

Role of the Board

The Governing Board has been elected by the community to provide leadership and citizen oversight of the district. The Board shall ensure that the district is responsive to the values, beliefs, and priorities of the community.

The Board shall work with the Superintendent to fulfill its major responsibilities, which include:

1. 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 an effective and efficient organizational structure for the district by:

- a. Employing the Superintendent and setting policy for hiring of other personnel

(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)

(cf. 2120 - Superintendent Recruitment and Selection)

(cf. 2121 - Superintendent's Contract)

(cf. 4000 - Concepts and Roles)

(cf. 4111/4211/4311 - Recruitment and Selection)

- b. Overseeing the development and adoption of policies

(cf. 9310 - Board Policies)

- c. 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)

- d. Establishing budget priorities and adopting the budget

(cf. 3000 - Concepts and Roles)

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

(cf. 3312 - Contracts)

Role of the Board

e. 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)

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

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

3. 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 Training)~~
~~(cf. 9400 - Board Self Evaluation)~~

4. 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/~~4215~~/~~4315~~ - Evaluation/Supervision)
~~(cf. 4215 - Evaluation/Supervision)~~
~~(cf. 4315 - Evaluation/Supervision)~~

b. Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of policies

Role of the Board

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. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)
- (cf. 4117.3 - Personnel Reduction)
- (cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
- (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)

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

- (cf. 0500 - Accountability)
- (cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)
- (cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)
- (cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)

d. Monitoring and adjusting district finances

- (cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)

e. Monitoring the collective bargaining process

5. 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. 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)

Role of the Board

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)

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:~~

35160-35185 Powers and duties

35291 Rules

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Professional Governance Standards, November 2000

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

The Key Work of School Boards, 2000 WEB

SITES

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

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

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 Training~~)
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 - Limits of Board Member Authority)

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

Governance Standards

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. 9310 - Board Policies)
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

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act

87300-87313 Conflict of interest code

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000

WEB SITES

CSBA: [http:// www.csba.org](http://www.csba.org)

Public Statements

The Governing 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, and their right to freely express their personal views. 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.

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 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

TUSD Adopted: 04.09.19

Public Statements

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules
GOVERNMENT CODE

~~6250-6270~~ **7920.000-7930.170** 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>

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. (Government Code 1098)

Disclosure of Confidential Privileged Information

(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~~ **7920.000-7921.010** 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

WEB SITES

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

Board Member Electronic Communications

The Governing Board recognizes that electronic communication is an efficient and convenient way for Board members to communicate and expedite the exchange of information within the district and with members of the public. 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 nor to circumvent the public's right to access records regarding district business.

(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)

(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 may engage in separate conversations or communications with members of the public on a social media platform to answer questions, provide information, or solicit information regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, as long as a majority of the Board does not use the platform to discuss among themselves any business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. A Board member is prohibited from responding directly to any communication from other Board members regarding matters that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board or using digital icons (e.g., "likes" or emojis) to express reactions to communications made by other Board members.

(Government Code 54952.2)

Whenever a Board member uses a social media platform to communicate with the public about district business or Board activities, the Board member shall not block access to a member of the public based on the viewpoint expressed by that individual.

In addition, Board members may use electronic communications to discuss matters that do not pertain to district business, regardless of the number of Board members participating in the discussion.

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

Board Member Electronic Communications

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 media 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 - President)

(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)

To the extent possible, electronic communications regarding any district-related business shall be transmitted through a district-provided device or account. When any such communication is transmitted through a Board member's personal device or account, he/she shall copy the communication to a district electronic storage device for easy retrieval.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

(cf. 3580 - 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

6250-6270 California Public Records Act

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

COURT DECISIONS

City of San Jose v. Superior Court (2017) 2 Cal.5th 608

Management Resources:**CSBA PUBLICATIONS**

Legal Alert: Tips for Governing Boards in Response to Public Records Act Ruling on Electronic Communications, March 2017

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2014

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Legislative Bodies, 2003

WEB SITES

TUSD Adopted: 04.09.19

Board Member Electronic Communications

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

CSBA, Agenda Online:

<http://www.csba.org/ProductsAndServices/AllServices/AgendaOnline.aspx>

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

Organization

Each year, the Governing Board shall hold an annual organizational meeting. In any year in which a regular election of district Board members is conducted, the organizational meeting shall be held within a ~~15-day period beginning from the date upon which a Board member elected at that election takes office~~ **15 days following the second Friday in December after the regular election.** During ~~non-election~~ **all other** years, the meeting shall ~~may~~ be held within the same ~~15-day period on the calendar~~ **on any day in December, but no later than December 20th.** (Education Code 35143)

During any year in which a regular election is conducted, the Board, at a regular meeting held immediately prior to the second Friday in December, shall select the day and time of the organizational meeting. For any other year, the day and time of the organization meeting shall be selected at the last regular meeting held immediately after the annual meeting. The day and time of the ~~annual meeting shall be selected by the Board at its regular meeting held immediately prior to the first day of the 15-day period.~~ On behalf of the Board, the Superintendent shall notify the County Superintendent of Schools of the day and time selected. Within 15 days prior to the date of the annual meeting, the clerk of the Board, with the assistance of the Superintendent, shall notify in writing all Board members and members-elect of the date and time selected for the meeting. (Education Code 35143)

At this meeting the Board shall:

1. Elect a president, a vice-president and a clerk from its members
2. Appoint the Superintendent as secretary to the Board
3. Authorize signatures
4. Approve a schedule of regular meetings for the year and a Board governance calendar stating the time when the Board will address important governance matters.
5. Designate Board representatives to serve on committees or commissions of the district, other public agencies, or organizations with which the district partners or collaborates.

(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)

6. Review and/or consider resources that define and clarify the Board's governance and leadership roles and responsibilities including, but not limited to, governance standards, meeting protocols, Board rules and bylaws, and other Board development materials

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

(cf. 9230 - Orientation)

~~(cf. 9240 - Board Training)~~

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

Election of Officers

TUSD Adopted: 04.09.19

Organization

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

No Board member shall serve more than 2 consecutive year(s) in the same office. (cf.

9224 - Oath or Affirmation)

The election of Board officers shall be conducted during an open session of the annual organizational meeting.

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)

President

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

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)
(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)
(cf. 9100 - Organization)

To ensure that Board meetings are conducted in an efficient, transparent, and orderly manner, the president shall:

1. Call such meetings of the Board as he/she may deem necessary, giving notice as required by law

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

2. Consult with the Superintendent or designee on the preparation of Board meeting agendas

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

3. Call the meeting to order at the appointed time and preside over the meeting

4. Announce the business to come before the Board in its proper order

5. Enforce the Board's bylaws related to the conduct of meetings and help ensure compliance with applicable requirements of the Brown Act

6. Recognize persons who desire to speak, and protect the speaker who has the floor from disturbance or interference

7. Facilitate the Board's effective deliberation, ensuring that each Board member has an opportunity to participate in the deliberation and that the discussion remains focused

8. Rule on issues of parliamentary procedure

9. Put motions to a vote, and clearly state the results of the vote
(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

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

The president shall perform other duties in accordance with law and Board policy including, but not limited to:

1. Signing all instruments, acts, orders, and resolutions necessary to comply with legal requirements and carry out the will of the Board

President

2. Working with the Superintendent or designee to ensure that Board members have necessary materials and information

3. Subject to Board approval, appointing and dissolving all committees

(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)

4. In conjunction with the Superintendent or designee, representing the district as the Board's spokesperson in communications with the media

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

5. Leading the Board's advocacy efforts to build support within the local community and at the state and national levels

The president may participate in the California School Boards Association's Board President's Workshop and other professional development opportunities to enhance his/her leadership skills.

~~(cf. 9240—Board Training)~~

When the president resigns or is absent, the vice president shall perform the president's duties. When both the president and vice president are absent, the clerk shall perform the president's duties.

(cf. 9123 - Clerk)

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

Call to Order: A Blueprint for Great Board Meetings, 2015

Board Presidents' Handbook, revised 2002

CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000

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

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 on behalf of the district as directed by the Board

~~***Note: Districts without a vice president should modify the following paragraph accordingly.***~~

4. Serve as presiding officer in the absence of the president and vice president

(cf. 9121 - President)

5. Notify Board members and members-elect of the date and time for the annual organizational meeting
6. 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

WEB SITES

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

Resignation

A Governing board 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)**

When leaving office, the Board member is required to file a financial disclosure statement within thirty (30) days. (Conflict of Interest Statement)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

5090 Definition (Vacancy)

5091 Special Election

35178 Resignation with Deferred Effective Dates

GOVERNMENT CODE

1770 Vacancy of Office

87300-87313 Conflict of Interest Code

87500 Statement of Economic Interests

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

Filling a Board Vacancy, rev. 2022

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

Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits

Compensation

Each member of the Governing Board may receive the maximum monthly compensation as provided for in Education Code 35120.

On an annual basis, the Board may increase the compensation of Board members beyond the limit delineated in Education Code 35120 in an amount not to exceed five percent based on the present monthly rate of compensation. (Education Code 35120)

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

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

A member may be compensated for meetings he/she missed when the Board, by resolution, finds that he/she was performing designated services for the district at the time of the meeting or that he/she was absent because of illness, jury duty, or a hardship deemed acceptable by the Board. (Education Code 35120)

Student Board members shall receive no compensation for meetings attended. (Education Code 35012)

(cf. 9150 - Student Board Members)

Reimbursement of Expenses

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

(cf. 1160 - Political Processes)

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

(cf. 3350 - Travel Expenses)

(cf. 3513.1 - Cellular Phone Reimbursement)

Board members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred when performing services directed by the Board. (Education Code 35044)

~~(cf. 9240 - Board Training)~~

Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits

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

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

Any questions regarding the propriety of a particular type of expense should be resolved by the Superintendent or designee before the expense is incurred.

Health and Welfare Benefits for Current Board Members

Board members may participate in the health and welfare benefits program provided for district employees.

(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)

Health and welfare benefits for Board members shall be no greater than that received by the district's nonsafety employees with the most generous schedule of benefits. (Government Code 53208.5)

Board members who elect to participate shall pay the full cost of premiums.

Health and Welfare Benefits for Former Board Members

Former Board members may participate in the health and welfare benefits program provided for district employees under the conditions specified below.

Health and welfare benefits for former Board members shall be no greater than those received by district nonsafety employees with the most generous schedule of benefits. (Government Code 53208.5)

Any former Board member leaving the Board after at least one term of office may participate in the health and welfare benefits program at his/her own expense if coverage is in effect at the time of retirement. (Government Code 53201)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
TUSD Adopted 06/11/19

Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits

33050-33053 General waiver authority

33362-33363 Reimbursement of expenses for attendance at workshops

35012 Board members; number, election and term

35044 Payment of traveling expenses of representatives of board

35120 Compensation for services as member of governing board

35172 Promotional activities

44038 Cash deposits for transportation purchased on credit

FAMILY CODE

297-297.5 Rights, protections and benefits under law; registered domestic partners

GOVERNMENT CODE

8314 Use of public resources

20322 Elective officers; election to become member

20420-20445 Membership in Public Employees' Retirement System; definition of safety employees

53200-53209 Group insurance

54952.3 Simultaneous or serial meetings; announcement of compensation

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

1373 Health services plan, coverage for dependent children

INSURANCE CODE

10277-10278 Group and individual health insurance, coverage for dependent children

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 26

403 Tax-sheltered annuities

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

18011 Right to maintain existing health coverage

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 26

1.403(b)-2 Tax-sheltered annuities, definition of employee

COURT DECISIONS

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

Board of Education of the Palo Alto Unified School District v. Superior Court of Santa Clara County, (1979) 93 Cal.App.3d 578

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

91 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 37 (2008)

83 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 124 (2000)

Management Resources:

INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

Sample Expense and Use of Public Resources Policy Statement, January 2006

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE PUBLICATIONS

Tax-Sheltered Annuity Plans (403(b) Plans) for Employees of Public Schools and Certain Tax-Exempt Organizations, Publication 571, rev. February 2013

WEB SITES

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

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

Internal Revenue Service: <http://www.irs.gov>

Public Employees' Retirement System: <http://www.calpers.ca.gov>

Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits

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 Board 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 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, **54954.2**)

Regular Meetings

The Board shall hold 2 regular meeting(s) each month, except for July, November, December, and spring break month. Regular meetings shall be held at 7:00p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at the District Offices.

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

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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)

Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Board may be called at any time by the presiding officer or a majority of the Board members. However, a special meeting shall not be called regarding the salary, salary schedule, or other compensation of the Superintendent, assistant 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 this meeting. (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 during the item's consideration. (Government Code 54954.3)

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)

An emergency situation means either of the following: (Government Code 54956.5)

1. An emergency, which shall be defined as a work stoppage, crippling activity, or other activity that severely impairs public health and/or safety as determined by a majority of the members of the Board

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

2. A dire emergency, which shall be defined as a crippling disaster, mass destruction, terrorist activity, or threatened terrorist act that poses peril so immediate and significant that

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requiring the Board to provide one-hour notice before holding an emergency meeting may endanger the public health and/or safety 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 that 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)

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.

(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)~~

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Meetings and Notices

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.

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 open to the public that involves a discussion of issues 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 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

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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)

Teleconferencing

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

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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 or designee shall facilitate public participation in the meeting at each teleconference location.

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)

TUSD Adopted: 12.12.00

TUSD Revised: 08.22.17

Meetings and Notices

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, Agenda Online:

<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 shall hold closed sessions only for purposes authorized by law. A closed session may be held during a regular, special, or emergency meeting in accordance with law.

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 disclose in open session 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 previously been publicly disclosed. (Government Code 54957.7, 54961)

(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 a closed session under the "personnel exception" to consider the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, discipline, or dismissal of an employee. Such a closed session 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. 2140 - Evaluation of the Superintendent)
(cf. 4115 - Evaluation/Supervision)
(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

Closed Session Purposes and Agendas

(cf. 4215 - Evaluation/Supervision)
(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
(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)

The Board may hold a closed session to discuss a district employee's application for early withdrawal of funds in a deferred compensation plan when the application is based on financial hardship arising from an unforeseeable emergency due to illness, accident, casualty, or other extraordinary event, as specified in the deferred compensation plan. (Government Code 54957.10)

Agenda items related to district 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)

Closed Session Purposes and Agendas

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

The Board may meet in closed session to review the Board's position and/or instruct its designated representative regarding salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of its represented and unrepresented employees. Prior to the closed session, the Board shall identify its designated representative in open session. Any closed session held for this purpose may include discussions of the district's available funds and funding priorities, but only insofar as they relate to providing instructions to the Board's designated representative. (Government Code 54957.6)

(cf. 2121 - Superintendent's Contract)

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)

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

The Board also may meet in closed session with a state conciliator or mediator who has intervened in proceedings regarding any of the purposes enumerated in 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 as 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" or "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)

The Board may meet in closed session during an emergency meeting held pursuant to Government Code 54956.5 to meet with law enforcement officials for the emergency purposes specified in Government Code 54957 if agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the Board members present. If less than two-thirds of the members are present, then the Board must agree by a unanimous vote of the members present. (Government Code 54956.5)

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)

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Conference with Real Property Negotiator

The Board may meet in closed session with its 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 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 as 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 a pending litigation when a discussion of the matter in open session would prejudice the district's position in the litigation. For this purpose, "litigation" means 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. A point has been reached where, in the Board's opinion based on the advice of its legal counsel regarding the "existing facts and circumstances," there is a "significant exposure to litigation" against the district, or the Board is meeting solely to determine whether, based on existing facts or circumstances, a closed session is authorized. (Government Code 54956.9(b))

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

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

b. Facts and circumstances including, but not limited to, an accident, disaster, incident, or transactional occurrence 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.

c. 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)

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

e. 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 of tortious sexual conduct or anyone making a threat on his/her behalf or identify an employee who is the alleged perpetrator of any unlawful or tortious conduct, unless the identity of this person has been publicly disclosed.

3. 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)

Agenda items related to pending litigation shall be described as a conference with legal counsel regarding either "existing litigation" or "anticipated litigation." (Government Code 54954.5)

"Existing litigation" items shall identify the name of the case specified by either the claimant's name, names of parties, or 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
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potential number of cases. The agenda or an oral statement before the closed session may be required to provide additional information regarding existing facts and circumstances described in item #2 b-e above. (Government Code 54954.5)

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 "Audit by 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 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~~ **7920.510-7921.010** California

Public Records Act 54950-54963 The

Ralph M. Brown Act COURT

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Closed Session ~~Purposes and Agendas~~

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

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

San Diego Union v. City Council, (1983) 146 Cal.App.3d 947

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)

57 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 209 (1974)

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, 2003

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>

Agenda/Meeting Materials

Agenda Content

Governing Board 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 Board member or member of the public may request that a matter within the jurisdiction of the Board be placed on the agenda of a regular meeting. The request shall be submitted in writing to the Superintendent 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 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 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 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.

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 bundle a number of items and act upon them together by a single vote through the use of a consent agenda. Consent agenda items shall be items of a routine nature and items for which Board discussion is not anticipated and for which the Superintendent recommends approval.

When any Board member requests the removal of an item from the consent agenda, the item shall be removed and given individual consideration for action as a regular agenda item.

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

Agenda/Meeting Materials

Agenda Dissemination to Board Members

At least three days before each regular meeting, each Board member shall be provided a copy of the agenda and agenda packet, including the Superintendent 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 or designee shall make every effort to distribute the agenda and supporting 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 or designee to ask questions and/or request additional information on agenda items. **To ensure questions can be answered prior to the Board meeting, questions should be submitted by end of day Monday prior to the Board meeting, if possible, no later than Tuesday at noon.** 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.

Trustees will, if possible, inform the Superintendent in advance if they intend to ask a question at a Board meeting.

(cf. 9012 - Board Member Electronic Communications)

Agenda Dissemination to Members of the Public

The Superintendent 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)

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

Agenda/Meeting Materials

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 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~~ **7920.000-7921.010** 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

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

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

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

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

TUSD Adopted: 09.24.96

TUSD Revised: 08.22.17

Agenda/Meeting Materials

WEB SITES

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

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

Meeting Procedures Conduct

All Governing Board meetings shall begin on time and shall be guided by an agenda prepared in accordance with Board bylaws and posted and distributed in accordance with 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 subsequently may be adjourned to a later date.

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

Quorum and Abstentions

The Board shall act by majority vote of all of the membership constituting the Board. (Education Code 35164)

(cf. 9323.2 - Actions by the Board)

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)

Provided the Board typically has seven members and there are no more than two vacancies on the Board, the vacant position(s) shall not be counted for purposes of determining how many members of the Board constitute a majority. In addition, whenever any provisions of the Education Code require unanimous action of all or a specific number of the members, the vacant position(s) shall be not be counted for purposes of determining the total membership constituting the Board. (Education Code 35165)

Meeting Procedures 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 at a regular meeting, members of the public may bring before the Board matters that are not listed on the agenda. The Board shall take no action or discussion on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except as authorized by law. (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 the item, the Board shall provide an opportunity for the public to speak. (Government Code 54954.3)

(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)

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.

Meeting Procedures Conduct

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 Board 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.

In order to ensure that non-English speakers receive the same opportunity to directly address the Board, any member of the public who utilizes a translator shall be provided at least twice the allotted time to address the Board, unless simultaneous translation equipment is used to allow the Board to hear the translated public testimony simultaneously. (Government Code 54954.3)

6. The Board president may rule on the appropriateness of a topic, subject to the following conditions:
 - a. If a topic would be suitably addressed at a later time, the Board president may indicate the time and place when it should be presented.
 - b. The Board shall not prohibit public criticism of its policies, procedures, programs, services, acts, or omissions. (Government Code 54954.3)
 - c. The Board shall not prohibit public criticism of district employees. However, whenever a member of the public initiates specific complaints or charges against an individual employee, the Board president shall inform the complainant of the appropriate 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 or any conduct or statements that threaten the safety of any person(s) at the meeting shall be grounds for the president to terminate the privilege of addressing the Board.

The Board **president or designee** may remove disruptive individuals ~~and order the room cleared if necessary.~~ **Prior to removal, the individual shall be warned that their behavior is disrupting the meeting and that failure to cease the disruptive behavior may result in removal. If, after being warned, the individual does not promptly cease the disruptive behavior, the Board president or designee may then remove the individual from the meeting. When an individual's behavior constitutes the use of force or at rue threat of force, the individual shall be removed from the Board meeting without a warning. (Government Code 54957.95)**

Additionally, the Board may order the room cleared if necessary. In this case, members of the media not participating in the disturbance shall be allowed to remain,

Meeting Procedures Conduct

and individuals 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)

When such disruptive conduct occurs, **the Board may decide to recess the meeting to help restore order, or if removing the disruptive individual(s) or clearing the room is infeasible, move the meeting to another location. The Board may direct** the Superintendent or designee shall contact local law enforcement as necessary.

Meeting Procedures Conduct

Recording by the Public

Members of the public may record an open Board meeting using an audio or video recorder, still or motion picture camera, cell phone, or other device, provided that the noise, illumination, or obstruction of view does not persistently disrupt the meeting. The Superintendent or designee may designate locations from which members of the public may make such recordings 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

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

- 527.8 Workplace Violence Safety Act

GOVERNMENT CODE

- 54953.3 Prohibition against conditions for attending a board meeting
- 54953.5 Audio or video 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

54957.95 Opening meetings; orderly conduct

PENAL CODE

- 403 Disruption of assembly or meeting

COURT DECISIONS

- City of San Jose v. Garbett, (2010) 190 Cal.App.4th 526
- Norse v. City of Santa Cruz, (9th Cir. 2010) 629 F3d 966
- 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

- 90 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 47 (2007)
- 76 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 281 (1993)
- 66 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 336 (1983)

Meeting Procedures Conduct

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

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

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

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

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CSBA PUBLICATIONS

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The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2014

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