

Public Meetings and Executive Sessions**Public Meetings**

All meetings of the Bethany Board of Education (Board) for the official transaction of business shall be open to the public except that the Board may, by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting meet in executive session for the purposes specified in Connecticut General Statutes.

As defined by statute, the term "meeting" shall not include any meeting of a personnel search committee for executive-level employment candidates; any chance meeting, or a social meeting neither planned nor intended for the purpose of discussing matters relating to official business; strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining; a caucus of members of a single political party notwithstanding that such members also constitute a quorum of a public agency; an administrative or staff meeting of a single-member public agency; and communication limited to notice of meetings of any public agency or the agendas thereof. The term "caucus" means a convening or assembly of the enrolled members of a single political party who are members of a public agency within the state or a political subdivision.

Communications between and among a quorum of members convening on electronically linked devices or by telephone conference call are subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

Executive Sessions

The public may be excluded from meetings of the Board of Education which are declared to be executive sessions.

Executive sessions may be held on a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting taken at a public meeting stating the reasons for such executive session. Executive sessions may be held for any reasons permissible under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, as it may be amended from time to time, including one (1) or more of the purposes:

1. Discussion concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, provided that such individual may require that discussion be held at an open (public) meeting.
2. Strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims and litigation to which the Board or a member of the Board, because of the Board member's conduct as a member of the Board, is party until such claims or litigation have been finally adjudicated or otherwise settled.
3. Matters concerning security strategy or the deployment of security personnel, or devices affecting public security.
4. Discussion of the selection of a site or the lease, sale, or purchase of real estate when publicity regarding such site, lease, sale, purchase, or construction would adversely impact the price until such time as all of the property has been acquired or all proceedings or transactions concerning same have been terminated or abandoned.
5. Discussion of any matter which would result in the disclosure of public records or the information contained therein described in Connecticut General Statutes.

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD

9322(b)

The motion to go into executive session shall identify the persons, in addition to the Board, who shall be invited to be in attendance in the executive session. The persons invited into executive session shall be limited to persons needed to present testimony or opinion pertinent to matters before the Board and such persons' attendance shall be limited to the time period for which their presence is necessary.

Legal References: Connecticut General Statutes § 1-200
 Connecticut General Statutes § 1-210
 Connecticut General Statutes § 1-225
 Connecticut General Statutes § 1-231

Bylaw adopted: September 9, 1991
Bylaw reviewed: February 11, 2004
Bylaw revised: March 10, 2004
Bylaw revised: February 10, 2016
Bylaw revised: April 8, 2020
Bylaw revised: December 14, 2022

Source: Shipman