

ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS/WORK SESSIONS

Directors of the Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education (the Board) may attend and participate by electronic means in regular or special meetings or work sessions of the Board in accordance with this policy and state law. For purposes of this policy, "electronic means" shall be defined as attendance via telephone, video or audio conferencing, or other electronic device.

Board Directors may attend and participate by electronic means in a regular or special Board meeting or a work session only when extenuating circumstances prevent the Board Director from physically attending the meeting. For purposes of this policy, "extenuating circumstances" includes the Board Director's job or military service requiring the Director to be outside of Colorado Springs School District 11 (the District) at the time of the meeting, inclement weather and/or unsafe driving conditions preventing the Board Director from physically attending the meeting, or other compelling situations that prevents the Board Director from physically attending the meeting.

A meeting or work session at which one or more Board Directors attend and participate by electronic means shall be open to the public, except for periods in which the Board is in executive session.

The electronic means used shall allow the public to hear the comments made by the Board Director(s) participating by electronic means and allow the Board Director(s) to hear the comments made by the public. A Board Director participating by electronic means will be included in the recording of the Board meeting. Board Directors have an obligation to ensure that the location from which he or she is participating is free of distractions and promotes clear, two-way conversations. In addition, if the Board convenes in executive session, the Board Director attending and participating by electronic means shall ensure confidentiality during that portion of the meeting.

A Board Director who attends and participates by electronic means shall have access to any materials that are presented and available to Directors who are physically present at the meeting.

A Board Director who seeks to attend and participate by electronic means shall notify the Board president and the Superintendent at least three business days prior to the meeting and shall explain the extenuating circumstances that prevent the Board Director from physically attending the meeting. If such notification is not possible, the Board Director shall notify the Board president and the Superintendent as soon as is reasonably possible of the intent to attend by electronic means.

A Board Director may attend and participate by electronic means in a maximum of five Board meetings and work sessions per fiscal year unless the entire Board is meeting in virtual session. Unless otherwise approved by a simple majority of the Board, additional requests to attend and participate by electronic means will be denied. In accordance with state law, the Board shall declare a vacancy if a Board Director fails to attend three consecutive regular Board meetings, unless the Board Director's absence is otherwise excused by the Board.

A Board Director's failure to comply with this policy may result in the Board's refusal to allow the Director to participate by electronic means in Board meetings.

Adopted November 10, 2021

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-31-129
C.R.S. 22-32-108(7)(a)

C.R.S. 22-32.108(7)(b)
C.R.S. 24-6-401

CROSS REFS.:

BE, School Board Meetings
GE, Teleworking Policy
AH, Application of Board Policy Manual
Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education Operating and
Procedures Manual