

## BYLAWS

### **POLICY – MEETING CONDUCT**

BP 9323

Meetings of the County Board of Education shall be held on a regular basis, and shall be guided by an agenda prepared in accordance with Board Policy 1015 and delivered in advance to all board members and to other persons upon request.

#### **Public Participation**

The Board encourages members of the public to attend Board meetings and to address the Board concerning any item on the agenda or within the Board's jurisdiction. Requests to place an item on an agenda shall be submitted in accordance with Board Policy 1015. Persons wishing to address the Board, will be requested to fill out speaker forms, but may decline to do so if they wish. Persons attending Board meetings will not be required to provide their name or other information.

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

1. The Board shall give members of the public an opportunity to address the Board either before or during the Board's consideration of each item of business listed on the agenda at regular or special meetings. All public comments on agenda items shall ordinarily be taken at the beginning of the meeting at a time prescribed on the agenda for such comments.
2. At the time so designated on the agenda, members of the public may bring before the Board, at a regular meeting, matters that are not listed on the agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. The Board president may rule on the relevance of a topic. The Board does not ordinarily respond to public comments. However, 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.
3. Ordinarily, the total amount of time for public comments shall be fifteen (15) minutes, and no individual speaker may speak for more than five (5) minutes. With Board consent, the president may increase or decrease the total time allowed for public comment, and the time allowed for individual speakers, depending on the number of persons wishing to be heard. Speakers may not give time to other speakers. Written comments may also be submitted.

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BP 9323 (COE)

4. The Board will not prohibit public criticism of Santa Barbara County Education Office programs, policies, procedures, or personnel. However, any person who wishes to submit complaints or charges against an individual employee will be expected to follow established complaint procedures.
5. Members of the public are requested to use common courtesy and honor requests from the Board president so that the Board's business can be timely completed.
6. The Board President shall not permit any disturbance or willful interruption of Board meetings. Persistent disruption by an individual or group shall be grounds for the Board President to terminate the right of addressing the Board at that meeting. When a meeting is interrupted by a person or group of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of such meeting unfeasible, the Board president has the power to have that person or group removed from the boardroom. If order still cannot be restored, the Board president may order the meeting room cleared, and the Board may continue in session pursuant to Government Code § 54957.9.

### **Recording by the Public**

The County Superintendent or designee shall designate locations from which members of the public may broadcast, photograph or tape record open meetings without causing a distraction or safety hazard. If the Board finds that a safety hazard exists, or 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.

ADOPTED BY COUNTY BOARD:  
REVISED:

February 5, 1987  
April 7, 1994  
November 2, 1995  
August 3, 2006