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accordance with state law.

Special meetings

The chairman of the board or a majority of members of the board may call a special meeting of the full board. The superintendent should give at least 24 hours notice to all members of the board and the public except when emergency conditions make such notice impossible. The board will not transact any business other than that which is stated in the notice.

Except in emergencies or time sensitive circumstances, any special meetings will be announced at regular meetings of the board. The public will be informed through the news media in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Public hearings

The board may conduct public hearings from time to time in order for the public to express their views regarding a specific issue. The board will conduct such meetings in an orderly manner in accordance with board policy and regulation.

Attendance

Board members will be allowed to participate in board meetings via electronic means. Such participation must be approved by the board chairman. The board chairman may terminate the electronic connection should it be inaudible or disruptive to the board meeting.

Parliamentary procedure

The latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* as indicated on the official *Robert's Rules of Order website* will govern all matters not covered by the rules of the board.

Board invocation

The board is a deliberative public body and will open its regular and specially called public meetings with a public invocation complying with South Carolina Code [Section 6-1-160](#) of the Code of Laws of South Carolina.

The public invocation will be non-sectarian and will not proselytize for or advance any one, or disparage any other, faith or belief. The public invocation is for the benefit of the board, but no member of the board, or any other person attending the meeting, will be required to participate in the public invocation. The purposes of the public invocation are to express thankfulness for the right of self-government, solemnize the board's legislative tasks, dignify and confirm the seriousness of board meetings, encourage respect and appreciation for all board members, seek to unite and not divide the board, and to contribute to the wisdom and soundness of decisions by the board.

The public invocation will be offered on a voluntary basis by a member of the board, rotating from meeting to meeting, in alphabetical order, or other objective method of rotation, among all members of the board. A board member may offer a moment of silence for silent prayer or reflection in addition to or in lieu of the public invocation.

Adopted 2/24/69; Revised 8/1/73, 11/16/81, 6/21/82, 1/21/85, 6/16/86, 5/3/93, 3/16/98, 4/24/06, 8/12/13

Legal references:

S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:

[Section 6-1-160](#) - Invocation to open public meeting of deliberative public body.

[Section 20-4-10 through 20-4-110](#) - South Carolina Freedom of Information Act