
(cf. 1160 - Political Processes)
(cf. 1400 - Relations between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)
(cf. 1700 - Relations between Private Industry and the Schools)

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(cf. 9010 - Public Statements)

The Board is authorized to establish and finance any program or activity that is not in conflict with, inconsistent with, or preempted by law. (Education Code 35160)

The Board may delegate any of its duties to the Superintendent/Principal or designee but shall be ultimately responsible for the performance of any duties it delegates. (Education Code 35161)

(cf. 2120 - Superintendent of Schools)

(cf. 2210 - Administrative Leeway in Absence of Board of Trustees Policy)

Vision

The Board shall set the direction for the District by adopting a vision statement which defines the District's goals and priorities. The Board shall carry out its vision-setting role by identifying the strengths and needs of the District, developing and adopting a process for framing the vision, soliciting staff and community input as appropriate, ensuring that the adopted vision statement is implemented and conducting a periodic review of the vision.

(cf. 0100 - Philosophy)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

(cf. 6010 - Goals and Objectives)

Superintendent/Principal Employment and Evaluation

The Board shall be solely responsible for employing the Superintendent/Principal and ensuring that he/she is the best match for the District based on needed abilities, traits and level of knowledge. When selecting a new superintendent, the Board shall ensure a smooth transition period; evaluate the District's current and long-term needs; plan and conduct a process for recruitment, screening and selection; and approve the Superintendent's employment contract. The Board shall regularly evaluate the Superintendent/Principal based on an evaluation system and performance objectives established by the Board and Superintendent.

(cf. 2121 - Superintendent's Contract)

(cf. 2122 - Superintendent of Schools: Responsibilities and Duties)

(cf. 2123 - Evaluation of the Superintendent)

General Hiring and Personnel Accountability

The Board shall adopt wage and salary schedules, and elect or reject employees at the recommendation of the Superintendent/Principal or designee. In order to have the best qualified people working at their maximum effectiveness, the Board shall hold the Superintendent/Principal responsible for overseeing the District's personnel system, developing

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effective hiring practices, creating a climate supportive of personnel and providing an effective framework for staff accountability.

- (cf. 4000 - Concepts and Roles)*
- (cf. 4111 - Recruitment and Selection)*
- (cf. 4115 - Evaluation/Supervision)*
- (cf. 4151/4251/4351 - Employee Compensation)*
- (cf. 4211- Recruitment and Selection)*
- (cf. 4215 - Evaluation/Supervision)*
- (cf. 4311- Recruitment and Selection)*
- (cf. 4315 - Evaluation/Supervision)*

Policy Adoption and Monitoring

The Board shall govern the school by adopting policies that reflect the District's vision and the mandates of law. The Board shall establish a clear policy development process through which it may deliberate on issues, identify priorities, assign responsibilities, identify goals and courses of action, and review policy decisions.

The Board shall also adopt bylaws that promote cooperation, trust and teamwork among its members, give parameters to the Board's operation as a governing body, and ensure that its meetings proceed efficiently and in compliance with law.

- (cf. 9200 - Members)*
- (cf. 9300 - Governance)*
- (cf. 9311 - Board Policies)*
- (cf. 9312 - Board Bylaws)*
- (cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)*
- (cf. 9400 - Board Self-Evaluation)*

Curriculum Adoption and Program Accountability

While the design and implementation of curriculum is primarily a staff responsibility, the Board's role is to adopt overall educational goals and standards, define the curriculum development process, specify graduation requirements, adopt the developed curriculum and ensure compliance with state and federal laws.

To ensure accountability to the community, the Board shall establish measurable benchmarks to assess the effectiveness of the District's educational programs in producing desired student achievement results. Based on these assessments, the Board shall direct the Superintendent/Principal or designee to take corrective actions as needed.

- (cf. 0420.5 - School-Based Decision Making)*
- (cf. 6010 - Goals and Objectives)*
- (cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*

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(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)
(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements/Standards of Proficiency)
(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary School Promotion/Standards of Proficiency)
(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)
(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)

Budget, Facilities and Fiscal Accountability

The Board shall adopt a sound, responsible budget that supports District goals and priorities. To guide the Superintendent/Principal or designee in development of the budget, the Board shall establish a budget calendar, budget process and spending priorities.

Recognizing that school facilities are a long-term obligation that impacts District budgets, the Board shall also ensure that a plan is in place to address the District's facility needs, including the funding, construction and maintenance of school facilities. The Board shall approve facility sites, funding sources and architectural and construction contracts.

The Board recognizes that it is accountable to the community for its budget and facilities decisions and for the District's fiscal integrity. The Board shall use accountability systems and processes in order to monitor the District's fiscal health.

(cf. 3000 - Concepts and Roles)
(cf. 3100 - Budget)
(cf. 3312 - Contracts)
(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)
(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)
(cf. 7140 - Architectural and Engineering Services)
(cf. 7150 - Site Selection and Development)
(cf. 7210 - Facilities Financing)

Collective Bargaining

The Board is the legal representative of the District in negotiations with employee representatives. In carrying out the collective bargaining process, the Board shall set goals and guidelines for collective bargaining, select the bargaining team, maintain communications throughout the process and approve the negotiated contract.

(cf. 4141/4241 - Collective Bargaining Agreement)
(cf. 4143/4243 - Negotiations/Consultation)

Judicial and Appeals Body

In addition to establishing complaint procedures that ensure due process and facilitate the satisfactory resolution of issues, the Board may convene to serve as a judicial and appeals body in accordance with law, Board policies and negotiated agreements. The Board may delegate

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fact-finding or hearing responsibilities in appropriate cases but remains the final decision-maker in these proceedings.

- (cf. 1312 - Complaints Concerning the Schools)*
- (cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)*
- (cf. 4117.3 - Personnel Reduction)*
- (cf. 4117.4 - Dismissal)*
- (cf. 4144/4244/4344 - Complaints)*
- (cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*
- (cf. 4317.3 - Personnel Reduction)*
- (cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)*
- (cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)*
- (cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)*
- (cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)*
- (cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)*
- (cf. 6159.1 - Procedural Safeguards and Complaints for Special Education)*
- (cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education under Section 504)*

Community Leadership

The Board shall build and maintain community awareness and support by actively involving parents/guardians, business and other community members in the school and informing them about District programs, policies and issues.

Recognizing that the level of local, state and national support for education impacts the Board's ability to fulfill its responsibilities, the Board shall engage in advocacy on behalf of the District. The Board shall ensure that the District has the capability to respond to emerging issues and a proactive communications plan for issues that are District priorities.

- (cf. 0510 - School Accountability Report Card)*
- (cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*
- (cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)*
- (cf. 1112 - Media Relations)*
- (cf. 1160 - Political Processes)*
- (cf. 1400 - Relations between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)*
- (cf. 1700 - Relations between Private Industry and the Schools)*
- (cf. 9010 - Public Statements)*

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 5304 Duties of governing board (re school district elections)*
- 12400-12405 Authority to participate in federal programs*
- 17565-17592 Board duties re property maintenance and control*
- 33319.5 Implementation of authority of local agencies*
- 35000 District name*
- 35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules*
- 35020-35046 Officers and agents*
- 35100-35351 Governing boards, especially:*

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35160-35185 Powers and duties

35291 Rules

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Maximizing School Board Governance

Professional Governance Standards, November 2000

School Board Leadership: The Role and Function of California's School Boards, 1996

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

The Key Work of School Boards, 2000

WEB SITES

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

CSBA Governance Institute: <http://www.csba.org/gi>

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

Bylaw

adopted: February 9, 2000

revised: November 12, 2014

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

GOVERNANCE STANDARDS

The Governing Board believes that its primary responsibility is to act in the best interests of every student in the district. The Board also has major commitments to parents/guardians, all members of the community, employees, the state of California, laws pertaining to public education, and established policies of the district. To maximize Board effectiveness and public confidence in district governance, Board members are expected to govern responsibly and hold themselves to the highest standards of ethical conduct.

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

The Board expects its members to work with each other and the Superintendent to ensure that a high-quality education is provided to each student. Each individual Board member shall:

1. Keep learning and achievement for all students as the primary focus
2. Value, support and advocate for public education

(cf. 9010 - Public Statements)

3. Recognize and respect differences of perspective and style on the Board and among staff, students, parents and the community
4. Act with dignity, and understand the implications of demeanor and behavior
5. Keep confidential matters confidential

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

6. Participate in professional development and commit the time and energy necessary to be an informed and effective leader

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

7. Understand the distinctions between Board and staff roles, and refrain from performing management functions that are the responsibility of the Superintendent and staff

(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)

8. Understand that authority rests with the Board as a whole and not with individuals

(cf. 9200 - Members)

Board members also shall assume collective responsibility for building unity and creating a positive organizational culture. To operate effectively, the Board shall have a unity of purpose and:

1. Keep the district focused on learning and achievement for all students
2. Communicate a common vision

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 0100 - Philosophy)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

3. Operate openly, with trust and integrity
4. Govern in a dignified and professional manner, treating everyone with civility and respect
5. Govern within Board-adopted policies and procedures

(cf. 9311 - Board Policies)

(cf. 9312 - Board Bylaws)

6. Take collective responsibility for the Board's performance
7. Periodically evaluate its own effectiveness

(cf. 9400 - Board Self-Evaluation)

8. Ensure opportunities for the diverse range of views in the community to inform Board deliberations

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35010 Power of governing board to adopt rules for its own governance

35160 Board authority to act in any manner not conflicting with law

35164 Actions by majority vote

GOVERNMENT CODE

1090 Financial interest in contract

1098 Disclosure of confidential information

1125-1129 Incompatible activities

54950-54962 The Ralph M. Brown Act

87300-87313 Conflict of interest code

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardsmanship, 1996

WEB SITES

CSBA: www.csba.org

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

The Board of Trustees recognizes the rights of Board members to freely express their views and encourages open discussion of issues during the Board meeting. The Board recognizes the responsibility of Board members in their role as community leaders to participate in public discourse on matters of civic or community interest, including those involving the district. The Board believes that effective Board members have a responsibility to express themselves, whether in agreement or disagreement with the Board majority, in ways that promote the Board's ability to govern the District. However, to ensure communication of a consistent, unified message regarding district issues, Board members are expected to respect the authority of the Board to choose its representatives to communicate its positions and to abide by established protocols.

When speaking to community groups, the media, or other members of the public, individual Board members should recognize that their statements may be perceived as reflecting the views and positions of the Board. Board members have a responsibility to identify personal viewpoints as such and not as the viewpoint of the Board.

All public statements authorized to be made on behalf of the Board shall be made by the Board president or, if appropriate, by the Superintendent or other designated representative.

(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)

(cf. 9121 - President)

(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)

When speaking for the district, the Board encourages its spokespersons to exercise restraint and tact and to communicate the message in a manner that promotes public confidence in the Board's leadership.

Board spokespersons shall not disclose confidential information or information received in closed session except when authorized by a majority of the Board. (Government Code 54963)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

When speaking to community groups, members of the public, or the media, individual Board members should recognize that their statements may be perceived as reflecting the views and positions of the Board. Board members have a responsibility to identify personal viewpoints as such and not as the viewpoint of the Board.

(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

In addition, the Board encourages members who participate on social networking sites, blogs, or other discussion or informational sites to conduct themselves in a respectful, courteous, and

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professional manner and to model good behavior for district students and the community. Such electronic communications are subject to the same standards and protocols established for other forms of communication, and the disclosure requirements of the California Public Records Act may likewise apply to them.

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)
(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)
(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)
(cf. 9012 - Board Member Electronic Communications)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

GOVERNMENT CODE

6250-6270 California Public Records Act

54960 Actions to stop or prevent violation of meeting provisions

54963 Confidential information in closed session

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

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

Bylaw

adopted: February 9, 2000

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LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL/PRIVILEGED INFORMATION

The Governing Board recognizes the importance of maintaining the confidentiality of information acquired as part of a Board member's official duties. Confidential/privileged information shall be released only to the extent authorized by law.

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

(cf. 9010 - Public Statements)

Disclosure of Closed Session Information

A Board member shall not disclose confidential information acquired during a closed session to a person not entitled to receive such information, unless a majority of the Board has authorized its disclosure. (Government Code 54963)

Confidential information means a communication made in a closed session that is specifically related to the basis for the Board to meet lawfully in closed session. (Government Code 54963)

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)

The Board shall not take any action against any person for disclosing confidential information, nor shall the disclosure be considered a violation of the law or Board policy, when the person is:
(Government Code 54963)

1. Making a confidential inquiry or complaint to a district attorney or grand jury concerning a perceived violation of law, including disclosing facts necessary to establish the illegality or potential illegality of a Board action that has been the subject of deliberation during a closed session
2. Expressing an opinion concerning the propriety or legality of Board action in closed session, including disclosure of the nature and extent of the illegal or potentially illegal action
3. Disclosing information that is not confidential

Other Disclosures

A Board member shall not disclose, for pecuniary gain, confidential information acquired in the course of his/her official duties. Confidential information includes information that is not a public record subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act, information that by law may not be disclosed, or information that may have a material financial effect on the Board member.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL/PRIVILEGED INFORMATION

(Government Code 1098)

(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Disclosures excepted from this prohibition are those made to law enforcement officials or to the joint legislative audit committee when reporting on improper governmental activities. (Government Code 1098)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35010 Power of governing board to adopt rules for its own governance

35146 Closed session

EVIDENCE CODE

1040 Privilege for official information

GOVERNMENT CODE

1098 Public officials and employees re confidential information

3549.1 Meeting and negotiating in public educational employment

6250-6270 Inspection of public records

54950-54963 Brown Act, especially:

54956.8 Open meeting laws

54956.9 Closed meeting for pending litigation

54957 Closed session; "employee" defined; exclusion of witnesses

54957.1 Subsequent public report and rollcall vote; employee matters in closed session

54957.5 Public records

54957.6 Closed session; representatives with employee organization

54957.7 Reasons for closed session

54963 Confidential information in closed session

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

80 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 231 (1997)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Professional Governance Standards, November 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership, 1996

WEB SITES

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Bylaw

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LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

BOARD MEMBER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

The Governing Board recognizes that electronic communication among Board members and between Board members, district administration, and members of the public is an efficient and convenient way to communicate and expedite the exchange of information and to help keep the community informed about the goals, programs, and achievements of the district and its schools. Board members shall exercise caution so as to ensure that electronic communications are not used as a means for the Board to deliberate outside of an agendaized Board meeting.

(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

A majority of the Board shall not, outside of an authorized meeting, use a series of electronic communications of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. (Government Code 54952.2)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

Examples of permissible electronic communications concerning district business include, but are not limited to, dissemination of Board meeting agendas and agenda packets, reports of activities from the Superintendent, and reminders regarding meeting times, dates, and places.

Board members shall make every effort to ensure that their electronic communications conform to the same standards and protocols established for other forms of communication. A Board member may respond, as appropriate, to an electronic communication received from a member of the community and should make clear that his/her response does not necessarily reflect the views of the Board as a whole. Any complaint or request for information should be forwarded to the Superintendent in accordance with Board bylaws and protocols so that the issue may receive proper consideration and be handled through the appropriate district process. As appropriate, communication received from the press shall be forwarded to the designated district spokesperson.

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

(cf. 9121 - Board President)

(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

BOARD MEMBER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

In order to minimize the risk of improper disclosure, Board members shall avoid reference to confidential information and information acquired during closed session.

(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)
(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

Board members may use electronic communications to discuss matters other than district business with each other, regardless of the number of members participating in the discussion.

Like other writings concerning district business, a Board member's electronic communication may be subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35140 *Time and place of meetings*
35145 *Public meetings*
35145.5 *Agenda; public participation; regulations*
35147 *Open meeting law exceptions and applications*

GOVERNMENT CODE

11135 *State programs and activities, discrimination*
54950-54963 *The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:*
54952.2 *Meeting, defined*
54953 *Meetings to be open and public; attendance*
54954.2 *Agenda posting requirements, board actions*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2006

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Legislative Bodies, 2003

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES PUBLICATIONS

Open and Public IV: A Guide to the Ralph M. Brown Act, rev. 2007

WEB SITES

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

CSBA, *Agenda Online*: <http://www.csba.org/Services/Services/GovernanceTechnology/AgendaOnline.aspx>

Institute for Local Government: <http://www.cacities.org/index.jsp?zone=ilsg>

Bylaw
adopted: January 14, 2015

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Lucerne, California

ORGANIZATION

Annual Organizational Meeting

The Board of Trustees shall hold an annual organizational meeting within the time limits prescribed by law. (Education Code 35143)

At this meeting the Board shall:

1. Elect a president and a clerk from its members
2. Appoint a secretary to the Board
3. Develop a schedule of regular meetings for the year
4. Designate Board representatives

(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)
(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

Election of Officers

The Board shall each year elect its entire slate of officers.

No Board member shall serve more than two consecutive years in the same office.

(cf. 9224 - Oath or Affirmation)

Legal Reference:

- EDUCATION CODE
- 5017 *Term of Office*
- 35143 *Annual organizational meeting date, and notice*
- 35145 *Public meetings*
- GOVERNMENT CODE
- 54953 *Meetings to be open and public; attendance*
- ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS
- 68 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 65 (1985)*
- 59 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 619, 621-622 (1976)*

TERMS OF OFFICE

The Board of Trustees shall consist of three members whose terms shall be staggered so that as nearly as practicable, one half of the members shall be elected in each odd-numbered year.

The term of office for members elected in regular elections shall be four years, commencing on the first Friday in December next succeeding their election. (Education Code 5017)

Board member terms expire four years after their initial election on the first Friday in December following the election of new members. (Education Code 5000)

A member whose term has expired shall continue to discharge the duties of the office until his/her successor has qualified by taking the oath of office. (Government Code 1302, 1360; Education Code 5017)

(cf. 9220 - Board of Trustees Elections)

(cf. 9223 - Filling Vacancies)

(cf. 9224 - Oath or Affirmation)

(cf. 9250 - Remuneration, Reimbursement, and Other Benefits)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

5000-5033 Election of school District board members

35010 Control of District

35012 Board members; number, election and terms

35107 Eligibility

GOVERNMENT CODE

1302 Continuance in office until qualification of successor

1303 Exercising functions of office without having qualified

1360 Necessity of taking constitutional oath

PRESIDENT

The Governing Board shall elect a president from among its members to provide leadership on behalf of the Board and the educational community it serves.

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

(cf. 9100 - Organization)

The president shall preside at all Board of Trustees meetings. He/she shall:

1. Call the meeting to order at the appointed time
2. Announce the business to come before the Board in its proper order
3. Enforce the Board's policies relating to the conduct of meetings and help ensure compliance with applicable requirements of the Brown Act
4. Recognize persons who desire to speak, and protect the speaker who has the floor from disturbance or interference
5. Explain what the effect of a motion would be if it is not clear to every member
6. Restrict discussion to the question when a motion is before the Board
7. Rule on parliamentary procedure
8. Put motions to a vote, and state clearly the results of the vote
9. Be responsible for the orderly conduct of all Board meetings

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

The president shall have all the rights of any member of the Board, including the right to move, second, discuss, and vote on all questions before the Board.

The Board President shall also perform other duties as directed by law, California Department of Education regulations and the Board, including the duty to:

1. Sign all instruments, acts, and orders necessary to carry out state requirements and the will of the Board
2. Consult with the Superintendent/Principal or designee on the preparation of the Board's agendas

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

PRESIDENT

3. Working with the Superintendent to ensure that Board members have necessary materials and information
4. Appoint and disband all committees, subject to Board approval
5. Call such meetings of the Board as he/she may deem necessary, giving notice as prescribed by law

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

6. Representing the district as governance spokesperson, in conjunction with the Superintendent

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

7. Confer with the Superintendent/Principal or designee on crucial matters which may occur between Board meetings
8. Be responsible for the orderly conduct of all Board meetings
9. Share informational mail with other Board members

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

The president shall have the same rights as other members of the Board, including the right to move, second, discuss and vote on all questions before the Board

When the president resigns or is absent or disabled, the clerk shall perform the president's duties. When both the president and clerk are absent or disabled, the meeting shall be cancelled for lack of a quorum.

(cf. 9123 - Clerk)

Bylaws of the Board

BB 9121(c)

PRESIDENT

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35022 *President of the board*

35143 *Annual organizational meetings; dates and notice*

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 *Ralph M. Brown Act*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Board Presidents' Handbook, revised 2002

CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardsmanship, 1996

WEB SITES

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

Bylaw

adopted: February 9, 2000

revised: November 12, 2014

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

SECRETARY

The Governing Board shall appoint the Superintendent to serve as secretary to the Board. The secretary to the Board shall be responsible for maintaining an accurate and complete record of all Board proceedings and shall:

1. Prepare and maintain the Board agenda
(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)
2. Record, distribute and maintain the Board minutes
(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)
3. Maintain Board records and documents
4. Submit to Board officers the correspondence addressed to them
5. As directed by the Board, sign and execute official papers
6. Other duties as assigned by the Board

(cf. 2111 - Superintendent Governance Standards)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35025 Secretary and bookkeeper

35143 Annual organizational meetings; dates and notice

35250 Duty to keep certain records and reports

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 Ralph M. Brown Act

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardmanship, 1996

WEB SITES

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

Bylaw

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LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

CLERK

The Governing Board shall elect a clerk from its own membership at the annual organizational meeting. (Education Code 35143)

(cf. 9100 - Organization)

The duties of the clerk shall be to:

1. Certify or attest to actions taken by the Board when required
2. Maintain such other records or reports as required by law
3. Sign documents as directed by the Board on behalf of the District, and sign all other items which require the signature of the clerk
4. Serve as presiding officer in the absence of the president
5. Perform any other duties assigned by the Board

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

17593 Repair and supervision of property (duty of district clerk)

35038 Appointment of clerk by county superintendent of schools

35039 Dismissal of clerk

35121 Appointment of clerk in certain city and high school districts

35143 Annual organizational meetings

35250 Duty to keep certain records and reports

38113 Duty of clerk (re provision of school supplies)

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 Ralph M. Brown Act

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardsmanship, 1996

WEB SITES

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

Bylaw
adopted: February 9, 2000

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Lucerne, California

ATTORNEY

The Governing Board recognizes the complex legal environment in which districts operate and desires reliable, high-quality legal advice at reasonable rates. In order to meet the district's legal needs, the Board may contract with county counsel, attorneys in private practice, or appoint legal counsel as a district employee or independent contractor. The Board also supports pursuing collaborative legal efforts with other agencies and districts as appropriate.

(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)
(cf. 3400 - Management of District Assets/Accounts)
(cf. 4312.1 - Contracts)
(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)
(cf. 9260 - Legal Protection)

The Board may use the county counsel, District attorney, or private attorneys to meet the needs of the District.

Duties of Legal Counsel

The district's legal counsel may: (Education Code 35041.5)

1. Render legal advice to the Board and the Superintendent/Principal or designee
2. Serve the Board and the Superintendent/Principal or designee in the preparation and conduct of District litigation and administrative proceedings
3. Render advice on school bond and tax increase measures and prepare the necessary forms for the voting of these measures
4. Perform other administrative duties as assigned by the Board and Superintendent/Principal or designee

The Superintendent/Principal may confer with the District's legal counsel at his/her discretion and shall provide the Board with desired legal information when so directed by a majority of the Board. The Board also may authorize a specific member to confer with legal counsel on behalf of the Board.

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)
(cf. 9200 - Members)
(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

Retaining Legal Counsel

When the district is seeking legal advice or representation, the Superintendent or designee shall

ATTORNEY

initiate a Request for Proposals (RFP) to advertise and solicit proposals for legal services. In evaluating the proposals, the Board and Superintendent shall consider the firm's or attorney's background, experience, and reputation in education law; experience advising or representing school districts in California; fees; and experience of attorneys at the firm who will provide legal services.

The Board and Superintendent shall annually evaluate the performance of the firm and/or attorneys providing legal services in such areas as efficiency and adequacy of advice; results obtained for the district; reasonableness of fees; and responsiveness to and interactions with the Board, administration, and community. Upon a successful evaluation, the Board may renew the agreement with legal counsel without initiating an RFP.

The Board may also contract for temporary, specialized legal services without initiating an RFP when a majority of the Board determines that the unique demands of a particular issue or emergency situation so requires.

(cf. 2121 - Superintendent's Contract)

Contacting Legal Counsel

At his/her discretion, the Board president or Superintendent may confer with district legal counsel subject to any limits or parameters established by the Board. In addition, the Superintendent or Board president may contact district legal counsel to provide the Board with legal information or advice when so directed by a majority of the Board.

Individual Board members other than the Board president may not seek advice from district legal counsel on matters of district business unless so authorized by a majority of the Board.

(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)
(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

*Legal Reference:**EDUCATION CODE**35041 Administrative adviser**35041.5 Legal counsel**35161 Powers and duties of governing board**35200-35214 Liabilities, especially:**35204 Contract with attorney in private practice**35205 Contract for legal services**GOVERNMENT CODE**814-895.8 Liability of public entities and public employees**995-996.6 Defense of public employees**26520 Legal services to school districts**53060 Special services and advice*

ATTORNEY

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2007

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardsmanship, 1996

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

Selecting and Working with a School Attorney: A Guide for School Boards, 1997

WEB SITES

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

California Council of School Attorneys:

<http://www.csba.org/LegislationAndLegal/Legal/CaliforniaCouncilOfSchoolAttorneys.aspx>

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

State Bar of California: <http://www.calbar.ca.gov>

Bylaw

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LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

BOARD COMMITTEES

The Governing Board may establish a committee whenever it determines that such a committee would benefit the district by providing diverse viewpoints, specialized knowledge or expertise, or increased efficiency. Such committees may be subcommittees of the Board or committees that include members of the community, staff, or other stakeholder groups.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 2230 - Representative and Deliberative Groups)
(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)

Upon establishing a committee, the Board shall clearly define the committee's purpose, any timeline for completion of assigned responsibilities, any stakeholder groups or individuals to be represented on the committee, length of time that committee members are expected to serve, and expectations for reporting to the Board and/or the Superintendent or designee. Unless specifically authorized by the Board to act on its behalf, the committee shall act in an advisory capacity.

Except for subcommittees of the Board, committee members shall, as appropriate, be recommended by the Superintendent or designee and appointed by the Board president, subject to Board approval.

(cf. 9121 - President)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide committee members with information and assistance necessary for the fulfillment of the committee's charges, and may serve as a non-voting advisor to the committee at the discretion of the Board.

Whenever so charged, committees may actively seek input and participation by parents/guardians, staff, community, and students and may consult with local public boards and agencies.

Any committee not required by law may be dissolved when its duties or term has been completed or whenever the Board deems necessary.

Committee Meetings

Unless otherwise exempted by law, Board-created committees shall provide public notice of their meetings and conduct meetings in accordance with Government Code 54950-54963 (the Brown Act).

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)
(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

Whenever any advisory or standing committee, including a committee not otherwise subject to the Brown Act, posts a meeting agenda at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting, that meeting shall be considered as a regular meeting of the Board for purposes of the Brown Act and therefore must be held within district boundaries unless otherwise authorized by law. (Government Code 54954)

BOARD COMMITTEES

Board subcommittees composed solely of less than a quorum of the members of the Board are not subject to open meeting laws unless they are standing committees. Standing committees of the Board, irrespective of membership, are those that have a continuing subject matter jurisdiction or a meeting schedule established by action of the Board. (Government Code 54952)

Standing committees with a continuing subject matter jurisdiction include, but are not limited to, those responsible for providing advice on budgets, audits, Board policy, contracts, and personnel matters at the Board's request.

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

(cf. 3430 - Investing)

(cf. 9310 - Board Policies)

When a majority of the members of the Board attend an open and noticed meeting of a standing committee, the Board members who are not members of the standing committee shall attend only as observers. (Government Code 54952.2)

The Superintendent/Principal or designee may serve as an advisor to any committee at the discretion of the Board.

Whenever so charged, committees may actively seek input and participation by parents/guardians, staff, community and students and may consult with local public boards and agencies.

When a Board committee composed exclusively of Board members has provided for public comment on an item at a public meeting before or during the committee's consideration of the item, the Board is not obliged to provide for public comment on the item at a subsequent Board meeting. Public comment shall be afforded, however, if the Board determines that the item has been substantially changed since it was heard by the committee. (Government Code 54954.3)

Committees may meet in a closed session during a regular or special meeting only for those purposes specifically authorized by law for closed sessions held by the Board.

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

BOARD COMMITTEES

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35010 *Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules*

35024 *Executive committee*

35160 *Authority of governing boards*

35160.1 *Broad authority of school districts*

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 *The Brown Act, especially:*

54952 *Legislative body, definition*

54952.2 *Definition of meeting*

54954 *Time and place of regular meetings; special meetings; emergencies*

54954.3 *Opportunity for public to address legislative body*

54957 *Closed session purposes*

COURT DECISIONS

Frazer v. Dixon Unified School District, (1993) 18 Cal.App.4th 781

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

81 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 156 (1998)*

80 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 308 (1997)*

79 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 69 (1996)*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, 2009

WEB SITES

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

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

Bylaw

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LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

The Governing Board recognizes that effective performance of its community leadership responsibilities may require its participation in district or community committees on matters of concern to the district and its students. As needed, the Board may appoint any of its members to serve as its representative on a district committee or on a committee of another public agency or organization of which the Board or district is a member or to which the Board is invited to participate.

(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

The Board of Trustees may appoint any of its members to serve as its representatives on District committees or advisory committees of other public agencies or organizations. Due to open meeting law requirements, a majority of the Board shall not be appointed to serve on the same committee.

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

When making such appointments, the Board shall clearly specify the authority and responsibilities of the representative(s), including, but not limited to, reporting back to the Board regarding committee activities and/or actions. Board representatives shall not exercise the authority of the Board without prior Board approval.

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)

If a committee discusses a topic on which the Board has taken a position, the Board member may express that position as a representative of the Board. When contributing individual ideas or opinions on other topics, he/she shall make it clear that he/she is speaking as an individual, not on behalf of the Board.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 9010 - Public Statements)

(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)

BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Board Representative to Elect Members of County Committee on School District Organization

At its annual organizational meeting, the Board shall designate one Board member as its representative to elect members to the county committee on school District organization. (Education Code 35023)

The Board shall provide the representative with nominees to this committee.

A Board member is eligible to serve as a member of the county committee on school District organization. (Education Code 4007)

(cf. 9100 - Organization)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

4000-4014 County committees on school district organization

35020-35046 School district officers and agents (power of governing board to employ or appoint)

35160 Authority of governing boards

GOVERNMENT CODE

54952.2 Meetings

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

California Department of Education District Organization Handbook, 2010

Bylaw

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LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

MEMBERS**Limits of Board Members Authority**

The Board of Trustees is the unit of authority over the District and that a Board member has no individual authority. It has broad but clearly limited powers. The exercise of its authority is restricted to the functions required or permitted by law, and then only when it acts in a legally constituted meeting. Board members shall hold the education of students above any partisan principle, group interest, or personal interest.

(cf. 1160 - Political Processes)
(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)
(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)
(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)
(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

Individually, the Board member may not commit the District to any policy, act or expenditure. The Board member cannot do business with the District served, nor should the Board member have an interest in any contract with the school District. The Board member represents and acts for the community as a whole and does not represent any factional segment of the community.

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Unless agreed to by the Board as a whole, individual members of the Board shall not exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the schools or command the services of any school employee. Individual Board members shall submit requests for information to the Superintendent. Board members shall refer Board-related correspondence to the Superintendent for forwarding to the Board or for placement on the Board's agenda, as appropriate.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)
(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)
(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)
(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

Individual Board members do not have the authority to resolve complaints. Any Board member approached directly by a person with a complaint should refer the complainant to the Superintendent or designee so that the problem may receive proper consideration and be handled through the appropriate district process.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)
(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)
(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)
(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)
(cf. 6159.1 - Procedural Safeguards and Complaints for Special Education)

MEMBERS

A Board member whose child is attending a district school should be aware of his/her role as a Board member when interacting with district employees about his/her child. Because his/her position as a Board member may inhibit the performance of school personnel, the Board member should inform the Superintendent or designee before volunteering in his/her child's classroom.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)
(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

Because his/her position as a Board member may inhibit the performance of school personnel, a Board member shall not serve as a volunteer aide in the District without the approval of the Superintendent/Principal or designee.

Obligations of Board Members

Board members should hold the education of children and youth above any partisan principle, group interest, or personal interest.

Board members should understand their role and the programs offered by the District. They should study all agenda materials before the meeting, participate in the discussion of items which come before the Board, vote on motions and resolutions, and abstain only for compelling reasons.

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)
(cf. 9271 - Code of Ethics)
(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

Board members shall refer Board-related correspondence to the Superintendent/Principal or designee for forwarding to the Board or for placement on the Board's agenda.

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of the state's open meeting laws (Brown Act) to each Board member and to anyone who is elected to the Board but has not yet assumed office.

Board members and persons elected to the Board who have not yet assumed office are responsible for complying with the requirements of the Brown Act. (Government Code 54952.1)

MEMBERS

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

7054 Use of district property

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

35100-35351 Governing boards, especially:

35160-35184 Powers and duties

35291 Rules

35292 Visits to schools (Board members)

51101 Rights of parents/guardians

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54962 The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:

54952.1 Member of a legislative body of a local agency

54952.7 Copies of chapter to members of legislative body

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardmanship, 1996

WEB SITES

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

Bylaw

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LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS

Any person is eligible to be a Board of Trustees member, without further qualifications, if he/she is 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the state, a resident of the school District, a registered voter and not legally disqualified from holding civil office. (Education Code 35107)

Any person who has been convicted of a felony involving the giving, accepting, or offering of a bribe, embezzlement or theft of public funds, extortion, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any such crime, under California law or the law of another state, the United States of America, or another country, is not eligible to be a candidate for office or be a Board member except when he/she has been granted a pardon in accordance with law. (Education Code 35107; Elections Code 20)

A district employee elected to the Board shall resign his/her employment before being sworn in or shall have his/her employment automatically terminated upon being sworn into office. (Education Code 35107)

(cf. 9224 - Oath of Affirmation)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

When possible, Board election procedures shall be conducted in accordance with the California Education Code and Elections Code.

(cf. 9110 - Terms of Office)

To reduce costs associated with conducting elections, the Board may consolidate Board elections with the local municipal or statewide primary or general election. Board election procedures shall be conducted in accordance with state and federal law.

(cf. 9110 - Terms of Office)

Statement of Qualifications

The District shall assume no part of the cost of printing, handling, translating or mailing candidate statements filed pursuant to Elections Code 13307. As a condition of having candidate statements included in the voter's pamphlet, the district may require candidates to pay their estimated pro rata share of these costs to the district in advance pursuant to Elections Code 13307.

On the 125th day prior to the day fixed for the general district election, the Board secretary or his/her designee shall deliver a notice, bearing the secretary's signature and district seal, to the county elections official describing both of the following: (Elections Code 10509)

1. The elective offices of the district to be filled at the general election and which offices, if any, are for the balance of an unexpired term

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS

2. Whether the district or the candidate is to pay for the publication of a statement of qualifications pursuant to Elections Code 13307

(cf. 9223 - Filling Vacancies)

Candidate statements shall be limited to no more than 400 words. (Elections Code 13307)

Electing Board Members

Board members may reside anywhere within the district's boundaries and shall be elected by all voters in the district.

To ensure ongoing compliance with the California and federal Voting Rights Acts, the Board may review the district's Board election method to determine whether any modification is necessary due to changes in the district's population or any of its racial, color, or language minority group composition. The review shall be based on the Superintendent or designee's report to the Board after the release of each decennial federal census.

If the Board determines that a change is necessary, it shall adopt a resolution at an open meeting specifying the change(s) and shall, in accordance with Education Code 5019 or other applicable provisions of law, obtain approval from the county committee on school district organization having jurisdiction over the district.

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

Campaign Conduct

In order to help protect the public's trust in the electoral process as well as the public's confidence in the Board and district, the Board encourages all candidates to sign and adhere to the principles in the Code of Fair Campaign Practices pursuant to Elections Code 20440.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

Tie Votes in Board Member Elections

Before each election, the Board shall establish whether a potential tie is to be resolved by lot or with a runoff election. (Education Code [5016](#))

Whenever a tie makes it impossible to determine which of two or more candidates has been elected to the Board, the Board shall immediately notify the candidates who received the tie votes of the time and place where the candidates or their representatives should appear before the

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS

Board. The Board at that time shall determine the winner by lot. (Education Code 5016)

After an election for which the Board has decided to resolve a tie with a runoff election, the Board shall schedule the runoff election in accordance with law. (Education Code 5016)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

1000 *Composition, and trustee area, county board of education*

1006 *Qualifications for holding office, county board of education*

5000-5033 *Elections*

5220-5231 *Elections*

5300-5304 *General provisions (conduct of elections)*

5320-5329 *Order and call of elections*

5340-5345 *Consolidation of elections*

5360-5363 *Election notice*

5380 *Compensation (of election officer)*

5390 *Qualifications of voters*

5420-5426 *Cost of elections*

5440-5442 *Miscellaneous provisions*

7054 *Use of district property*

35107 *Eligibility; school district employees*

35177 *Campaign expenditures or contributions*

35239 *Compensation of governing board member of districts with less than 70 ADA*

ELECTIONS CODE

20 *Public office eligibility*

1302 *Local elections, school district election*

2201 *Grounds for cancellation*

4000-4004 *Elections conducted wholly by mail*

10400-10418 *Consolidation of elections*

10509 *Notice of election by secretary*

10600-10604 *School district elections*

13307 *Candidate's statement*

13309 *Candidate's statement, indigence*

14025-14032 *California Voting Rights Act*

20440 *Code of Fair Campaign Practices*

GOVERNMENT CODE

1021 *Conviction of crime*

1097 *Illegal participation in public contract*

12940 *Nondiscrimination, Fair Employment and Housing Act*

81000-91014 *Political Reform Act*

PENAL CODE

68 *Bribes*

74 *Acceptance of gratuity*

424 *Embezzlement and falsification of accounts by public officers*

661 *Removal for neglect or violation of official duty*

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 2, Section 2 *Voters, qualifications*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS

Article 7, Section 7 Conflicting offices

Article 7, Section 8 Disqualification from office

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1973-1973aa-6 Voting Rights Act

COURT DECISIONS

Rey v. Madera Unified School District, (2012) 138 Cal. Rptr. 3d 192

Randall v. Sorrell, (2006) 126 S.Ct. 2479

Sanchez v. City of Modesto, (2006) 51 Cal.Rptr.3d 821

Dusch v. Davis, (1967) 387 U.S. 112

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

85 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 49 (2002)

83 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 181 (2000)

81 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 98 (1998)

69 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 290 (1986)

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

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

California Secretary of State's Office: <http://www.ss.ca.gov>

Fair Political Practices Commission: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov>

Institute for Local Self Government: <http://www.ca-ilg.org>

Bylaw

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LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

RESIGNATION

A Board of Trustees member who wishes to resign may do so by filing a written resignation with the County Superintendent of Schools. (Education Code 5090)

A copy shall be given to the Board secretary.

The written resignation is effective when filed, except when a deferred effective date is specified in the resignation. (Education Code 5090)

A board member may not defer the effective date of his/her resignation for more than 60 days after filing. (Education Code 5091)

A written resignation, whether specifying a deferred effective date or otherwise, shall be irrevocable upon being filed. (Education Code 5090)

Upon resignation, the Board member may continue to exercise all his/her powers, save that of voting for a successor, until the effective date of resignation. (Education Code 35178)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

5090 *Definition (vacancy)*

5091 *Special Election*

35178 *Resignation with deferred effective date*

FILLING VACANCIES

Events Causing a Vacancy

A vacancy on the Governing Board may occur for any of the following events:

- 1.The death of an incumbent (Government Code 1770)
- 2.The adjudication pursuant to a quo warranto proceeding declaring that an incumbent is physically or mentally incapacitated due to disease, illness, or accident and that there is reasonable cause to believe that the incumbent will not be able to perform the duties of his/her office for the remainder of his/her term (Government Code 1770)
- 3.Board member's resignation (Government Code 1770)

A vacancy resulting from resignation occurs when the written resignation is filed with the County Superintendent of Schools having jurisdiction over the district, except where a deferred effective date is specified in the resignation so filed, in which case the resignation shall become operative on that date. A Board member may not defer the effective date of his/her resignation for more than 60 days after he/she files the resignation with the County Superintendent. Upon being filed with the County Superintendent, a written resignation, whether specifying a deferred effective date or otherwise, shall be irrevocable. (Education Code 5090, 5091)

- 1.A Board member's removal from office, including by recall (Elections Code 11384; Government Code 1770)
- 2.A Board member's ceasing to be a resident of the district (Government Code 1770)
- 3.In the case of illness or other urgent necessity, and upon a proper showing thereof, the time limited for absence from the state may be extended by the Board.
- 4.For federal military deployment, not to exceed an absence of a total of six months, as a member of the armed forces of the United States or the California National Guard

If the absence of the Board member for this purpose exceeds six months, the Board may approve an additional six-month absence upon a showing that there is a reasonable expectation that the member will return within the second six-month period, and the Board may appoint an interim member to serve in his/her absence. If two or more members of the Board are absent by reason of these circumstances, and those absences result in the inability to establish a quorum at a regular meeting, the Board may immediately appoint one or more interim members as necessary to enable the Board to conduct business and discharge its responsibilities. The term of an interim member appointed in these circumstances shall not extend beyond the return of the absent Board member or beyond the next regularly scheduled election for that office, whichever occurs first.

FILLING VACANCIES

1.A Board member's ceasing to discharge the duties of his/her office for the period of three consecutive months, except when prevented by illness or when absent from the state with the permission required by law (Government Code 1770)

2.A Board member's conviction of a felony or any offense involving a violation of his/her official duties or conviction of a designated crime resulting in a forfeiture of office (Government Code 1770, 3000-3003)

3.A Board member's refusal or neglect to file his/her required oath within the time prescribed (Government Code 1770)

(cf. 9224 - Oath or Affirmation)

4.The decision of a competent tribunal declaring void a Board member's election or appointment (Government Code 1770)

5.The making of an order vacating a Board member's office or declaring the office vacant when the Board member fails to furnish an additional or supplemental bond (Government Code 1770)

6.A Board member's commitment to a hospital or sanitarium as a drug addict, dipsomaniac, inebriate, or stimulant addict by a court of competent jurisdiction, in which case the office shall not be deemed vacant until the order of commitment has become final (Government Code 1770)

7.A "failure to elect" in which no candidate or an insufficient number of candidates have filed to run for a Board seat(s) (Education Code 5090, 5326, 5328)

Timelines for Filling a Vacancy

When a vacancy occurs, the Board shall take the following action, as appropriate:

1.When a vacancy occurs within four months of the end of a Board member's term, the Board shall take no action. (Education Code 5093)

2.When a vacancy occurs longer than four months before the end of a Board member's term, the Board shall, within 60 days of the date of the vacancy or the filing of the member's deferred resignation, either order an election or make a provisional appointment, unless a special election is mandated as described in item #3 below. (Education Code 5091, 5093)

3.When a vacancy occurs from six months to 130 days before a regularly scheduled Board election at which the position is not scheduled to be filled, a special election to fill the position

FILLING VACANCIES

shall be consolidated with the regular election. The person so elected shall take office at the first regularly scheduled Board meeting following the certification of the election and shall serve only until the end of the term of the position which he/she was elected to fill. (Education Code 5093)

Eligibility

In order to be appointed or elected to fill a vacancy on the Board, a person must meet the eligibility requirements specified in Education Code 35107.

(cf. 9220 - Governing Board Elections)

Appointment Due to Failure to Elect

When a vacancy occurs because no candidate or an insufficient number of candidates have been nominated (i.e., a failure to elect) and a district election will not be held, the Board shall appoint a qualified person to the office. This appointment shall be made at a meeting prior to the day fixed for the election and the appointee shall be seated at the organizational meeting as if elected at the district election. (Education Code 5328)

(cf. 9100 - Organization)

When an appointment is being made because of a failure to elect, the district shall publish a notice once in a newspaper of general circulation published in the district, or if no such newspaper exists, in a newspaper having general circulation within the district. This notice shall state that the Board intends to make an appointment and shall inform persons of the procedure available for applying for the appointment. (Education Code 5328.5)

The procedure for selecting and interviewing candidates shall be the same as the procedures for "Provisional Appointments," as specified above.

Mandated Special Election

If a vacancy occurs from six months to 130 days before a regularly scheduled Board election at which the position is not scheduled to be filled, a special election to fill the position shall be consolidated with the regular election. The person so elected shall take office at the first regularly scheduled Board meeting following the certification of the election and shall serve only until the end of the term of the position which he/she was elected to fill. (Education Code 5093)

Provisional Appointments

When the special election described above is not required, the Board may make a provisional appointment. (Education Code 5091, 5093)

FILLING VACANCIES

When authorized by law to make a provisional appointment to fill a vacancy on the Board, the Board shall advertise in the local media to solicit candidate applications or nominations. A committee consisting of less than a quorum of the Board shall ensure that applicants are eligible for Board membership and announce the names of the eligible candidates. The Board shall interview the candidates at a public meeting, accept oral or written public input, and select the provisional appointee by a majority vote.

(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)
(cf. 9323.2 - Actions by the Board)

Notice and Duration of Provisional Appointment

Within 10 days after the appointment is made, the Board shall post notices of the actual vacancy, or the filing of a deferred resignation, and the provisional appointment. The notice shall be published in the local newspaper pursuant to Government Code 6061 and posted in at least three public places within the district. (Education Code 5092)

The notice shall contain: (Education Code 5092)

- 1.The date of the occurrence of the vacancy or the date of the filing of, and the effective date of, the resignation
- 2.The full name of the appointee
- 3.The date of appointment
- 4.A statement notifying the voters that unless a petition calling for a special election pursuant to Education Code 5091 is filed in the office of the County Superintendent within 30 days of the provisional appointment, it shall become an effective appointment

The person appointed shall hold office until the next regularly scheduled election for district Board members and shall be afforded all the powers and duties of a Board member upon appointment. (Education Code 5091)

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
5000-5033 Elections
5090-5095 Vacancies
5200-5208 Districts governed by boards of education
5300-5304 Elections
5320-5329 Order and call of election
5340-5345 Consolidation of elections
5360-5363 Election notice
5420-5426 Cost of elections

FILLING VACANCIES

5440-5442 Miscellaneous provisions, elections

35107 Eligibility of board members

35178 Resignation with deferred effective date

ELECTIONS CODE

10600-10604 School district elections

11381-11386 Candidates for recall

GOVERNMENT CODE

1064 Absence from state

1770 Vacancies: definition

3000-3003 Forfeiture of office

3060-3075 Removal other than by impeachment

6061 One time notice

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act

PENAL CODE

88 Bribery, forfeiture from office

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 18

704 Military medals or decorations

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

58 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 888 (1975)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Filling a Board Vacancy, rev. December 2010

WEB SITES

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

California State Attorney General's Office, Quo Warranto Applications: http://ag.ca.gov/opinions/quo_warranto.php

Bylaw

adopted: February 9, 2000

revised: November 12, 2014

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

When entering upon the duties of their office, all Board of Trustees members shall take the oath or affirmation required by law. (California Constitution, Article 20, Section 3)

The oath may be administered and certified by a Board member, secretary or assistant secretary to the Board, Superintendent, deputy or assistant superintendent, principal, or County Superintendent of Schools or any other person authorized in Education Code 60.

The executed oath shall be filed with the County Clerk. (Government Code 1363)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

60 Persons authorized to administer and certify oaths

GOVERNMENT CODE

1303 Misdemeanor for failure to take oath

1360-1369 Oath of office

3100-3109 Oath or affirmation of allegiance

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 20, Section 3 Oath of office

COURT DECISIONS

Chilton v. Contra Costa Community College District (1976) 55 Cal. App. 3d 544

Vogel v. County of Los Angeles (1967) 68 Cal. 2d 18, 22

Bylaw

adopted: February 9, 2000

revised: November 12, 2014

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

ORIENTATION

Board Candidate Orientation

The Board of Trustees desires to provide Board candidates with orientation that will enable them to understand the responsibilities of Board membership. The Superintendent/Principal or designee shall provide all candidates with general information about school programs, District operations, and Board responsibilities and the county election official's contact information.

(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)

(cf. 9220 - Governing Board Elections)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

The Board encourages all candidates to attend public Board meetings during the period of their candidacy. Candidates have the same access as members of the public to District staff and information.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

New Board Member Orientation

Incoming members are encouraged to attend Board meetings and review agenda materials available to the public in order to become familiar with current issues facing the district. Incoming members also may, at district expense and with approval of the Board, attend workshops and conferences relevant to their individual needs or to the needs of the Board as a whole or the district.

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

The Board shall convene a meeting to provide an orientation and information to incoming Board members to assist them in understanding the Board's functions, policies, procedures, protocols, and agreed-upon standards of conduct. Incoming Board members shall receive the district's policy manual and other materials related to the district and Board member responsibilities.

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

Upon their election, incoming Board members shall be provided a copy of the Brown Act and informed that, pursuant to Government Code 54952.1, they must conform to the Act's requirements as if they had already assumed office.

The Superintendent may provide incoming Board members with additional background and information regarding the district's vision and goals, operations, and current challenges in areas that include, but are not limited to, student achievement, curriculum, finance, facilities, policy,

ORIENTATION

human resources, and collective bargaining.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33360 *Department of Education and statewide association of school district boards; annual workshops*

33362-33363 *Reimbursement of expenses; board member or member-elect*

ELECTIONS CODE

13307 *Candidate's statement*

20440 *Code of Fair Campaign Practices*

GOVERNMENT CODE

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

54952.1 *Member of a legislative body*

54952.7 *Copies of Brown Act to board members*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

School Board Leadership, 2007

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2007

Guide to Effective Meetings, 2007

Professional Governance Standards, 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership, 1996

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

Becoming a Better Board Member: A Guide to Effective School Board Service, 2006

WEB SITES

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

Fair Political Practices Commission: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov>

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

Bylaw

adopted: February 9, 2000

revised: November 12, 2014

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Citizens elected to the Board of Trustees are entrusted with the responsibility of governing District schools. The Board recognizes that its members need training that helps them understand their responsibilities, stay abreast of new developments in education, and develop boardsmanship skills.

All Board members may attend conferences for the purpose of Board development. Board business shall not be discussed at conferences.

(cf. 9230 - Orientation)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

Board members shall report to the Board, orally or in writing, as soon as possible on the inservice activities they attend.

Funds for Board development shall be budgeted annually for each Board member.

(cf. 9250 - Remuneration, Reimbursement, and Other Benefits)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33360 Department of Education and statewide association of school District boards; annual workshop

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54962 The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:

54952.2 Meeting

REMUNERATION, REIMBURSEMENT, AND OTHER BENEFITS

Remuneration

Each member of the Board of Trustees may receive the maximum monthly compensation as provided for in law.

Board members are not required to accept payment for meetings attended.

If a member does not attend all Board meetings during the month, he/she is eligible to receive only a percentage of the monthly compensation equal to the percentage of meetings attended unless otherwise authorized by the Board in accordance with law. (Education Code 1090, 35120)

Members may be paid for meetings they missed when the Board, by resolution, finds that they were performing designated services for the District at the time of the meeting or that they were absent because of illness, jury duty, or a hardship deemed acceptable by the Board. (Education Code 1090, 35120)

In order to receive compensation for any Board meeting, Board members shall be present for the complete meeting.

Reimbursement of Expenses

Board members shall be reimbursed for traveling expenses incurred when so authorized in advance by the Board. (Education Code 35044)

The rate of reimbursement shall be the same rate specified for District personnel.

(cf. 3350 - Travel Expenses)

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

Board members may use District-issued credit cards while on official District business. Under no circumstances may personal expenses be charged on District credit cards.

Health and Welfare Benefits

Board members may participate in the health and welfare benefits program provided for District employees, only after serving one full elected term, commencing the first day of the second consecutively elected term..

Board members shall pay the cost of all premiums required to participate in the District health and welfare benefits program.

BB 9250(b)

REMUNERATION, REIMBURSEMENT, AND OTHER BENEFITS (continued)

Benefits for Retired Board Members

Any members whose first term of office began on or after January 1, 1995, may continue the health and welfare benefits program at their own expense if coverage is in effect at the time of retirement. (Government Code 53201)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

1090 Compensation for members and mileage allowance

33362 Reimbursement of expenses (Department of Education and CSBA workshops)

35012 Board members; number, election and term

35044 Payment of traveling expenses of representatives of board

35120 Compensation (services as member of governing board)

35172 Promotional activities

44038 Cash deposits for transportation purchased on credit

GOVERNMENT CODE

20322 Elective officers; election to become member

53200-53209 Group insurance, especially:

53200 Definitions: group insurance, local agency; health and welfare benefits, employees

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 26

403(b) Tax-sheltered annuities

COURT DECISIONS

Thorning v. Hollister School District, (1992) 11 Cal.App.4th 1598

REMUNERATION, REIMBURSEMENT, AND OTHER BENEFITS

35120. (a)(1) In any school District in which the average daily attendance for the prior school year exceeded 400,000, each member of the city board of education or the governing board of the District who actually attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for his or her services a sum not to exceed \$2,000 per month.
- (2) In any school District that is not located in a city and county, and in which the average daily attendance for the prior school year exceeded 60,000, the governing board may prescribe, as compensation for the services of each member of the board who actually attends all meetings held, a sum not to exceed \$1,500 in any month.
 - (3) In any school District in which the average daily attendance for the prior school year was 60,000 or less, but more than 25,000, each member of the city board of education or the governing board of the District who actually attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for his or her services a sum not to exceed \$750 in any month.
 - (4) In any school District in which the average daily attendance for the prior school year was 25,000 or less, but more than 10,000, each member of the city board of education or the governing board of the District who actually attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for his or her services a sum not to exceed \$400 in any month.
 - (5) In any school District in which the average daily attendance for the prior school year was 10,000 or less, but more than 1,000, each member of the city board of education or the governing board of the District who actually attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for his or her services a sum not to exceed \$240 in any month.
 - (6) In any school District in which the average daily attendance for the prior school year was 1,000 or less, but more than 150, each member of the city board of education or the governing board of the District who actually attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for his or her services a sum not to exceed \$120 in any month.
 - (7) In any school District in which the average daily attendance for the prior school year was less than 150, each member of the city board of education or the governing board of the District who actually attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for his or her services a sum not to exceed \$60 per month.

- (8) Any member who does not attend all meetings held in any month may receive, as compensation for his or her services, an amount not greater than the maximum amount allowed by this subdivision divided by the number of meetings held and multiplied by the number of meetings actually attended.
 - (9) For the purposes of providing compensation pursuant to paragraphs (1) to (7), inclusive, average daily attendance for the prior school year may be increased by a school District's percentage of excused absences reported for the 1996-97 fiscal year.
- (b) The compensation of members of the governing board of a school District newly organized or reorganized shall be governed by subdivision (a). For this purpose, the total average daily attendance in the District school in the school year in which the organization or reorganization became effective pursuant to Section 4062 shall be deemed to be the average daily attendance in the District for the prior school year.
 - (c) A member may be paid for any meeting when absent if the board by resolution duly adopted and included in its minutes finds that at the time of the meeting he or she is performing services outside the meeting for the school District or Districts, he or she was ill or on jury duty, or the absence was due to a hardship deemed acceptable by the board.
 - (d) The compensation shall be a charge against the funds of the school District. If the city board of education or the governing board of the District is the governing board of more than one school District, the compensation shall be charged against and paid by the respective school Districts in the same proportion as the salary of the city superintendent of schools is charged against them. Compensation shall be reduced by an amount equal to any salary or compensation paid to the members of the city board of education from any funds of the city.

Remuneration, Reimbursement And Other Benefits

RESOLUTION ON BOARD COMPENSATION FOR MISSED MEETINGS

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the _____ School District appreciates the services provided by members of the Board and provides compensation for meeting attendance in accordance with Education Code 35120 and Board Bylaw 9250; and

WHEREAS, Education Code 35120 provides that the monthly compensation provided to Board members shall be commensurate with the percentage of meetings attended during the month unless otherwise authorized by Board resolution; and

WHEREAS, Education Code 35120 specifies limited circumstances under which the Board is authorized to compensate a Board member for meetings he/she missed; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that (name of Board member) did not attend the Board meeting(s) on (dates) for the following reason(s): (check applicable reasons)

- Performance of other designated duties for the district during the time of the meeting
- Illness or jury duty
- Hardship deemed acceptable by the Board

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of the _____ School District approves full compensation of the Board member for the month of _____.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ day of _____, _____ at a regular meeting, by the following vote:

AYES:_____ NOES:_____ ABSENT:_____

Attest:

Secretary

President

LEGAL PROTECTION

Liability Insurance

The Board of Trustees shall provide insurance necessary to protect Board members and employees from any judgment resulting from suits brought against them alleging their liability while acting within the scope of their employment and/or under the direction of the Board.

(cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)

Protection Against Liability

No Board member shall be liable for harm caused by his/her act or omission when acting within the scope of district responsibilities. The act or omission must be in conformity with federal, state and local laws and made in furtherance of an effort to control, discipline, expel or suspend a student, or maintain order or control in the classroom or school. (20 USC 6736)

The protection against liability shall not apply when: (20 USC 6736)

- 1.The Board member acted with willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence, recklessness, or a conscious, flagrant indifference to the harmed person's right to safety.
- 2.The Board member caused harm by operating a motor vehicle.
- 3.The Board member was not properly licensed, if required, by the State for such activities.
- 4.The Board member was found by a court to have violated a federal or state civil rights law.
- 5.The Board member was under the influence of alcohol or any drug at the time of the misconduct.
- 6.The misconduct constituted a crime of violence pursuant to 18 USC 16 or an act of terrorism for which the Board member has been convicted in a court.
- 7.The misconduct involved a sexual offense for which the Board member has been convicted in a court.

LEGAL PROTECTION

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

17029.5 Contract funding; board liability

35208 Liability insurance

35214 Liability insurance (self-insurance or a combination of self-insurance and insurance through an insurance company)

GOVERNMENT CODE

815.3 Intentional torts

820-823 Tort Claims Act

825.6 Indemnification of public entity

1090-1098 Conflicts of interest, prohibitions applicable to specified officers

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act

87100-89503 Conflicts of interest

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 18

16 Crime of violence defined

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6731-6738 Teacher Protection Act

COURT DECISIONS

Caldwell v. Montoya (Paramount Unified School District) 10 Cal 4th 972 (1995)

Bylaw

adopted: February 9, 2000

revised: November 12, 2014

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Governing Board desires to maintain the highest ethical standards and help ensure that decisions are made in the best interest of the district and the public. In accordance with law, Board members and designated employees shall disclose any conflict of interest and, as necessary, shall abstain from participating in the decision.

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

INCOMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES

Governing Board members shall not engage in any employment or activity, or hold any office which is inconsistent with, incompatible with, in conflict with or inimical to the Board member's duties as an officer of the district. (Government Code 1126)

(cf. 4136/4236/4336 - Nonschool Employment)

CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE

The district's conflict of interest code shall be comprised of the terms of California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Section 18730 and any amendments to it adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission, together with a district attachment specifying designated positions and the specific types of disclosure statements required for each position.

Upon direction by the code reviewing body, the Board shall review the district's conflict of interest code in even-numbered years. If no change in the code is required, the district shall submit by October 1 a written statement to that effect to the code reviewing body. If a change in the code is necessitated by changed circumstances, the district shall submit an amended code to the code reviewing body. (Government Code 87306.5)

When a change in the district's conflict of interest code is necessitated due to changed circumstances, such as the creation of new designated positions, changes to the duties assigned to existing positions, amendments, or revisions, the amended code shall be submitted to the code reviewing body within 90 days. (Government Code 87306)

When reviewing and preparing conflict of interest codes, the district shall provide officers, employees, consultants and members of the community adequate notice and a fair opportunity to present their views. (Government Code 87311)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

A Board member shall abstain from any official action in which his/her private or personal interest may conflict with his/her official duties.

Board members and designated employees shall annually file a Statement of Economic Interest/Form 700 in accordance with the disclosure categories specified in the district's conflict of interest code. A Board member who leaves office or a designated employee who leaves district employment shall, within 30 days, file a revised statement covering the period of time between the closing date of the last statement and the date of leaving office or district employment. (Government Code 87302, 87500)

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

(cf. 4117.2/4217.2/4317.2 - Resignation)
(cf. 9222 - Resignation)

Statements of economic interests submitted to the district by designated employees in accordance with the conflict of interest code shall be available for public inspection and reproduction. (Government Code 81008)

Conflict of Interest under the Political Reform Act

A Board member or designated employee shall not make, participate in making, or in any way use or attempt to use his/her official position to influence a governmental decision in which he/she knows or has reason to know that he/she has a disqualifying conflict of interest. A conflict of interest exists if the decision will have a "reasonably foreseeable material financial effect" on one or more of the Board member's or designated employee's "economic interests," unless the effect is indistinguishable from the effect on the public generally or the Board member's or designated employee's participation is legally required. (Government Code 87100, 87101, 87103; 2 CCR 18700-18709)

A Board member or designated employee makes a governmental decision when, acting within the authority of his/her office or position, he/she votes on a matter, appoints a person, obligates or commits the district to any course of action, or enters into any contractual agreement on behalf of the district. (2 CCR 18702.1)

A Board member who has a disqualifying conflict of interest on an agenda item that will be heard in an open meeting of the Board shall abstain from voting on the matter. He/she may remain on the dais, but his/her presence shall not be counted towards achieving a quorum for that matter. A Board member with a disqualifying conflict of interest shall not be present during a closed session meeting of the Board when the decision is considered and shall not obtain or review a recording or any other nonpublic information regarding the issue. (2 CCR 18702.1)

FINANCIAL INTEREST

Board members, employees, or district consultants shall not be financially interested in any contract made by the Board on behalf of the district, including in the development, preliminary discussions, negotiations, compromises, planning, reasoning, and specifications and solicitations for bids. If a Board member has such a financial interest, the district is barred from entering into the contract. (Government Code 1090; Klistoff v. Superior Court, (2007) 157 Cal.App. 4th 469)

1. That of an officer who is being reimbursed for his/her actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of an official duty.
2. That of a recipient of public services generally provided by the public body or board of which he/she is a member, on the same terms and conditions as if he or she were not a member of the board.
3. That of a landlord or tenant of the contracting party if such contracting party is the federal government or any federal department or agency, this state or an adjoining state, any department or agency of this state or an adjoining state, any county or city of this state or an adjoining state, or any public corporation or special, judicial or other public district of this state or an adjoining state unless the subject matter of such contract is the property in which such officer or employee has such interest as landlord or tenant in which even his/her interest shall be deemed a remote interest within the meaning of, and subject to, the provisions of Government Code 1091.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

4. A Board member shall not be considered to be financially interested in a contract if his/her interest is a "noninterest" as defined in Government Code 1091.5. One such noninterest is when a Board member's spouse/registered domestic partner has been a district employee for at least one year prior to the Board member's election or appointment. (Government Code 1091.5)

6. That of a non-salaried member of a nonprofit corporation, provided that such interest is disclosed to the Board at the time of the first consideration of the contract, and provided further that such interest is noted in its official records.

7. That of a non-compensated officer of a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation which, as one of its primary purposes, supports the functions of the nonprofit board or to which the school Board has a legal obligation to give particular consideration, and provided further that such interest is noted in its official records.

8. That of a person receiving salary, per diem, or reimbursement for expenses from a governmental entity, unless the contract directly involves the department of the government entity that employs the officer or employee, provided that such interest is disclosed to the Board at the time of consideration of the contract, and provided further that such interest is noted in its official records.

9. That of an attorney of the contracting party or that of an owner, officer, employee or agent of a firm which renders, or has rendered, service to the contracting party in the capacity of stockbroker, insurance agent, insurance broker, real estate agent, or real estate broker, if these individuals have not received and will not receive remuneration, consideration, or a commission as a result of the contract and if these individuals have an ownership interest of less than 10 percent in the law practice or firm, stock brokerage firm, insurance firm or real estate firm.

In addition, a Board member or employee shall not be deemed to be interested in a contract made pursuant to competitive bidding under a procedure established by law if his/her sole interest is that of an officer, director, or employee of a bank or savings and loan association with which a party to the contract has the relationship of borrower or depositor, debtor or creditor. (Government Code 1091.5)

A Board member shall not be considered to be financially interested in a contract if he/she has only a "remote interest" in the contract as specified in Government Code 1091 and if the remote interest is disclosed during a Board meeting and noted in the official Board minutes. The affected Board member shall not vote or debate on the matter or attempt to influence any other Board member to enter into the contract. (Government Code 1091)

On a case-by-case basis and upon advice of legal counsel, a Board member with a financial interest in a contract may participate in the making of the contract if the rule of necessity or legally required participation applies pursuant to Government Code 87101 and 2 CCR 18708.

Even if there is not a prohibited conflict of interest, a Board member shall abstain from voting on personnel matters that uniquely affect his/her relatives. However, a Board member may vote on

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

collective bargaining agreements and personnel matters that affect a class of employees to which his/her relative belongs. Relative means an adult who is related to the Board member by blood or affinity within the third degree, as determined by the common law, or an individual in an adoptive relationship within the third degree. (Education Code 35107)

A relationship within the third degree includes an individual's parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and the similar family of the individual's spouse/registered domestic partner unless the individual is widowed or divorced.

GIFTS

Board members and designated employees shall not accept from any single source in any calendar year, any gifts in excess of the prevailing gift limitation specified in law if the employee would be required to report the receipt of income or gifts from that source on his/her statement of economic interests (Government Code 89503). Board members and designated employees may accept gifts only under the conditions and limitations specified in Government Code 89503 and 2 CCR 18730. ****Note: Pursuant to 2 CCR 18730, the prevailing gift limitation is currently ~~\$360~~ \$420. This amount is adjusted on odd-numbered years by the FPPC. ****

The limitations on gifts do not apply to wedding gifts and gifts exchanged between individuals on birthdays, holidays and other similar occasions, provided that the gifts exchanged are not substantially disproportionate in value. (Government Code 89503)

Gifts of travel and related lodging and subsistence shall be subject to the prevailing gift limitation except as described in Government Code 89506. A gift of travel does not include travel provided by the district for Board members and designated employees. (Government Code 89506)

HONORARIA

Board members and designated employees shall not accept any honorarium, which is defined as any payment made in consideration for any speech given, article published, or attendance at any public or private gathering, in accordance with law, if the employee would be required to report the receipt of income or gifts from that source on his/her statement of economic interests. (Government Code 89501, 89502)

The term "honorarium" does not include: (Government Code 89501)

1. Earned income for personal services customarily provided in connection with a bona fide business, trade or profession unless the sole or predominant activity of the business, trade or profession is making speeches.
2. Any honorarium which is not used and, within 30 days after receipt, is either returned to the donor or delivered to the district for donation into the general fund without being claimed as a deduction from income for tax purposes.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

1006 Qualifications for holding office

35107 School district employees

35230-35240 Corrupt practices, especially:

35233 Prohibitions applicable to members of governing boards

41000-41003 Moneys received by school districts

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

FAMILY CODE

297.5 *Rights, protections, and benefits of registered domestic partners*

GOVERNMENT CODE

1090-1099 *Prohibitions applicable to specified officers*

1125-1129 *Incompatible activities*

81000-91014 *Political Reform Act of 1974, especially:*

82011 *Code reviewing body*

87100-87103.6 *General prohibitions*

87200-87210 *Disclosure*

87300-87313 *Conflict of interest code*

87500 *Statements of economic interests*

89501-89503 *Honoraria and gifts*

91000-91014 *Enforcement*

PENAL CODE

85-88 *Bribes*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

18110-18997 *Regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission, especially:*

18702.5 *Public identification of a conflict of interest for Section 87200 filers*

COURT DECISIONS

Klistoff v. Superior Court, (2007) 157 Cal.App.4th 469

Thorpe v. Long Beach Community College District, (2000) 83 Cal.App.4th 655

Kunec v. Brea Redevelopment Agency, (1997) 55 Cal.App.4th 511

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

92 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 26 (2009)*

92 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 19 (2009)*

89 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 217 (2006)*

86 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 138(2003)*

85 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 60 (2002)*

82 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 83 (1999)*

81 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 327 (1998)*

80 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 320 (1997)*

69 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 255 (1986)*

68 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 171 (1985)*

65 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 606 (1982)*

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CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Conflict of Interest: Overview of Key Issues for Governing Board Members, Fact Sheet, July 2010

FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

Can I Vote? A Basic Overview of Public Officials' Obligations Under the Conflict-of-Interest Rules, 2005

INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

Understanding the Basics of Public Service Ethics: Personal Financial Gain Laws, 2009

Understanding the Basics of Public Service Ethics: Transparency Laws, 2009

WEB SITES

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

Fair Political Practices Commission: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov>

Institute of Local Government: <http://www.ca-ilg.org>

Board Bylaw

adopted: February 9, 2000

reviewed: August 9, 2006

revised: November 12, 2014

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

**Regulations of the
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
Title 2, Division 6
of the
California Code of Regulations**

18730. Provisions of Conflict of Interest Codes

- (a) Incorporation by reference of the terms of this regulation along with the designation of employees and the formulation of disclosure categories in the Appendix referred to below constitute the adoption and promulgation of a conflict of interest code within the meaning of Government Code section 87300 or the amendment of a conflict of interest code within the meaning of Government Code section 87306 if the terms of this regulation are substituted for terms of a conflict of interest code already in effect. A code so amended or adopted and promulgated requires the reporting of reportable items in a manner substantially equivalent to the requirements of article 2 of chapter 7 of the Political Reform Act, Government Code sections 81000, et seq. The requirements of a conflict of interest code are in addition to other requirements of the Political Reform Act, such as the general prohibition against conflicts of interest contained in Government Code section 87100, and to other state or local laws pertaining to conflicts of interest.
- (b) The terms of a conflict of interest code amended or adopted and promulgated pursuant to this regulation are as follows:

(1) Section 1. Definitions.

The definitions contained in the Political Reform Act of 1974, regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission (2 Cal. Code of Regs. sections 18100, et seq.), and any amendments to the Act or regulations, are incorporated by reference into this conflict of interest code.

(2) Section 2. Designated Employees.

The persons holding positions listed in the Appendix are designated employees. It has been determined that these persons make or participate in the making of decisions which may foreseeably have a material effect on economic interests.

(3) Section 3. Disclosure Categories.

This code does not establish any disclosure obligation for those designated employees who are also specified in Government Code section 87200 if they are designated in this code in that same capacity or if the geographical jurisdiction of this agency is the same as or is wholly included within the jurisdiction in which those persons must report their economic interests pursuant to article 2 of chapter 7 of the Political Reform Act, Government Code sections 87200, et seq. In addition, this code does not establish any disclosure obligation for any designated employees who are designated in a conflict of interest code for another agency, if all of the following apply:

- (A) The geographical jurisdiction of this agency is the same as or is wholly included within the jurisdiction of the other agency;

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

(B) The disclosure assigned in the code of the other agency is the same as that required under article 2 of chapter 7 of the Political Reform Act, Government Code section 87200; and

(C) The filing officer is the same for both agencies. (1)

Such persons are covered by this code for disqualification purposes only. With respect to all other designated employees, the disclosure categories set forth in the Appendix specify which kinds of economic interests are reportable. Such a designated employee shall disclose in his or her statement of economic interests those economic interests he or she has which are of the kind described in the disclosure categories to which he or she is assigned in the Appendix. It has been determined that the economic interests set forth in a designated employee's disclosure categories are the kinds of economic interests which he or she foreseeably can affect materially through the conduct of his or her office.

(4) Section 4. Statements of Economic Interests: Place of Filing.

The code reviewing body shall instruct all designated employees within its code to file statements of economic interests with the agency or with the code reviewing body, as provided by the code reviewing body in the agency's conflict of interest code. (2)

(5) Section 5. Statements of Economic Interests: Time of Filing.

(A) Initial Statements. All designated employees employed by the agency on the effective date of this code, as originally adopted, promulgated and approved by the code reviewing body, shall file statements within 30 days after the effective date of this code. Thereafter, each person already in a position when it is designated by an amendment to this code shall file an initial statement within 30 days after the effective date of the amendment.

(B) Assuming Office Statements. All persons assuming designated positions after the effective date of this code shall file statements within 30 days after assuming the designated positions, or if subject to State Senate confirmation, 30 days after being nominated or appointed.

(C) Annual Statements. All designated employees shall file statements no later than April 1.

(D) Leaving Office Statements. All persons who leave designated positions shall file statements within 30 days after leaving office.

(5.5) Section 5.5. Statements for Persons Who Resign Prior to Assuming Office.

Any person who resigns within 12 months of initial appointment, or within 30 days of the date of notice provided by the filing officer to file an assuming office statement, is not deemed to have assumed office or left office, provided he or she did not make or participate in the making of, or use his or her position to influence any decision and did not receive or become entitled to receive any form of payment as a result of his or her appointment. Such persons shall not file either an assuming or leaving office statement.

(A) Any person who resigns a position within 30 days of the date of a notice from the filing officer shall do both of the following:

(1) File a written resignation with the appointing power; and

(2) File a written statement with the filing officer declaring under penalty of perjury that during the period between appointment and resignation he or she did not make, participate in the making, or use the position to influence any decision of the agency or receive, or become entitled to receive, any form of payment by virtue of being appointed to the position.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST**(6) Section 6. Contents of and Period Covered by Statements of Economic Interests.****(A) Contents of Initial Statements.**

Initial statements shall disclose any reportable investments, interests in real property and business positions held on the effective date of the code and income received during the 12 months prior to the effective date of the code.

(B) Contents of Assuming Office Statements.

Assuming office statements shall disclose any reportable investments, interests in real property and business positions held on the date of assuming office or, if subject to State Senate confirmation or appointment, on the date of nomination, and income received during the 12 months prior to the date of assuming office or the date of being appointed or nominated, respectively.

(C) Contents of Annual Statements. Annual statements shall disclose any reportable investments, interests in real property, income and business positions held or received during the previous calendar year provided, however, that the period covered by an employee's first annual statement shall begin on the effective date of the code or the date of assuming office whichever is later, or for a board or commission member subject to Government Code section 87302.6, the day after the closing date of the most recent statement filed by the member pursuant to 2 Cal. Code Regs. section 18754.**(D) Contents of Leaving Office Statements.**

Leaving office statements shall disclose reportable investments, interests in real property, income and business positions held or received during the period between the closing date of the last statement filed and the date of leaving office.

(7) Section 7. Manner of Reporting.

Statements of economic interests shall be made on forms prescribed by the Fair Political Practices Commission and supplied by the agency, and shall contain the following information:

(A) Investment and Real Property Disclosure.

When an investment or an interest in real property (3) is required to be reported, (4) the statement shall contain the following:

1. A statement of the nature of the investment or interest;
2. The name of the business entity in which each investment is held, and a general description of the business activity in which the business entity is engaged;
3. The address or other precise location of the real property;
4. A statement whether the fair market value of the investment or interest in real property equals or exceeds two thousand dollars (\$2,000), exceeds ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), exceeds one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), or exceeds one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

(B) Personal Income Disclosure. When personal income is required to be reported, (5) the statement shall contain:

1. The name and address of each source of income aggregating five hundred dollars (\$500) or more in value, or fifty dollars (\$50) or more in value if the income was a gift, and a general description of the business activity, if any, of each source;
2. A statement whether the aggregate value of income from each source, or in the case of a loan, the highest amount owed to each source, was one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or less, greater than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or greater than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000);

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

3. A description of the consideration, if any, for which the income was received;
 4. In the case of a gift, the name, address and business activity of the donor and any intermediary through which the gift was made; a description of the gift; the amount or value of the gift; and the date on which the gift was received;
 5. In the case of a loan, the annual interest rate and the security, if any, given for the loan and the term of the loan.
- (C) Business Entity Income Disclosure. When income of a business entity, including income of a sole proprietorship, is required to be reported, (6) the statement shall contain:
1. The name, address, and a general description of the business activity of the business entity;
 2. The name of every person from whom the business entity received payments if the filer's pro rata share of gross receipts from such person was equal to or greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).
- (D) Business Position Disclosure. When business positions are required to be reported, a designated employee shall list the name and address of each business entity in which he or she is a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or in which he or she holds any position of management, a description of the business activity in which the business entity is engaged, and the designated employee's position with the business entity.
- (E) Acquisition or Disposal During Reporting Period. In the case of an annual or leaving office statement, if an investment or an interest in real property was partially or wholly acquired or disposed of during the period covered by the statement, the statement shall contain the date of acquisition or disposal.
- (8) Section 8. Prohibition on Receipt of Honoraria.
- (A) No member of a state board or commission, and no designated employee of a state or local government agency, shall accept any honorarium from any source, if the member or employee would be required to report the receipt of income or gifts from that source on his or her statement of economic interests. This section shall not apply to any part-time member of the governing board of any public institution of higher education, unless the member is also an elected official.
- Subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) of Government Code Section 89501 shall apply to the prohibitions in this section.
- This section shall not limit or prohibit payments, advances, or reimbursements for travel and related lodging and subsistence authorized by Government Code section 89506.
- (8.1) Section 8.1. Prohibition on Receipt of Gifts in Excess of \$360.
- (A) No member of a state board or commission, and no designated employee of a state or local government agency, shall accept gifts with a total value of more than \$360 in a calendar year from any single source, if the member or employee would be required to report the receipt of income or gifts from that source on his or her statement of economic interests. This section shall not apply to any part-time member of the governing board of any public institution of higher education, unless the member is also an elected official.
- Subdivisions (e), (f), and (g) of Government Code section 89503 shall apply to the prohibitions in this section.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

(8.2) Section 8.2. Loans to Public Officials.

- (A) No elected officer of a state or local government agency shall, from the date of his or her election to office through the date that he or she vacates office, receive a personal loan from any officer, employee, member, or consultant of the state or local government agency in which the elected officer holds office or over which the elected officer's agency has direction and control.
- (B) No public official who is exempt from the state civil service system pursuant to subdivisions (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) of Section 4 of Article VII of the Constitution shall, while he or she holds office, receive a personal loan from any officer, employee, member, or consultant of the state or local government agency in which the public official holds office or over which the public official's agency has direction and control. This subdivision shall not apply to loans made to a public official whose duties are solely secretarial, clerical, or manual.
- (C) No elected officer of a state or local government agency shall, from the date of his or her election to office through the date that he or she vacates office, receive a personal loan from any person who has a contract with the state or local government agency to which that elected officer has been elected or over which that elected officer's agency has direction and control. This subdivision shall not apply to loans made by banks or other financial institutions or to any indebtedness created as part of a retail installment or credit card transaction, if the loan is made or the indebtedness created in the lender's regular course of business on terms available to members of the public without regard to the elected officer's official status.
- (D) No public official who is exempt from the state civil service system pursuant to subdivisions (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) of Section 4 of Article VII of the Constitution shall, while he or she holds office, receive a personal loan from any person who has a contract with the state or local government agency to which that elected officer has been elected or over which that elected officer's agency has direction and control. This subdivision shall not apply to loans made by banks or other financial institutions or to any indebtedness created as part of a retail installment or credit card transaction, if the loan is made or the indebtedness created in the lender's regular course of business on terms available to members of the public without regard to the elected officer's official status. This subdivision shall not apply to loans made to a public official whose duties are solely secretarial, clerical, or manual.
- (E) This section shall not apply to the following:
 - 1. Loans made to the campaign committee of an elected officer or candidate for elective office.
 - 2. Loans made by a public official's spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, parent-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle, or first cousin, or the spouse of any such persons, provided that the person making the loan is not acting as an agent or intermediary for any person not otherwise exempted under this section.
 - 3. Loans from a person which, in the aggregate, do not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) at any given time.
 - 4. Loans made, or offered in writing, before January 1, 1998.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

(8.3) Section 8.3. Loan Terms.

- (A) Except as set forth in subdivision (B), no elected officer of a state or local government agency shall, from the date of his or her election to office through the date he or she vacates office, receive a personal loan of five hundred dollars (\$500) or more, except when the loan is in writing and clearly states the terms of the loan, including the parties to the loan agreement, date of the loan, amount of the loan, term of the loan, date or dates when payments shall be due on the loan and the amount of the payments, and the rate of interest paid on the loan.
- (B) This section shall not apply to the following types of loans:
 - 1. Loans made to the campaign committee of the elected officer.
 - 2. Loans made to the elected officer by his or her spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, parent-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle, or first cousin, or the spouse of any such person, provided that the person making the loan is not acting as an agent or intermediary for any person not otherwise exempted under this section.
 - 3. Loans made, or offered in writing, before January 1, 1998.
- (C) Nothing in this section shall exempt any person from any other provision of Title 9 of the Government Code.

(8.4) Section 8.4. Personal Loans.

- (A) Except as set forth in subdivision (B), a personal loan received by any designated employee shall become a gift to the designated employee for the purposes of this section in the following circumstances:
 - 1. If the loan has a defined date or dates for repayment, when the statute of limitations for filing an action for default has expired.
 - 2. If the loan has no defined date or dates for repayment, when one year has elapsed from the later of the following:
 - a. The date the loan was made.
 - b. The date the last payment of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more was made on the loan.
 - c. The date upon which the debtor has made payments on the loan aggregating to less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) during the previous 12 months.
- (B) This section shall not apply to the following types of loans:
 - 1. A loan made to the campaign committee of an elected officer or a candidate for elective office.
 - 2. A loan that would otherwise not be a gift as defined in this title.
 - 3. A loan that would otherwise be a gift as set forth under subdivision (A), but on which the creditor has taken reasonable action to collect the balance due.
 - 4. A loan that would otherwise be a gift as set forth under subdivision (A), but on which the creditor, based on reasonable business considerations, has not undertaken collection action. Except in a criminal action, a creditor who claims that a loan is not a gift on the basis of this paragraph has the burden of proving that the decision for not taking collection action was based on reasonable business considerations.
 - 5. A loan made to a debtor who has filed for bankruptcy and the loan is ultimately discharged in bankruptcy.

Bylaws of the Board

E 9270 (g)

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

(C) Nothing in this section shall exempt any person from any other provisions of Title 9 of the Government Code.

(9) Section 9. Disqualification.

No designated employee shall make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use his or her official position to influence the making of any governmental decision which he or she knows or has reason to know will have a reasonably foreseeable material financial effect, distinguishable from its effect on the public generally, on the official or a member of his or her immediate family or on:

- (A) Any business entity in which the designated employee has a direct or indirect investment worth two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or more;
- (B) Any real property in which the designated employee has a direct or indirect interest worth two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or more;
- (C) Any source of income, other than gifts and other than loans by a commercial lending institution in the regular course of business on terms available to the public without regard to official status, aggregating five hundred dollars (\$500) or more in value provided to, received by or promised to the designated employee within 12 months prior to the time when the decision is made;
- (D) Any business entity in which the designated employee is a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or holds any position of management; or
- (E) Any donor of, or any intermediary or agent for a donor of, a gift or gifts aggregating \$360 or more provided to, received by, or promised to the designated employee within 12 months prior to the time when the decision is made.

(9.3) Section 9.3. Legally Required Participation.

No designated employee shall be prevented from making or participating in the making of any decision to the extent his or her participation is legally required for the decision to be made. The fact that the vote of a designated employee who is on a voting body is needed to break a tie does not make his or her participation legally required for purposes of this section.

(9.5) Section 9.5. Disqualification of State Officers and Employees.

In addition to the general disqualification provisions of section 9, no state administrative official shall make, participate in making, or use his or her official position to influence any governmental decision directly relating to any contract where the state administrative official knows or has reason to know that any party to the contract is a person with whom the state administrative official, or any member of his or her immediate family has, within 12 months prior to the time when the official action is to be taken:

- (A) Engaged in a business transaction or transactions on terms not available to members of the public, regarding any investment or interest in real property; or
- (B) Engaged in a business transaction or transactions on terms not available to members of the public regarding the rendering of goods or services totaling in value one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

(10) Section 10. Disclosure of Disqualifying Interest.

When a designated employee determines that he or she should not make a governmental decision because he or she has a disqualifying interest in it, the determination not to act may be accompanied by disclosure of the disqualifying interest.

(11) Section 11. Assistance of the Commission and Counsel.

Any designated employee who is unsure of his or her duties under this code may request assistance from the Fair Political Practices Commission pursuant to Government Code section 83114 and 2 Cal. Code Regs. sections 18329 and 18329.5 or from the attorney for his or her agency, provided that nothing in this section requires the attorney for the agency to issue any formal or informal opinion.

(12) Section 12. Violations.

This code has the force and effect of law. Designated employees violating any provision of this code are subject to the administrative, criminal and civil sanctions provided in the Political Reform Act, Government Code sections 81000-91014. In addition, a decision in relation to which a violation of the disqualification provisions of this code or of Government Code section 87100 or 87450 has occurred may be set aside as void pursuant to Government Code section 91003.

NOTES:

1. Designated employees who are required to file statements of economic interests under any other agency's conflict of interest code, or under article 2 for a different jurisdiction, may expand their statement of economic interests to cover reportable interests in both jurisdictions, and file copies of this expanded statement with both entities in lieu of filing separate and distinct statements, provided that each copy of such expanded statement filed in place of an original is signed and verified by the designated employee as if it were an original. See Government Code section 81004.
2. See Government Code section 81010 and 2 Cal. Code of Regs. section 18115 for the duties of filing officers and persons in agencies who make and retain copies of statements and forward the originals to the filing officer.
3. For the purpose of disclosure only (not disqualification), an interest in real property does not include the principal residence of the filer.
4. Investments and interests in real property which have a fair market value of less than \$2,000 are not investments and interests in real property within the meaning of the Political Reform Act. However, investments or interests in real property of an individual include those held by the individual's spouse and dependent children as well as a pro rata share of any investment or interest in real property of any business entity or trust in which the individual, spouse and dependent children own, in the aggregate, a direct, indirect or beneficial interest of 10 percent or greater.
5. A designated employee's income includes his or her community property interest in the income of his or her spouse but does not include salary or reimbursement for expenses received from a state, local or federal government agency.
6. Income of a business entity is reportable if the direct, indirect or beneficial interest of the filer and the filer's spouse in the business entity aggregates a 10 percent or greater interest. In addition, the disclosure of persons who are clients or customers of a business entity is required only if the clients or customers are within one of the disclosure categories of the filer.

Authority cited: Government Code 83112
Reference: Government Code 87300-87302
Government Code 89502

Bylaws of the Board

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

APPENDIX

DESIGNATED POSITIONS/DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES

1. Persons occupying the following positions are designated employees in **Category 1**:

Board Members
Assistant/Associate Superintendent
Purchasing Agent

Designated persons in this category must report:

- a. Interests in real property located entirely or partly within district boundaries, or within two miles of district boundaries
- b. Investments or business positions in or income from sources which:
 - (1) Are engaged in the acquisition or disposal of real property within the district
 - (2) Are contractors or subcontractors which are or have been within the past two years engaged in work or services of the type used by the district or
 - (3) Manufacture or sell supplies, books, machinery or equipment of the type used by the district

2. Persons occupying the following positions are designated employees in **Category 2**:

Board Members
Assistant Principal
Maintenance and Operations Director
Program Coordinator

Designated persons in this category must report investments or business positions in or income from sources which:

- a. Are contractors or subcontractors engaged in work or services of the type used by the department which the
 - b. Manufacture or sell supplies, books, machinery or equipment of the type used by the department, which the designated person manages or directs. For the purposes of this category, a principal's department is his/her entire school.
3. Consultants are designated employees who must disclose financial interests as determined on a case-by-case basis by the Superintendent/Principal or designee. The Superintendent/Principal or designee's written determination shall include a description of the consultant's duties and a statement of the extent of disclosure requirements based upon that description. All such determinations are public records and shall be retained for public inspection along with this conflict of interest code.
 - a. Approve a rate, rule or regulation;
 - b. Adopt or enforce a law;
 - c. Issue, deny, suspend or revoke a permit, license, application, certificate, approval order or similar authorization or entitlement;
 - d. Authorize the District to enter into, modify or renew a contract that requires District approval;

Bylaws of the Board

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

APPENDIX

(continued)

- e. Grand District approval to a contract or contract specification which require District approval and in which the District is a party;
- f. Adopt or grant District approval of District policies, standards or guidelines.

Exhibit

adopted: February 9, 2000

Reviewed: August 9, 2006

CODE OF ETHICS

This code of ethics expresses the personal ideals which the Board of Trustees believes should guide each school Board member's activities.

In all actions as a school Board member, the member's first commitment is to the well-being of our youth. His/her primary responsibility is to every student in the District.

Board members also have other major commitments to:

- The Community. Each Board member is responsible to all residents of the District and not solely to those who elected him/her; nor solely to any organization to which he/she may belong, or which may have supported his/her election.
- Individuals. Each Board member has a direct concern for every individual in the community. As an integral part of his/her duties, he/she represents the authority and responsibility of government. This authority must be exercised with as much care and concern for the least influential as for the most influential member of the community.
- Employees. The Board member's actions may affect the capability of District employees to practice their trade or profession and should encourage their increasing competence and professional growth.
- Laws, Policies. Each Board member must be aware of, and comply with, the constitutions of State and Nation, the Education Code of the State of California, other laws pertaining to public education and the established policies of the District.
- Decision Making. Each Board member is obliged by law to participate in decisions pertaining to education in the District. As an elected representative of the people, the Board member can neither relinquish nor delegate this responsibility to any other individual or group.
- Individual Feelings and Philosophy. Each individual Board member has something to contribute to society.

Understanding and acting upon the foregoing premises, each Board member shall:

- Consider his/her position on the Board as a public trust and not use it for private advantage or personal gain.
- Be constantly aware that he/she has no legal authority except when acting as a member of the Board. Board members shall present their concerns and concepts through the process of Board debate. If in the minority of any decision, they shall abide by and support the majority decision. When in the majority, they shall respect divergent opinions.

CODE OF ETHICS (continued)

- Encourage ideas and opinions from the residents of the District and endeavor to incorporate community views into the deliberations and decisions of the Board.
- Devote sufficient time, thought and study to proposed actions so as to be able to base decisions upon all available facts and vote in accordance with honest convictions, unswayed by partisan bias of any kind.
- Remember that the basic functions of the Board are to establish the policies by which District schools are administered and to select the Superintendent/Principal or designee and staff who will implement those policies.
- Promote and participate actively in a concerted program of timely exchange of information with all District residents, parents/ guardians, employees and students.
- Recognize that the deliberations of the Board in closed session may be released or discussed in public only with Board approval.
- Make use of opportunities to enlarge his/her potential as a Board member through participation in educational conferences, workshops and training sessions made available by local, state and national agencies.

GOVERNANCE

The Board of Trustees has the power of establishing its own procedures within the parameters of law. (Education Code 35010)

The formulation and adoption of written Board policies shall constitute the basic method by which the Board shall exercise its leadership in the governance of the school District. This right shall be retained solely by the Board. The study and evaluation of reports concerning the execution of its policies shall constitute the basic method by which the Board shall exercise its accountability for the governance of schools.

The implementation of policies is an administrative task to be performed by the Superintendent/Principal or designee who shall be held responsible for the effective administration and supervision of the entire school system.

All actions of the Board shall be taken only in official Board meetings called, scheduled and conducted according to these bylaws and the statutes of the state.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35010 Control of District; prescription and enforcement of rules

35140 Time and place of meetings

35143 Annual organizational meetings - dates and notices

35144 Special meetings

35145 Public meetings

35146 Closed sessions

35160 Authority of governing boards

35163 Official actions, minutes and journal

35164 Vote requirements

POLICY MANUAL

The Governing Board shall adopt written policies to convey its expectations for actions that will be taken in the district, clarify roles and responsibilities of the Board and Superintendent, and communicate Board philosophy and positions to the students, staff, parents/guardians and the community. Board policies are binding on the district to the extent that they do not conflict with federal or state law and are consistent with the district's collective bargaining agreements.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)
(cf. 0100 - Philosophy)
(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

The Board recognizes the importance of maintaining a policy manual that is up to date and reflects the mandates of law. Policies shall be regularly reviewed at a time allocated for this purpose on the agenda of public Board meetings.

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)
(cf. 9322 - Agendas/Meeting Materials)

The Board shall review certain policies annually, as required by Education Code 35160.5. If no revisions are deemed necessary, the Board minutes shall nevertheless indicate that the review was conducted. Other policies shall be monitored and reviewed as specified in the policy itself or as needed to reflect changes in law or district circumstances.

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)
(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

The Superintendent/Principal or designee shall maintain a District policy manual for the purpose of communicating to all interested stakeholders the policies, regulations and bylaws within which District schools will operate. The Board encourages members of the public to acquaint themselves with the District's policy manual.

(cf. 9311 - Board Policies)
(cf. 9312 - Board Bylaws)
(cf. 9313 - Administrative Regulations)

The Superintendent/Principal or designee shall ensure that the community and all District employees have access to the policy manual. A public copy of the manual shall be maintained in the District central office and at the school site. These copies shall be maintained either electronically or by paper copy.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

The Superintendent/Principal or designee shall establish procedures for distributing to all authorized policy manual holders copies of new or revised policies, bylaws and regulations as they are adopted. Annually, before the Board's organizational meeting, the

POLICY MANUAL

Superintendent/Principal or designee shall review the paper and/or electronic copies of the District's policy manual to ensure that they are up-to-date and complete.

Policy Development and Adoption Process

The district's policy development process shall include the following basic steps:

1.The Board and/or Superintendent or designee shall identify the need for a new policy or revision of an existing policy. The need may arise from a change in law, a new district vision or goals, educational research or trends, or a change in the superintendency or Board membership. The need may also occur as a result of an incident that has arisen in the district or a recommendation or request from staff or other interested persons.

2.As needed, the Superintendent or designee shall gather fiscal and other data, staff and public input, related district policies, sample policies from other organizations or agencies, and other useful information to fully inform the Board about the issue.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

3.The Board may hold discussions during a public Board meeting to gain an understanding of the issue and provide initial direction to the Superintendent or designee. The discussion may include, but not be limited to, how the proposed policy may affect student learning, community expectations, staff recommendations, fiscal impact, as well as the policy's impact on governance and operational efficiency.

4.The Board or Superintendent may request that legal counsel review the draft policy as appropriate.

5.The Superintendent or designee shall develop and present a draft policy for a first reading at a public Board meeting. At its second reading, the Board may take action on the proposed policy. The Board may waive the second reading or may require an additional reading if necessary.

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

Only policies formally adopted by a majority vote of the Board shall constitute official Board policy.

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

(cf. 9323.2 - Actions by the Board)

The district's policy development process may be revised or expanded as needed based on the issue being considered, the need for more information, or to provide greater opportunities for

POLICY MANUAL

consultation and public input.

Policies shall become effective upon Board adoption or at a future date designated by the Board at the time of adoption.

Board Bylaws

The Board shall prescribe and enforce rules for its own government consistent with state law and regulations. (Education Code 35010)

Bylaws governing Board operations may be developed, adopted, and amended following the same procedures as those used for the adoption or amendment of Board policy.

Administrative Regulations

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for developing and enforcing administrative regulations for the operation of the district. Administrative regulations shall be consistent with law and Board policy and shall be designed to promote the achievement of district goals and objectives. Administrative regulations may describe specific actions to be taken, roles and responsibilities of staff, timelines, and/or other necessary provisions. The Superintendent or designee also may develop procedures manuals, handbooks, or other guides to carry out the intent of Board policy.

When Board policies are amended, the Superintendent or designee shall review corresponding regulations to ensure that they conform to the intent of the revised policy. In case of conflict between administrative regulation and Board policy, policy shall prevail.

The Board may review and/or approve regulations for the purpose of ensuring conformity with the intent of Board policy.

Monitoring and Evaluation

At the time a policy is adopted, the Board and Superintendent or designee shall determine whether an evaluation of the policy should be scheduled and, if so, shall agree upon a timeline and measures for evaluating the effectiveness of the policy in achieving its purpose.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

Suspension of Policies

No Board policy, bylaw, or administrative regulation, or any portion thereof, shall be operative if it is found to be in conflict with applicable federal or state law or regulations or court decisions. If any portion of a policy is found to be invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions of

Bylaws of the Board

BB 9310(d)

POLICY MANUAL

the policy.

(cf. 2210 - Administrative Discretion Regarding Board Policy)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.5 Annual review of school district policies

35163 Official actions, minutes and journal

35164 Vote requirements

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Targeting Student Learning: The School Board's Role as Policymaker, 2005

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Policy, 1996

WEB SITES

CSBA, Policy Services, including Policy Update Service, Governance and Management Using Technology (GAMUT Online™), Policy Audit Program, Individual District Policy Workshops, Agenda Online, and Manual Maintenance: <http://www.csba.org/ps>

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

Bylaw
adopted: February 9, 2000
revised: November 12, 2014

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Lucerne, California

MEETINGS AND NOTICES

Meetings of the Governing Board are conducted for the purpose of accomplishing district business. In accordance with state open meeting laws (Brown Act), the Board shall hold its meetings in public and shall conduct closed sessions during such meetings only as authorized by law. To encourage community involvement in the schools, Board meetings shall provide opportunities for questions and comments by members of the public. All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with law and the Board's bylaws, policies, and administrative regulations.

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)
(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)
(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)
(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

A Board meeting exists whenever a majority of its members gather at the same time and place to hear, discuss or deliberate upon any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board or District. (Government Code 54952.2)

A majority of the Board shall not, outside of an authorized meeting, use a series of communications of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. However, an employee or district official may engage in separate conversations with Board members in order to answer questions or provide information regarding an item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, as long as that employee or district official does not communicate the comments or position of any Board members to other Board members. (Government Code 54952.2)

(cf. 9012 - Board Member Electronic Communications)

In accordance with state open meeting laws, the Board shall hold its meetings in public and shall conduct closed sessions during these meetings only to discuss confidential matters specified by law. To encourage community involvement in the school, meetings shall provide opportunities for questions and comments by members of the public and shall be conducted in accordance with law and Board-adopted bylaws.

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)
(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)
(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)
(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

In order to help ensure the participation of individuals with disabilities at Board meetings, the Superintendent or designee shall provide appropriate disability-related accommodations or modifications upon request in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. (Government Code 54953.2, 54954.1)

MEETINGS AND NOTICES

Direct communication, personal intermediaries, and technological devices shall not be used by a majority of Board members to develop a collective concurrence as to an action that members will take on any item of District business. (Government Code 54952.2)

Meetings shall be held within District boundaries, except when otherwise allowed by law. (Government Code 54954)

Meetings shall be held in a facility that is accessible to all persons, including disabled persons, without charge. (Government Code 54961)

Meeting notices and agendas shall specify that individuals who require special accommodation, including but not limited to an American sign language interpreter, accessible seating or documentation in accessible formats, should contact the Superintendent/Principal or designee at least two days before the meeting date.

Regular Meetings

The Board shall hold one regular meeting each month. Regular meetings shall be held at 6:00 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesdays in Room C-8.

At least 72 hours prior to a regular meeting, the agenda shall be posted at one or more locations freely accessible to members of the public and on the district's Internet web site. (Government Code 54954.2)

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

Whenever agenda materials relating to an open session of a regular meeting are distributed to the Board less than 72 hours before the meeting, the Superintendent or designee shall make the materials available for public inspection at a public office or location designated for that purpose. (Government Code 54957.5)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

If a fire, flood, earthquake or other emergency renders the regular meeting place unsafe, meetings may temporarily be held at a place designated by the president or designee, who shall so inform, by the most rapid available means of communication, all news media who have requested notice of special meetings. (Government Code 54954)

Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Board may be called by the presiding officer or a majority of the Board members. (Government Code 54956) However, a special meeting shall not be called regarding the salary, salary schedule, or other compensation of the Superintendent, assistant

MEETINGS AND NOTICES

superintendent, or other management employee as described in Government Code 3511.1. (Government Code 54956)

(cf. 2121 - Superintendent's Contract)

Written notice of special meetings shall be delivered personally or by any other means to all Board members and the local media who have requested such notice in writing. The notice also shall be posted on the district's Internet web site. The notice shall be received at least 24 hours before the time of the meeting. The notice shall also be posted at least 24 hours before the meeting in a location freely accessible to the public. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the business to be transacted or discussed; no other business shall be considered at these meetings. (Education Code 35144; Government Code 54956)

Any Board member may waive the 24-hour written notice requirement prior to the time of the meeting by filing a written waiver of notice with the clerk or secretary of the Board or by being present at the meeting at the time it convenes. (Government Code 54956)

Every notice of a special meeting shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the Board concerning any item that has been described in the meeting notice, before or after the item's consideration. (Government Code 54954.3)

At least 72 hours' public notice shall be given for any retreats, study sessions or training sessions held by the Board. All such meetings shall be held within District boundaries and action items shall not be included.

Emergency Meetings

In the case of an emergency situation for which prompt action is necessary due to the disruption or threatened disruption of public facilities, the Board may hold an emergency meeting without complying with the 24-hour notice and/or 24-hour posting requirement for special meetings pursuant to Government Code 54956. The Board shall comply with all other requirements for special meetings during an emergency meeting. (Government Code 54956.5)

The Board may hold an emergency meeting without complying with the 24-hour notice requirement in the following cases: (Government Code 54956.5)

1. A work stoppage, crippling activity, or other activity which severely impairs public health, safety, or both, as determined by a majority of the members of the Board

(cf. 4141.6/4241.6 - Concerted Action/Work Stoppage)

2. A crippling disaster, mass destruction, terrorist activity, or threatened terrorist act that poses peril so immediate and significant that requiring the Board to provide one-hour

MEETINGS AND NOTICES

notice before holding an emergency meeting may endanger public health, safety, or both, as determined by a majority of the members of the Board

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

Except in the case of a dire emergency, The Board president or designee shall give notice of the emergency meeting by telephone at least one hour before the meeting to the local media which have requested notice of special meetings. All telephone numbers provided by the media in the most recent request for notification must be exhausted. If telephone services are not functioning, the notice requirement of one hour is waived and, as soon after the meeting as possible, the Board shall notify those media representatives of the meeting and shall describe the purpose of the meeting and any action taken by the Board. In the case of a dire emergency, the Board president or designee shall give such notice at or near the time he/she notifies the other members of the Board about the meeting. (Government Code 54956.5)

No closed session may be held during an emergency meeting. All other rules governing special meetings shall be observed, with the exception of the 24-hour notice requirement. (Government Code 54956.5)

The minutes of the meeting, a list of persons the Board president or designee notified or attempted to notify, a copy of the roll call vote, and any actions taken at the meeting shall be posted for at least 10 days in a public place as soon after the meeting as possible. (Government Code 54956.5)

Adjourned/Continued Meetings

A majority vote by the Board may adjourn/continue any regular or special meeting to a later time and place that shall be specified in the order of adjournment. Less than a quorum of the Board may adjourn such a meeting. If no Board members are present, the secretary or the clerk may declare the meeting adjourned to a later time and shall give notice in the same manner required for special meetings. (Government Code 54955)

Within 24 hours after the time of adjournment, a copy of the order or notice of adjournment/continuance shall be conspicuously posted on or near the door of the place where the meeting was held. (Government Code 54955)

Study Sessions, Retreats, Public Forums, and Discussion Meetings

The Board may occasionally convene a study session or public forum to study an issue in more detail or to receive information from staff or feedback from members of the public.

The Board may also convene a retreat or discussion meeting to discuss Board roles and relationships.

MEETINGS AND NOTICES

(cf. 2000 - Concepts and Roles)
(cf. 2111 - Superintendent Governance Standards)
(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)
(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)
(cf. 9400 - Board Self-Evaluation)

Public notice shall be given in accordance with law when a quorum of the Board is attending a study session, retreat, public forum, or discussion meeting. All such meetings shall comply with the Brown Act and shall be held in open session and within district boundaries. Action items shall not be included on the agenda for these meetings.

Teleconferencing

A teleconference is a meeting of the Board in which Board members are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through audio, video or both. (Government Code 54953)

The Board may use teleconferences for all purposes in connection with any meeting within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. All votes taken during a teleconference meeting shall be by roll call. (Government Code 54953)

During the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the Board shall participate from locations within District boundaries. (Government Code 54953)

Agendas shall be posted at all teleconference locations and shall list all teleconference locations whenever they are posted elsewhere. Additional teleconference locations may be provided to the public. (Government Code 54953)

All teleconference locations shall be accessible to the public. All teleconferenced meetings shall be conducted in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of the parties or the public appearing before the Board, including the right of the public to address the Board directly at each teleconference location. (Government Code 54953)

All Board policies, administrative regulations and bylaws shall apply equally to meetings that are teleconferenced. The Superintendent/Principal or designee shall facilitate public participation in the meeting at each teleconference location.

All Board policies, administrative regulations, and bylaws shall apply equally to meetings that are teleconferenced. The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate public participation in the meeting at each teleconference location.

Hearings

MEETINGS AND NOTICES

The Board may occasionally convene public hearings at which no Board action is to be taken. Such hearings are held solely to allow the Board and members of the public to receive information. A hearing may take place immediately prior to a Board meeting.

If a quorum of Board members is present at a hearing, notice of the hearing shall be provided according to procedures specified above for regular meetings.

Other Gatherings

Attendance by a majority of Board members at any of the following events is not subject to the Brown Act provided that a majority of the Board members do not discuss specific district business among themselves other than as part of the scheduled program: (Government Code 54952.2)

1. A conference or similar public gathering that involves a discussion of issues of general interest of general interest to the public or to school board members.
2. An open, publicized meeting organized by a person or organization other than the District to address a topic of local community concern
3. An open and noticed meeting of another body of the district
4. An open and noticed meeting of a legislative body of another local agency
5. A purely social or ceremonial occasion
6. An open and noticed meeting of a standing committee of the Board, provided that the Board members who are not members of the standing committee attend only as observers

(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)

Individual contacts or conversations between a Board member and any other person are not subject to the Brown Act. (Government Code 54952.2)

Location of Meetings

Meetings shall not be held in a facility that prohibits the admittance of any person on the basis of ancestry or any characteristic listed in Government Code 11135, including, but not limited to, religion, sex, or sexual orientation. In addition, meetings shall not be held in a facility which is inaccessible to individuals with disabilities or where members of the public must make a payment or purchase in order to be admitted. (Government Code 54961)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

MEETINGS AND NOTICES

Meetings shall be held within district boundaries, except to do any of the following: (Government Code 54954)

1. Comply with state or federal law or court order or attend a judicial or administrative proceeding to which the district is a party
2. Inspect real or personal property which cannot conveniently be brought into the district, provided that the topic of the meeting is limited to items directly related to the property
3. Participate in meetings or discussions of multiagency significance, provided these meetings are held within one of the other agencies' boundaries, with all participating agencies giving the notice required by law
4. Meet in the closest meeting facility if the district has no meeting facility within its boundaries or if its principal office is located outside the district
5. Meet with elected or appointed state or federal officials when a local meeting would be impractical, solely to discuss legislative or regulatory issues affecting the district over which the state or federal officials have jurisdiction
6. Meet in or near a facility owned by the district but located outside the district, provided the meeting agenda is limited to items directly related to that facility
7. Visit the office of the district's legal counsel for a closed session on pending litigation, when doing so would reduce legal fees or costs
8. Attend conferences on nonadversarial collective bargaining techniques
9. Interview residents of another district regarding the Board's potential employment of an applicant for Superintendent of the district
10. Interview a potential employee from another district

Meetings exempted from the boundary requirements, as specified in items #1-10 above, shall still be subject to the notice and open meeting requirements for regular and special meetings when a quorum of the Board attends the meeting.

If a fire, flood, earthquake, or other emergency renders the regular meeting place unsafe, meetings shall be held for the duration of the emergency at a place designated by the Board president or designee, who shall so inform all news media who have requested notice of special meetings by the most rapid available means of communication. (Government Code 54954)

MEETINGS AND NOTICES

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 35140 *Time and place of meetings*
- 35143 *Annual organizational meeting, date, and notice*
- 35144 *Special meeting*
- 35145 *Public meetings*
- 35145.5 *Agenda; public participation; regulations*
- 35146 *Closed sessions*
- 35147 *Open meeting law exceptions and applications*

GOVERNMENT CODE

- 3511.1 *Local agency executives*
- 11135 *State programs and activities, discrimination*
- 54950-54963 *The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:*
- 54953 *Meetings to be open and public; attendance*
- 54954 *Time and place of regular meetings*
- 54954.2 *Agenda posting requirements, board actions*
- 54956 *Special meetings; call; notice*
- 54956.5 *Emergency meetings*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

- 12101-12213 *Americans with Disabilities Act*
- CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28**
- 35.160 *Effective communications*
- 36.303 *Auxiliary aids and services*

COURT DECISIONS

Wolfe v. City of Fremont, (2006) 144 Cal.App. 544

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

- 88 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 218 (2005)*
- 84 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 181 (2001)*
- 84 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 30 (2001)*
- 79 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 69 (1996)*
- 78 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 327 (1995)*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2009

INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

The ABCs of Open Government Laws

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES PUBLICATIONS

Open and Public IV: A Guide to the Ralph M. Brown Act, 2nd Ed., 2010

WEB SITES

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

CSBA, AgendaOnline: <http://www.csba.org/Services/Services/GovernanceTechnology/AgendaOnline.aspx>

California Attorney General's Office: <http://www.ag.ca.gov>

Institute for Local Government: <http://www.ca-ilg.org>

League of California Cities: <http://www.cacities.org>

CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS

The Governing Board is committed to complying with state open meeting laws and modeling transparency in its conduct of district business. The Board of Trustees may hold closed sessions only for purposes authorized by law and placed on the meeting agenda in the manner required by law. The Board may hold a closed session during a regular, special, or emergency meeting in accordance with law. (Government Code 54950-54963, 54962)

Each agenda shall contain a general description of each closed session item to be discussed at the meeting, as required by law. (Government Code 54954.2)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

The Board shall announce in open meeting the items to be discussed in closed session. In the closed session, the Board may consider only those matters covered in its statement. After the closed session, the Board shall reconvene in open session before adjourning the meeting, and when applicable, shall disclose any action taken in the closed session, in the manner prescribed by Government Code 54957.1. (Government Code 54957.7)

(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)

The Board shall not disclose any information that is protected by state or federal law. In addition, no victim or alleged victim of tortious sexual conduct or child abuse shall be identified in any Board agenda, notice, announcement, or report required by the Brown Act, unless the identity of the person has been publicly disclosed. (Government Code 54961, 54957.7)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

A Board member shall not disclose confidential information received in a closed session unless the Board authorizes the disclosure of that information. (Government Code 54963)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

Personnel Matters

The Board may hold closed sessions to consider the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, discipline or dismissal of an employee. These sessions shall not include discussion or action on proposed compensation except for a reduction of compensation that results from the imposition of discipline. (Government Code 54957)

(cf. 2123 - Evaluation of the Superintendent)

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 2140 - Evaluation of the Superintendent)

(cf. 4115 - Evaluation/Supervision)

(cf. 4215 - Evaluation/Supervision)

(cf. 4315 - Evaluation/Supervision)

The Board may also hold a closed session to hear complaints or charges brought against an employee by another person or employee, unless the employee requests an open session. Before the Board holds a closed session on specific complaints or charges brought against an employee, the employee shall receive written notice of his/her right to have the complaints or charges heard in open session if desired. This notice shall be delivered personally or by mail at least 24 hours before the time of the session. (Government Code 54957)

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

Agenda items related to employee appointments and employment shall describe the position to be filled. Agenda items related to performance evaluations shall specify the title of the employee being reviewed. Agenda items related to employee discipline, dismissal or release require no additional information. (Government Code 54954.5)

Negotiations/Collective Bargaining

Unless otherwise agreed upon by the parties involved, the following shall not be subject to the Brown Act: (Government Code 3549.1)

1. Any meeting and negotiating discussion between the District and a recognized or certified employee organization
2. Any meeting of a mediator with either party or both parties to the meeting and negotiating process
3. Any hearing, meeting or investigation conducted by a factfinder or arbitrator
4. Any executive (closed) session of the District or between the District and its designated representative for the purpose of discussing its position regarding any matter within the scope of representation and instructing its designated representatives

(cf. 4140/4240/4340 - Bargaining Units)

(cf. 4143/4243 - Negotiations/Consultation)

(cf. 4143.1/4243.1 - Public Notice - Personnel Negotiations)

Closed sessions shall be for the purpose of reviewing the Board's position and instructing the Board's designated representative. Closed session meetings may take place prior to and during

CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS

consultations and discussions with representatives of employee organizations and unrepresented employees. (Government Code 54957.6)

The Board may meet in closed session to review the Board's position and/or instruct its designated representative regarding employee salaries, salary schedules or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of its represented and unrepresented employees. These closed sessions may include discussions of the District's available funds and funding priorities, but only insofar as they relate to providing instructions to the District's designated representative. (Government Code 54957.6)

For represented employees, the Board may also meet in closed session to hear any other matter within the statutorily-provided scope of representation. (Government Code 54957.6)

Closed sessions may take place prior to and during consultations and discussions with representatives of employee organizations and unrepresented employees.

For unrepresented employees, closed sessions held pursuant to Government Code 54957.6 shall not include final action on the proposed compensation of one or more unrepresented employees. (Government Code 54957.6)

The Board also may meet in closed session with a state conciliator or a mediator who has intervened in these proceedings. (Government Code 54957.6)

Agenda items related to negotiations shall specify the name of the District's designated representative(s) attending the closed session. If circumstances necessitate the absence of a specified designated representative, an agent or designee may participate in place of the absent representative so long as the name of the agent or designee is announced at an open session held prior to the closed session. The agenda shall also specify the name of the organization representing the employee(s) or the position title of the unrepresented employee who is the subject of the negotiations. (Government Code 54954.5)

Matters Related to Students

The Board shall meet in closed session to consider the expulsion of a student, unless the student submits a written request at least five days before the date of the hearing that the hearing be held in open session. Regardless of whether the expulsion hearing is conducted in open or closed session, the Board may meet in closed session for the purpose of deliberating and determining whether the student should be expelled. (Education Code 48918)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS

The Board shall meet in closed session to address any student matter that may involve disclosure of confidential student information, or to consider a suspension, disciplinary action, or any other action against a student except expulsion. If a written request for open session is received from the parent/guardian or adult student, it will be honored to the extent that it does not violate the privacy rights of any other student. (Education Code 35146, 48912, 49070)

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)
(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)
(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

Agenda items related to student matters shall briefly describe the reason for the closed session, such as “student expulsion hearing,” “grade change appeal” without violating the confidentiality rights of individual students. The student shall not be named on the agenda, but a number may be assigned to the student in order to facilitate record keeping. The agenda shall also state that the Education Code requires closed sessions in these cases in order to prevent the disclosure of confidential student record information.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Security Matters

The Board may meet in closed session with the **Governor**, Attorney General, district attorney, district legal counsel, sheriff or chief of police, or their respective deputies, or a security consultant or a security operations manager on matters posing a threat to the security of public buildings; to the security of essential public services, including water, drinking water, wastewater treatment, natural gas service, and electric service; or to the public's right of access to public services or public facilities. (Government Code 54957)

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)
(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

Agenda items related to security matters shall specify the name of the law enforcement agency and the title of the officer, or name of applicable agency representative and title with whom the Board will consult. (Government Code 54954.5)

CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS

Conference with Real Property Negotiator

The Board may meet in closed session with the Board's real property negotiator prior to the purchase, sale, exchange or lease of real property by or for the District in order to grant its negotiator the authority regarding the price and terms of payment for the property. (Government Code 54956.8)

Before holding the closed session, the Board shall hold an open and public session to identify its negotiator(s) and the property under negotiation and to specify the person(s) with whom the negotiator may negotiate. (Government Code 54956.8)

For purposes of real property transactions, negotiators may include members of the Board. (Government Code 54956.8)

Agenda items related to real property negotiations shall specify the District negotiator attending the closed session. If circumstances necessitate the absence of a specified negotiator, an agent or designee may participate in place of the absent negotiator so long as the name of the agent or designee is announced at an open session held prior to the closed session. The agenda shall also specify the name of the negotiating parties and the street address of the real property under negotiation. If there is no street address, the agenda item shall specify the parcel number or another unique reference of the property. The agenda item shall also specify whether instruction to the negotiator will concern price, terms of payment, or both. (Government Code 54954.5)

Pending Litigation

Based on the advice of its legal counsel, the Board may hold a closed session to confer with or receive advice from its legal counsel regarding pending litigation when a discussion of the matter in open session would prejudice the Board's position in the litigation. For this purpose, "litigation" includes any adjudicatory proceeding, including eminent domain, before a court, administrative body exercising its adjudicatory authority, hearing officer, or arbitrator. (Government Code 54956.9)

Litigation is considered "pending" in any of the following circumstances:
(Government Code 54956.9)

1. Litigation to which the District is a "party" has been initiated formally. (Government Code 54956.9(a))
2. Based on existing facts and circumstances and the advice of legal counsel, the Board is meeting only to decide whether there is a significant exposure to litigation against the

CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS

District or the Board has already determined that there is significant exposure to litigation against the District. (Government Code 54956.9(b))

Existing facts and circumstances for these purposes are limited to the following: (Government Code 54956.9)

Facts and circumstances that might result in litigation against the District but which the District believes are not yet known to potential plaintiffs and which do not need to be disclosed.

Facts and circumstances including, but not limited to, accidents, disasters, incidents or transactional occurrences which might result in litigation against the district, which are already known to potential plaintiffs, and which must be publicly disclosed before the closed session or specified on the agenda.

The receipt of a claim pursuant to the Tort Claims Act or a written threat of litigation from a potential plaintiff. The claim or written communication must be available for public inspection.

(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)

A threat of litigation made by a person in an open meeting on a related matter within the responsibility of the Board.

A threat of litigation made by a person outside of an open meeting on a specific matter within the responsibility of the Board, provided that the District official or employee receiving knowledge of the threat made a record of the statement before the meeting and the record is available for public inspection. Such record does not need to identify an alleged victim or anyone making a threat on their behalf or identify an employee who is the alleged perpetrator of any unlawful or tortuous conduct, unless the identity of this person has been publicly disclosed.

Based on existing facts and circumstances, the Board has decided to initiate or is deciding whether to initiate litigation. (Government Code 54956.9(c))

Before holding a closed session pursuant to the pending litigation exception, the Board shall state on the agenda or publicly announce the subdivision of Government Code 54956.9 under which the closed session is being held. If authority is based on Government Code 54956.9(a), the Board shall either state the title or specifically identify the litigation to be discussed or state that doing so would jeopardize the district's ability to effectuate service of process upon unserved parties or to conclude existing settlement negotiations to its advantage. (Government Code 54956.9)

CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS

Agenda items related to pending litigation shall be described as a conference with legal counsel regarding “Existing Litigation” or “Anticipated Litigation.” (Government Code 54954.5)

“Existing litigation” items shall either specify the claimant's name, names of parties and case or claim number unless the Board states that to identify the case would jeopardize service of process or existing settlement negotiations. (Government Code 54954.5)

“Anticipated litigation” items shall state that there is significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9(b) and shall specify the potential number of cases. When the District expects to initiate a suit, items related to anticipated litigation shall state that the discussion relates to the initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9(c) and shall specify the potential number of cases. The agenda or an oral statement before the closed session may be required to provide additional information pursuant to Items #2 b-e above. (Government Code 54954.5)

JPA/Self-Insurance Liability Claims

The Board may meet in closed session to discuss a claim for the payment of tort liability losses, public liability losses, or workers' compensation liability incurred by a joint powers agency (JPA) formed for the purpose of insurance pooling or self-insurance authority of which the district is a member. (Government Code 54956.95)

Closed session agenda items related to liability claims shall specify the claimant’s name and the name of the agency against which the claim is made. (Government Code 54954.5)

(cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)

When the board of the JPA has so authorized and upon advice of district legal counsel, the Board may meet in closed session in order to receive, discuss, and take action concerning information obtained in a closed session of the JPA. During the Board's closed session, a Board member serving on the JPA board may disclose confidential information acquired during a closed session of the JPA to fellow Board members. (Government Code 54956.96)

The Board member may also disclose the confidential JPA information to district legal counsel in order to obtain advice on whether the matter has direct financial or liability implications for the district. (Government Code 54956.96)

Closed session agenda items related to conferences involving a JPA shall specify the closed session description used by the JPA and the name of the Board member representing the district on the JPA board. Additional information listing the names of agencies or titles of representatives attending the closed session as consultants or other representatives shall also be included. (Government Code 54954.5)

CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS

Review of Audit Report from California State Auditor's Office

Upon receipt of a confidential final draft audit report from the California State Auditor's Office, the Board may meet in closed session to discuss its response to that report. After public release of the report from the California State Auditor's Office, any Board meeting to discuss the report must be conducted in open session, unless exempted from that requirement by some other provision of law. (Government Code 54956.75)

Closed session agenda items related to an audit by the California State Auditor's Office shall state "California State Auditor's Office." (Government Code 54954.5)

Review of Assessment Instruments

The Board may meet in closed session to review the contents of any student assessment instrument approved or adopted for the statewide testing system. Before any such meeting, the Board shall agree by resolution to accept any terms or conditions established by the State Board of Education for this review. (Education Code 60617)

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

Agenda items related to the review of student assessment instruments shall state that the Board is reviewing the contents of an assessment instrument approved or adopted for the statewide testing program and that the Education Code 60617 authorizes a closed session for this purpose in order to maintain the confidentiality of the assessment under review.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35145 Public meetings

35146 Closed session (re student suspension)

44929.21 Districts with ADA of 250 or more

48912 Governing board suspension

48918 Rules governing expulsion procedures; hearings and notice

49070 Challenging content of students records

60617 Meetings of governing board

GOVERNMENT CODE

3540-3549.3 Educational Employment Relations Act

6252-6270 California Public Records Act

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act

COURT DECISIONS

Morrison v. Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles Board of Commissioners, (2003) 107 Cal.App.4th 860

Bell v. Vista Unified School District, (2001) 82 Cal.App. 4th 672

Fischer v. Los Angeles Unified School District, (1999) 70 Cal.App. 4th 87

Furtado v. Sierra Community College District (1998) 68 Cal.App. 4th 876

CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS

Roberts v. City of Palmdale, (1993) 5 Cal.App. 4th 363

Sacramento Newspaper Guild v. Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, (1968) 263 Cal.App. 2d 41

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

94 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 82 (2011)

86 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 210 (2003)

78 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 218 (1995)

59 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 532 (1976)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, 2009

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Legislative Bodies, 2002

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES PUBLICATIONS

Open and Public IV: A Guide to the Ralph M. Brown Act, rev. July 2010

WEB SITES

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

California Attorney General's Office: <http://www.oag.ca.gov>

League of California Cities: <http://www.cacities.org>

Bylaw

adopted: February 9, 2000

revised: August 14, 2013; March 11, 2015

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lucerne, California

CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS AND REPORTS

No matters other than those announced in open session shall be acted upon during the closed session. (Government Code 54957.7)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

The Board shall reconvene in open session before adjourning and report closed session actions, the votes or abstentions thereon, and other disclosures required by Government Code 54957.1. These disclosures may be made at the location announced in the agenda for the closed session, as long as the public is allowed to be present at that location for the purpose of hearing them. (Government Code 54957.7)

Personnel Matters

The Board shall report any personnel action taken and the votes or abstentions thereon at the public meeting during which the closed session is held. This report shall identify the title of the position. However, the report of a dismissal or nonrenewal of an employment contract shall be deferred until the first public meeting after administrative remedies, if any, have been exhausted. (Government Code 54957.1)

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 2123 - Evaluation of the Superintendent)

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

Negotiations/Collective Bargaining

Final action on the proposed compensation of one or more unrepresented employees shall not be taken during the closed session. (Government Code 54957.6)

Approval of an agreement concluding closed session labor negotiations with represented employees shall be reported after the agreement is final and has been accepted or ratified by the other party. This report shall identify the item approved and the other party or parties to the negotiation. (Government Code 54957.1)

(cf. 4143/4243 - Negotiations/Consultation)

(cf. 4143.1/4243.1 - Public Notice - Personnel Negotiations)

Student Matters

Actions related to student matters shall be taken in open session and shall be a matter of public record. No information shall be released in violation of student privacy rights provided in law. (Education Code 35146, 48918; 20 USC 1232)

CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS AND REPORTS (continued)

In an expulsion action, the student's name shall not be disclosed, but the cause for the expulsion shall be disclosed in open session.

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)

(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

Real Estate Negotiations

Approval of an agreement concluding real estate negotiations shall be reported after the agreement is final. If the Board renders the agreement final, it shall report that approval, the votes or abstentions thereon, and the substance of the agreement in open session at the public meeting during which the closed session is held. If final approval rests with the other party, the Superintendent/Principal or designee shall disclose the fact of that approval and the substance of the agreement upon inquiry by any person, as soon as the other party or its agent has informed the District of its approval. (Government Code 54957.1)

Pending Litigation

The Board shall report the following actions related to pending litigation, and the votes or abstentions thereon, at the public meeting during which the closed session is held: (Government Code 54957.1)

1. Approval to legal counsel to defend, appeal or not appeal, or otherwise appear in litigation. This report shall identify the adverse parties, if known, and the substance of the litigation.
2. Approval to legal counsel to initiate or intervene in a lawsuit. This report shall state that directions to initiate or intervene in the action have been given and that details will be disclosed to inquiring parties after the lawsuit is commenced unless doing so would jeopardize the District's ability to serve process on unserved parties or its ability to conclude existing settlement negotiations to its advantage.
3. Acceptance of a signed offer from the other party or parties which finalizes the settlement of pending litigation. This report shall state the substance of the agreement.

If approval is given to legal counsel to settle pending litigation and if final approval rests with the other party or with the court, the District shall report the fact of approval, the substance of the agreement and the vote and abstentions thereon to persons who inquire once the settlement is final. (Government Code 54957.1)

CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS AND REPORTS (continued)

JPA/Self-Insurance Claims

The Board shall report the disposition of joint powers authority or self-insurance claims and the votes or abstentions thereon at the public meeting during which the closed session is held. This report shall include the name of the claimant(s), the name of the agency claimed against, the substance of the claim and the monetary settlement agreed upon by the claimant. (Government Code 54957.1)

(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)
(cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)

Review of Assessment Instruments

At the public meeting during which the Board holds a closed session to review student assessment instruments, the Board shall confirm that this review was made. Any actions related to the review shall be taken in open session without revealing any proprietary or confidential information and shall be a matter of public record.

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35145 *Public meetings*

35146 *Closed session (re student matters)*

48918 *Rules governing expulsion procedures; hearings and notice*

49073-49079 *Privacy of student records*

60617 *Meetings of governing board*

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54962 *The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:*

54957.1 *Closed sessions; public report of action taken*

54957.6 *Closed sessions; representatives to employee organization(s)*

54957.7 *Disclosure of items to be discussed*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

99.1-99.8 *Family Educational Rights and Privacy*

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

80 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.* 85 (1997)

AGENDA/MEETING MATERIALS

Agenda Content

Board of Trustees meeting agendas shall state the meeting time and place and shall briefly describe each business item to be transacted or discussed, including items to be discussed in closed session. (Government Code 54954.2)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)
(cf. 9321- Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

The agenda shall provide members of the public the opportunity to address the Board on any agenda item before or during the Board's consideration of the item. The agenda shall also provide members of the public an opportunity to testify at regular meetings on matters which are not on the agenda but which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. (Education Code 35145.5, Government Code 54954.3)

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

Each meeting agenda shall list the address designated by the Superintendent or designee for public inspection of agenda documents that have been distributed to the Board less than 72 hours before the meeting. (Government Code 54957.5)

The agenda shall specify that an individual should contact the Superintendent or designee if he/she requires disability-related accommodations or modifications, including auxiliary aids and services, in order to participate in the Board meeting. (Government Code 54954.2)

Agenda Preparation

The Board president and the Superintendent, as secretary to the Board, shall work together to develop the agenda for each regular and special meeting. Each agenda shall reflect the district's vision and goals and the Board's focus on student learning.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)
(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)
(cf. 9121 - President)
(cf. 9122 - Secretary)

Any member of the public or any Board member may request that a matter within the jurisdiction of the Board be placed on the agenda of a regular meeting. The request must be in writing and be submitted to the Superintendent/Principal or designee with supporting documents and information, if any, at least one week before the scheduled meeting date. Items submitted less than a week before the scheduled meeting date may be postponed to a later meeting in order to allow sufficient time for consideration and research of the issue.

AGENDA/MEETING MATERIALS

The Board president and Superintendent/Principal shall decide whether a request is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Items not within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board may not be placed on the agenda. In addition, before placing the item on the agenda the Board president and Superintendent/Principal shall determine if the item is merely a request for information or whether the issue is covered by an existing policy or administrative regulation.

The Board president and Superintendent/Principal shall decide whether an agenda item is appropriate for discussion in open or closed session, and whether the item should be an action item, subject to Board vote, an information item that does not require immediate action, or a consent item that is routine in nature and for which no discussion is anticipated.

When an item properly posted for a regular meeting is continued to a subsequent meeting, it may not be on the agenda of the subsequent meeting if the subsequent meeting occurs within five days. The Board shall publicly identify the item before discussing it. (Government Code 54954.2)

Any Board action that involves borrowing \$100,000 or more shall be discussed, considered and deliberated upon as a separate item of business on the meeting agenda. (Government Code 53635.7)

(cf. 9323.2 - Actions by the Board)

All public communications with the Board are subject to requirements of relevant Board policies and administrative regulations.

- (cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)*
- (cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)*
- (cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)*
- (cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)*
- (cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)*
- (cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)*

Consent Agenda/Calendar

In order to promote efficient meetings, the Board may act upon more than one item by a single vote through the use of a consent agenda. Consent items shall be items of a routine nature or items for which no Board discussion is anticipated and for which the Superintendent/Principal recommends approval.

The agenda shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to comment on any consent agenda item that has not been previously considered. However, the agenda need not provide an opportunity for public comment when the consent agenda item has previously been considered at an open meeting of a committee comprised exclusively of all the Board members provided that members of the public were afforded an opportunity to comment on the item at that meeting,

AGENDA/MEETING MATERIALS

unless the item has been substantially changed since the committee considered it. (Government Code 54954.3)

At the request of any member of the Board, any item on the consent agenda shall be removed and given individual consideration for action as a regular agenda item.

Agenda Dissemination to Board Members

A copy of the agenda shall be forwarded to each Board member at least three days before each regular meeting, together with the Superintendent/Principal or designee's report; minutes to be approved; copies of communications; reports from committees, staff, citizens and others; and other available documents pertinent to the meeting.

When special meetings are called, the Superintendent/Principal and president shall make every effort to distribute the agenda and support materials to Board members as soon as possible before the meeting.

Board members shall review agenda materials before each meeting. Individual members may confer directly with the Superintendent/Principal or designee to request additional information on agenda items. However, a majority of Board members shall not directly or through intermediaries or electronic means discuss, deliberate, or take action on any matter within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board.

(cf. 9012 - Board Member Electronic Communications)

Agenda Dissemination to Members of the Public

The Superintendent/Principal or designee shall mail a copy of the agenda, or a copy of all the documents constituting the agenda packet, to any person who requests the items. The materials shall be mailed at the time the agenda is posted or upon distribution of the agenda to a majority of the Board, whichever occurs first. (Government Code 54954.1)

If a document which relates to an open session agenda item of a regular Board meeting is distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to a meeting, the Superintendent or designee shall make the document available for public inspection at a designated location at the same time the document is distributed to all or a majority of the Board, provided the document is a public record under the Public Records Act. The Superintendent or designee may also post the document on the district's web site in a position and manner that makes it clear that the document relates to an agenda item for an upcoming meeting. (Government Code 54957.5)

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

AGENDA/MEETING MATERIALS

Any document prepared by the district or Board and distributed during a public meeting shall be made available for public inspection at the meeting. Any document prepared by another person shall be made available for public inspection after the meeting. These requirements shall not apply to a document that is exempt from public disclosure under the Public Records Act. (Government Code 54957.5)

Upon request, the Superintendent or designee shall make the agenda, agenda packet, and/or any writings distributed at the meeting available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. (Government Code 54954.1)

Any request for mailed copies of agendas or agenda packets shall be in writing and shall be valid for the calendar year in which it is filed. Written requests must be renewed following January 1 of each year. (Government Code 54954.1)

Persons requesting mailing of the agenda or agenda packet shall pay an annual fee as determined by the Superintendent/Principal or designee, not to exceed the cost of providing the service.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35144 Special meetings

35145 Public meetings

35145.5 Right of public to place matters on agenda

GOVERNMENT CODE

6250-6270 Public Records Act

53635.7 Separate item of business

54954.1 Mailed agenda of meeting

54954.2 Agenda posting requirements; board actions

54954.3 Opportunity for public to address legislative body

54954.5 Closed session item descriptions

54956.5 Emergency meetings

54957.5 Public records

54960.2 Challenging board actions; cease and desist

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.160 Effective communications

36.303 Auxiliary aids and services

COURT DECISIONS

Mooney v. Garcia, (2012) 207 Cal.App.4th 229

Caldwell v. Roseville Joint Union High School District, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 66318

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Call to Order: A Blueprint for Great Board Meetings, 2010

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2009

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

Bylaws of the Board

BB 9322(e)

AGENDA/MEETING MATERIALS

The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Legislative Bodies, rev. 2003

WEB SITES

CSBA, Agenda Online: <http://www.csba.org>

California Attorney General's Office: <http://www.oag.ca.gov>

Bylaw
adopted: February 9, 2000
revised: November 12, 2014

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Lucerne, California

MEETING CONDUCT

Meeting Procedures

All Board of Trustees meetings shall begin on time and shall be guided by an agenda prepared in accordance with Board bylaws and posted and distributed in accordance the Ralph M. Brown Act (open meeting requirements) and other applicable laws.

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

The Board president shall conduct Board meetings in accordance with Board bylaws and procedures that enable the Board to efficiently consider issues and carry out the will of the majority.

(cf. 9121 - President)

The Board believes that late night meetings deter public participation, can affect the Board's decision-making ability, and can be a burden to staff. Regular Board meetings shall be adjourned at 10:30 p.m. unless extended to a specific time determined by a majority of the Board. The meeting shall be extended no more than once and may be adjourned to a later date.

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

Quorum and Abstentions

A majority of the number of filled positions on the Board constitutes a quorum. (Education Code 5095, 35165)

Unless otherwise provided by law, affirmative votes by a majority of all the membership of the Board are required to approve any action under consideration, regardless of the number of members present. (Education Code 35164)

(cf. 9323.2 - Actions by the Board)

Abstentions

The Board believes that when no conflict of interest requires abstention, its members have a duty to vote on issues before them. When a member abstains, his/her abstention shall not be counted for purposes of determining whether a majority of the membership of the Board has taken action.

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

MEETING CONDUCT

Public Participation

Members of the public are encouraged to attend Board meetings and to address the Board concerning any item on the agenda or within the Board's jurisdiction. So as not to inhibit public participation, persons attending Board meetings shall not be requested to sign in, complete a questionnaire, or otherwise provide their name or other information as a condition of attending the meeting.

In order to conduct District business in an orderly and efficient manner, the Board requires that public presentations to the Board comply with the following procedures:

1. The Board shall give members of the public an opportunity to address the Board on any item of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, either before or during the Board's consideration of the item. (Education Code 35145.5, Government Code 54954.3)
2. At a time so designated on the agenda, members of the public may bring before the Board, at a regular meeting, matters that are not listed on the agenda. The Board may refer such a matter to the Superintendent/Principal or designee or take it under advisement, but shall not take action at that time except as allowed by law. The matter may be placed on the agenda of a subsequent meeting for action or discussion by the Board. (Education Code 35145.5, Government Code 54954.2)
3. Without taking action, Board members or District staff members may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by the public about items not appearing on the agenda. Additionally, on their own initiative or in response to questions posed by the public, a Board or staff member may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on his/her own activities. (Government Code 54954.2)

Furthermore, the Board or a Board member may provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, ask staff to report back to the Board at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or take action directing staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. (Government Code 54954.2)

4. The Board need not allow the public to speak on any item that has already been considered by a committee composed exclusively of Board members at a public meeting where the public had the opportunity to address the committee on that item. However, if the Board determines that the item has been substantially changed since the committee heard it, the Board shall provide an opportunity for the public to speak. (Government Code 54954.3)

(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)

MEETING CONDUCT

5. A person wishing to be heard by the Board shall first be recognized by the president and shall then proceed to comment as briefly as the subject permits.

Individual speakers shall be allowed three minutes to address the Board on each agenda or nonagenda item. The Board shall limit the total time for public input on each item to 20 minutes. With Board consent, the president may increase or decrease the time allowed for public presentation, depending on the topic and the number of persons wishing to be heard. The president may take a poll of speakers for or against a particular issue and may ask that additional persons speak only if they have something new to add.

6. The Board president may rule on the appropriateness of a topic. If the topic would be more suitably addressed at a later time, the president may indicate the time and place when it should be presented.

The Board shall not prohibit public criticism of its policies, procedures, programs, services, acts or omissions. (Government Code 54954.3) In addition, the Board may not prohibit public criticism of District employees.

Whenever a member of the public initiates specific complaints or charges against an employee, the Board president shall inform the complainant that in order to protect the employee's right to adequate notice before a hearing of such complaints and charges, and also to preserve the ability of the Board to legally consider the complaints or charges in any subsequent evaluation of the employee, it is the policy of the Board to hear such complaints or charges in closed session unless otherwise requested by the employee pursuant to Government Code 54957. The Board president shall also encourage the complainant to file a complaint using the appropriate district complaint procedure.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

7. The Board president shall not permit any disturbance or willful interruption of Board meetings. Persistent disruption by an individual or group shall be grounds for the chair to terminate the privilege of addressing the Board. The Board may remove disruptive individuals and order the room cleared if necessary; in this case, members of the media not participating in the disturbance shall be allowed to remain, and individual(s) not participating in such disturbances may be allowed to remain at the discretion of the Board. When the room is ordered cleared due to a disturbance, further Board proceedings shall concern only matters appearing on the agenda. (Government Code 54957.9)

(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)

When such disruptive conduct occurs, the Superintendent or designee shall contact local

MEETING CONDUCT

law enforcement.

Recording by the Public

The Superintendent/Principal or designee shall designate locations from which members of the public may broadcast, photograph or tape record open meetings without causing a distraction.

(cf. 9324 - Board Minutes and Recordings)

If the Board finds that noise, illumination or obstruction of view related to these activities would persistently disrupt the proceedings, these activities shall be discontinued or restricted as determined by the Board. (Government Code 54953.5, 54953.6)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

5095 Powers of remaining board members and new appointees

32210 Willful disturbance of public school or meeting a misdemeanor

35010 Prescription and enforcement of rules

35145.5 Agenda; public participation; regulations

35163 Official actions, minutes and journal

35164 Vote requirements

35165 Effect of vacancies upon majority and unanimous votes by seven member board

GOVERNMENT CODE

54953.5 Audio or video tape recording of proceedings

54953.6 Broadcasting of proceedings

54954.2 Agenda; posting; action on other matters

54954.3 Opportunity for public to address legislative body; regulations

54957 Closed sessions

54957.9 Disorderly conduct of general public during meeting; clearing of room

PENAL CODE

403 Disruption of assembly or meeting

COURT DECISIONS

McMahon v. Albany Unified School District, (2002) 104 Cal.App.4th 1275

Rubin v. City of Burbank, (2002) 101 Cal.App.4th 1194

Baca v. Moreno Valley Unified School District, (1996) 936 F.Supp. 719

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

76 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 281 (1993)*

66 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 336 (1983)*

63 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 215 (1980)*

61 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 243, 253 (1978)*

55 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 26 (1972)*

59 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 532 (1976)*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2005

Board Presidents' Handbook, rev. 2002

Bylaws of the Board

BB 9323(e)

MEETING CONDUCT

Maximizing School Board Governance: Boardmanship

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Legislative Bodies, 2003

WEB SITES

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

California Attorney General's Office: <http://www.caag.state.ca.us>

Bylaw
adopted: February 9, 2000
revised: November 12, 2014

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Lucerne, California

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD

The Governing Board shall act by a majority vote of all of the membership constituting the Board, unless otherwise required by law. (Education Code 35164)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

(cf. 9012 - Board Member Electronic Communications)

(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)

An "action" by the Board of Trustees means: (Government Code 54952.6)

1. A collective decision by a majority of the Board members
2. A collective commitment by a majority of the members to make a positive or negative decision
3. A vote by a majority of the members when sitting as the Board upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance

When required by law, action shall instead require a two-thirds, four-fifths or unanimous vote of the Board.

The Board may take action in a regular meeting on a subject not listed on the published agenda only when it publicly identifies the item to be acted upon in conjunction with one of the following circumstances: (Government Code 54954.2)

1. The Board, by majority vote of its members, determines that the action responds to an emergency situation.

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

2. The Board determines, either by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at the meeting or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, by a unanimous vote of all members present, that the need to take immediate action came to the District's attention after the posting of the agenda.
3. The matter was properly posted for a previous meeting occurring not more than five days earlier and was continued to the meeting at which action is being taken.

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

The Board shall not take action by secret ballot, whether preliminary or final. (Government Code 54953)

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD

Actions taken by the Board in open session shall be recorded in the Board minutes. (Education Code 35145)

(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)

Challenging Board Actions

The district attorney's office or any interested person may file an action in court to stop or prevent the Board's violation or threats of violations of the Brown Act, to determine the applicability of the Brown Act to ongoing or future threatened Board actions, to determine the validity, under California or federal law, of any Board rule or action to penalize any of its members or otherwise discourage the member's expression, or to compel the Board to audio record its closed sessions because of its violation of any applicable Government Code provision. (Government Code 54960)

The district attorney or any interested person may present a demand that the Board cure and correct a Board action which he/she alleges is in violation of law regarding any of the following: (Government Code 54960.1)

1. Open meeting and teleconferencing (Government Code 54953)
2. Agenda posting (Government Code 54954.2)
3. Closed session item descriptions (Government Code 54954.5)
4. New or increased tax assessments (Government Code 54954.6)
5. Special meetings (Government Code 54956)
6. Emergency meetings (Government Code 54956.5)

Any demand to "cure and correct" an alleged violation shall clearly describe the challenged action and the nature of the alleged violation and shall be presented to the Board in writing within 90 days of the date when the action was taken. If the alleged violation concerns action taken in an open session but in violation of Government Code 54954.2 (agenda posting), the written demand must be made within 30 days of the date when the alleged action took place. (Government Code 54960.1)

Within 30 days of receiving the demand, the Board shall do one of the following: (Government Code 54960.1)

1. Cure or correct the challenged action and inform the demanding party in writing of its actions to cure or correct.

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD

2. Determine not to cure or correct the alleged violation and inform the demanding party in writing of its decision to not cure or correct.

3. Take no action. If the Board takes no action within the 30-day review period, its inaction shall be considered a decision not to cure or correct the action.

In addition, the district attorney's office or any interested party may file an action in court to determine the applicability of the Brown Act to any past Board action not specified in Government Code 54960.1, if the following conditions are met: (Government Code 54960.2)

1. Within nine months of the alleged violation, a cease and desist letter is submitted to the Board, clearly describing the past Board action and the nature of the alleged violation.

3. The time for the Board to respond has expired and the Board has not provided an unconditional commitment to cease and desist from and not repeat the past action alleged to have violated the Brown Act.

Action on Non-Agenda Items

After publicly identifying the item, the Board may take action on a subject not appearing on the posted meeting agenda under any of the following conditions: (Government Code 54954.2)

1. When a majority of the Board determines that an emergency situation exists, as defined for emergency meetings pursuant to Government Code 54956.5

2. When two-thirds of the members present, or if less than two-thirds of the members are present then by a unanimous vote of all members present, determine that the need to take immediate action came to the district's attention after the agenda was posted

3. When an item appeared on the agenda of, and was continued from, a meeting that occurred not more than five days earlier

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

15266 School construction bonds

17466 Declaration of intent to sell or lease real property

17481 Lease of property with residence for nondistrict purposes

17510-17511 Resolution requiring unanimous vote of all members constituting board

17546 Private sale of personal property

17556-17561 Dedication of real property

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD

17582-17583 District deferred maintenance fund

35140-35149 Meetings

35160-35178.4 Powers and duties

48660-48661 Community day schools, establishment and restrictions

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

425.16 Special motion to strike in connection with a public issue

1245.240 Eminent domain vote requirements

1245.245 Eminent domain, resolution adopting different use

GOVERNMENT CODE

53090-53097.5 Regulation of local agencies by counties and cities

53724 Parcel tax resolution requirements

53790-53792 Exceeding the budget

53820-53833 Temporary borrowing

53850-53858 Temporary borrowing

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

54952.6 Action taken, definition

54953 Meetings to be open and public; attendance; secret ballots

54960-54960.5 Actions to prevent violations

65352.2 Coordination with planning agency

PUBLIC CONTRACT CODE

3400 Bid specifications

20111 Contracts over \$50,000; contracts for construction; award to lowest responsible bidder

20113 Emergencies, award of contracts without bids

COURT DECISIONS

Los Angeles Times Communications LLC v. Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (2003) 112 Cal.App.4th 1313

McKee v. Orange Unified School District (2003) 110 Cal.App.4th 1310

Bell v. Vista Unified School District (2002) 82 Cal.App.4th 672

Boyle v. City of Redondo Beach (1999) 70 Cal.App.4th 1109

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, 2009

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Local Legislative Bodies, 2003

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES PUBLICATIONS

Open and Public IV: A Guide to the Ralph M. Brown Act, 2007

WEB SITES

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

California Attorney General's Office: <http://www.oag.ca.gov>

Institute of Local Government: <http://www.ca-ilg.org>

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD

ACTIONS REQUIRING MORE THAN A MAJORITY VOTE

Actions Requiring a Two-Thirds Vote of the Board:

1. Resolution declaring intention to sell or lease real property (Education Code 17466)

(cf. 3280 - Sale, Lease and Rental of District-Owned Real Property)

2. Resolution declaring intent of Board to convey or dedicate property to the state or any political subdivision for the purposes specified in Education Code 17556 (Education Code 17557)
3. Resolution authorizing and directing the Board president, or any other presiding officer, secretary, or member, to execute a deed of dedication or conveyance of property to the state or a political subdivision (Education Code 17559)
4. Lease for up to three months of school property which has a residence on it and which cannot be developed for District purposes because funds are unavailable (Education Code 17481)
5. Request for temporary borrowing pursuant to Government Code 53820-53833, to pay district obligations incurred before the receipt of district income for the fiscal year sufficient to meet the payment(s) (Government Code 53821)
6. Upon complying with Government Code 65352.2 and Public Resources Code 21151.2, action to render city or county zoning ordinances inapplicable to a proposed use of the property by the district (Government Code 53094)

(cf. 7131 - Relations with Local Agencies)

(cf. 7150 - Site Selection and Development)

(cf. 7160 - Charter School Facilities)

7. When the district has an average daily attendance (ADA) of 2,500 or less and seeks to situate a community day school on an existing school site, certification that satisfactory alternative facilities are not available for a community day school (Education Code 48661)
8. When the district is organized to serve only grades K-8 and seeks to situate a community day school on an existing school site, certification that satisfactory alternative facilities are not available for a community day school (Education Code 48661)
9. When the district desires to operate a community day school to serve any of grades K-6

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD

(and no higher grades) on an existing school site, certification that satisfactory alternative facilities are not available for a community day school (Education Code 48661)

(cf. 6185 - Community Day School)

10. Resolution of intent to issue general obligation bonds with the approval of 55 percent of the voters of the district (Education Code 15266)

(cf. 7214 - General Obligation Bonds)

11. Resolution of intent to issue bonds within a school facilities improvement district with the approval of 55 percent of the voters of the school facilities improvement district (Education Code 15266)

(cf. 7213 - School Facilities Improvement Districts)

12. Resolution to place a parcel tax on the ballot (Government Code 53724)

13. Resolution of necessity to proceed with an eminent domain action and, if the Board subsequently desires to use the property for a different use than stated in the resolution of necessity, a subsequent resolution so authorizing the different use (Code of Civil Procedure 1245.240, 1245.245)

Actions Requiring a Four-Fifths Vote of the Board:

1. Expenditure and transfer of necessary funds and use of district property or personnel to meet a national or local emergency created by war, military, naval, or air attack, or sabotage, or to provide for adequate national or local defense (Government Code 53790-53792)

(cf. 3110 - Transfer of Funds)

2. Adoption of a resolution, between July 15 and August 30, to borrow funds of up to 25% of the estimated income and revenue to be received by the District during the fiscal year from apportionments based on ADA for the preceding year (Government Code 53822-53824)
3. Resolution for district borrowing based on issuance of notes, tax anticipation warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness, in an amount up to 50 percent of the district's estimated income and revenue for the fiscal year or the portion not yet collected at the time of the borrowing (Government Code 53822, 53824)
4. Declaration of an emergency in order to authorize the district to include a particular brand name or product in a bid specification (Public Contract Code 3400)

ACTIONS BY THE BOARD

(cf. 3311 - Bids)

Actions Requiring a Unanimous Vote of the Board:

1. Resolution authorizing and prescribing the terms of a community lease for extraction of gas (Education Code 17511)
2. Waiver of the competitive bid process pursuant to Public Contract Code 20111 when the Board determines that an emergency exists and upon approval of the County Superintendent of Schools (Public Contract Code 20113)

Actions Requiring a Unanimous Vote of the Board Members Present at the Meeting:

1. Private sale of surplus property without advertisement in order to establish that such property is not worth more than \$2,500. Disposal of surplus property in the local dump or donation to a charitable organization requires the unanimous vote of the Board members present to establish that the value of such property would not defray the cost of arranging its sale (Education Code 17546)

(cf. 3270 - Sale and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies)

Actions Requiring a Two-Thirds Vote of the Board Members Present at the Meeting:

1. Determination that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the district's attention after the posting of the agenda. If less than two-thirds of the Board members are present at the meeting, a unanimous vote of all members present is required. (Government Code 54954.2)
2. Determination that a closed session is necessary during an emergency meeting. If less than two-thirds of the Board members are present, a unanimous vote of all members present is required. (Government Code 54956.5)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

MINUTES AND RECORDINGS

The Governing Board recognizes that maintaining accurate minutes of Board meetings provides a record of Board actions for use by district staff and the public and helps foster public trust in Board governance.

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)
(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)
(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

The secretary of the Board of Trustees shall keep minutes and record all official Board actions. The Board's minutes shall be public records and shall be made available to the public upon request. (Education Code 35145, 35163)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)
(cf. 9122 - Secretary)
(cf. 9323.2 - Actions by the Board)

The minutes shall reflect which members are present and whether a member is not present for part of the meeting due to late arrival and/or early departure.

(cf. 9250 - Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits)

In order to ensure that the minutes are focused on Board action, the minutes shall include only a brief summary of the Board's discussion, but shall not include a verbatim record of the Board's discussion on each agenda topic or the names of Board members who made specific points during the discussion.

The minutes shall include the specific language of each motion and the names of the Board members who made and seconded the motion.

The minutes shall also report any action taken and the vote or abstention on that action of each member present. (Government Code 54953)

The minutes shall reflect the names of those individuals who comment during the meeting's public comment period as well as the topics they address.

The Superintendent or designee shall distribute a copy of the "unapproved" minutes of the previous meeting(s) with the agenda for the next regular meeting. The Board shall approve the minutes as circulated or with necessary amendments.

Official Board minutes and recordings shall be stored in a secure location and shall be retained in accordance with law.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

MINUTES AND RECORDINGS

Copies of the minutes of each regular or special meeting shall be distributed to all Board members with the agenda for the next regular meeting.

Any minutes or recordings kept for Board meetings held in closed session shall be kept separate from the minutes or recordings of regular and special meetings. Minutes or recordings of closed sessions are not public records. (Government Code 54957.2)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)
(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)

Recording of Votes

Motions or resolutions shall be recorded as having passed or failed. Individual votes shall be recorded unless the action was unanimous. All motions and Board resolutions shall be numbered consecutively from the beginning of each fiscal year.

Recording or Broadcasting of Meetings

The district may tape, film, or broadcast any open Board meeting. The Board president shall announce that a recording or broadcasting is being made at the direction of the Board at the beginning of the meeting and, as practicable, the recorder or camera shall be placed in plain view of meeting participants.

Any district recording may be erased or destroyed 30 days after the meeting. Recordings made at the direction of the Board during a meeting are public records and, upon request, shall be made available for inspection by members of the public on district equipment without charge. (Government Code 54953.5)

MINUTES AND RECORDINGS

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35145 *Public meetings*

35163 *Official actions, minutes and journals*

35164 *Vote requirements*

GOVERNMENT CODE

54952.2 *Meeting defined*

54953 *Meetings*

54953.5 *Audio or video recording of proceedings*

54953.6 *Broadcasting of proceedings*

54957.2 *Closed sessions; clerk; minute book*

54960 *Violations and remedies*

PENAL CODE

632 *Unlawful to intentionally record a confidential communication without consent*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

16020-16027 *Classification and retention of records*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2009

Guide to Effective Meetings, rev. 2007

WEB SITES

CSBA, Agenda Online: <http://www.csba.org>

BOARD SELF-EVALUATION

The Governing Board shall annually conduct a self-evaluation in order to demonstrate accountability to the community and ensure that district governance effectively supports student achievement and the attainment of the district's vision and goals.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 2140 - Evaluation of the Superintendent)

The evaluation may address any areas of Board responsibility, including but not limited to Board performance in relation to vision setting, curriculum, personnel, finance, policy, collective bargaining and community relations. The evaluation also may address objectives related to Board meeting operations, relationships among Board members, relationship with the Superintendent, understanding of Board and Superintendent roles and responsibilities, communication skills, or other boardsmanship skills.

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

Effective and efficient Board of Trustees operations are an integral part of creating a successful educational program. In order to measure progress towards its stated goals and objectives, the Board will annually schedule a time and place at which all its members may participate in a formal self-evaluation.

The Board shall be evaluated as a whole and not as individuals. Individual Board members also are encouraged to use the evaluation process as an opportunity to privately assess their own personal performance. The evaluation will focus on the internal operations and performance of the Board. The Board members shall develop goals and objectives against which the Board will be evaluated. A self-evaluation instrument will be based on these goals and objectives and not on goals set for the District.

Each Board member will complete a self-evaluation instrument independently. The ensuing evaluation will be based on the resulting composite picture of Board strengths and weaknesses. The Board will discuss the tabulated results as a group.

Any discussion of the Board's self-evaluation shall be conducted in open session. At the request of the Board, a facilitator may be used to assist with the evaluation process. The Board may invite the Superintendent or others to provide input into the evaluation process.

The evaluation process should include the establishment of strategies for improving Board performance. Revised priorities and new goals will be set for the following year's evaluation.

Each year the Board, with assistance from the Superintendent, shall determine an evaluation method or instrument that measures a reasonable number of previously identified performance objectives. Videotape of a Board meeting may be used as an evaluation tool only with the consent of all Board members.

BOARD SELF-EVALUATION

Following the evaluation, the Board shall develop strategies for strengthening Board performance and shall establish priorities and objectives for the following year's evaluation.

(cf. 9230 - Orientation)

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

The Board recognizes that adequate opportunities for Board member orientation and inservice are an essential component of conducting meaningful self-evaluation. The evaluation process shall include suggestions for continued Board member development.

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

Legal Reference:

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 Brown Act; board self-evaluations not covered

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Professional Governance Standards, 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership, 1996

WEB SITES

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