

## **Board Bylaws**

### **Members Limits of Authority**

#### Limits of Board Members Authority

The Board of Trustees is the unit of authority over the district. 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.

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

The Board member has no individual authority. 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 should not represent any factional segment of the community.

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Individual members of the Board, by virtue of holding office, should not exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the schools. Individual Board members should submit requests for information to the Superintendent. At his/her discretion, the Superintendent may refer the request to the entire Board for consideration. If approved, the Superintendent or designee shall perform any necessary research associated with the request and report to the Board at a future meeting.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

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

#### Obligations of Board Members

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 when necessary.

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

(cf. 9271 - Code of Ethics)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

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

## **Board Bylaws**

### **Members Limits of Authority (continued)**

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

Board members and persons elected to the Board are responsible for complying with the requirements of the state's open meeting laws.

Legal Reference:

#### **EDUCATION CODE**

7054 Use of district property

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

35100-35351 Governing boards - esp.

35160-35184 Powers and duties

35230-35240 Corrupt practices

35291 Rules

35292 Visits to schools (Board members)

#### **GOVERNMENT CODE**

54952.1 Member of a legislative body of a local agency

54952.7 Copies of chapter to members of legislative body

54959 Penalty for unlawful meetings

Bylaw Adopted: March 23, 1987

Bylaw Revised: March 27, 2006