

**SCHOOL POLICIES
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 16**

POLICY	214	Page: 1 of 2
SERIES	200	School Board
SUBJECT	214	Out-of-State Travel by School Board Members
Adopted		January 10, 2006
Revised		June 14, 2011; October 9, 2012; March 7, 2017; March 9, 2021

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to regulate out-of-state travel by School Board members as required by law.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

School Board members shall have the right to travel out of state to fulfill their obligations in appropriate situations.

III. APPROPRIATE TRAVEL

- A. Travel outside the state is appropriate when the School Board finds it proper for School Board members to acquire knowledge and information necessary to allow them to carry out their responsibilities as School Board members. Travel to regional or national meetings of the National School Boards Association is presumed to fulfill this purpose.
- B. A School Board member must obtain pre-approval by the School Board for travel to out-of-state meetings for which the member intends to seek reimbursement from the school district.

IV. REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES

Expenses to be reimbursed may include transportation, meals, lodging, registration fees, required materials, parking fees, tips, and other reasonable and necessary school district-related expenses. Rental vehicles shall be used only if commercial transportation is unavailable.

V. REIMBURSEMENT

- A. Requests for reimbursement must be itemized on the official school district form and are to be submitted to the designated administrator. Receipts for lodging, commercial transportation, registration, and other reasonable and necessary expenses must be attached to the reimbursement form.
- B. Automobile travel shall be reimbursed at the mileage rate set by the School Board. Commercial transportation shall reflect economy fares and shall be reimbursed only for the actual cost of the trip.
- C. Amounts to be reimbursed shall be within the School Board's approved budget allocations, including attendance at workshops and conventions.

VI. ESTABLISHMENT OF DIRECTIVES AND GUIDELINES

- A. The superintendent shall develop a schedule of reimbursement rates for school district business expenses, including those expenses requiring advance approval and specific rates of reimbursement.
- B. The superintendent shall also develop directives and guidelines to address methods and times for submission of requests for reimbursement.

VII. RATIONALE

School Board members have an obligation to become informed on the proper duties and functions of a School Board member, to become familiar with issues that may affect the school district, to acquire a basic understanding of school finance and budgeting, and to acquire sufficient knowledge to comply with federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and school district policies that relate to their functions as School Board members.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.09, Subd. 2 (School Board Member Training)
Minn. Stat. § 471.661 (Out-of-State Travel)
Minn. Stat. § 471.665 (Mileage Allowances)
Minn. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 1035 (August 23, 1999) (Retreat Expenses)
Minn. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 161 b-12 (August 4, 1997) (Transportation Expenses)