

Open Meetings

All meetings, including study sessions and retreats, must be advertised as meetings that are open to the public. If a Board wishes to devote all or most of a special meeting to an issue(s) to be discussed in executive session (Policy No. 1410), the special meeting should be called to order and recessed to an executive session. The purpose of the executive session should be announced and recorded in the minutes (e.g., real estate matters, litigation.)

All regular meetings must be held within the district boundaries. Special meetings may be held outside the district with proper notice of the time and location.

It is unlawful for any member of the public to knowingly carry onto, or to possess on, any area of a facility being used for official school board meetings, a dangerous weapon, including but not limited to a firearm, "nun-chu-ka sticks," "throwing stars," air gun or pistol, stun gun, or other dangerous weapon as listed in RCW 9.41.280. The board must ensure that signs providing notice of the restrictions on possession of firearms and other weapons are posted at facilities being used for official meetings of the board.

Meeting Notices

A regular meeting does not require a public notice if held at the time and place provided by Board policy. If the Board does not meet at its regular location, the meeting should be treated as a special meeting with proper notice and announcements to the press stating the time, place and purpose of the meeting. The district will notify those newspapers and radio and television stations which have filed a request for such notification. Each Director should receive a printed agenda twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the meeting. All public notices of Board meetings would inform persons with disabilities that they may contact the Superintendent's office so that arrangements can be made for them to participate in Board meetings. The public notices should indicate that requests for modifications in arrangements should be made no later than three days before a regular meeting and as soon as possible in advance of a special meeting.

The district must also post notice of the meeting on the district's website, the door of the main district offices, and the door at the location of the meeting if it is different from the district's offices. Notice of regular meetings must be posted on the district website not less than twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the published start time of the meeting unless the district does not have a website.

While other items of business may be discussed at a special meeting, no action can be taken on topics which have not been identified on the approved agenda. If an item is to be discussed in executive session in accordance with Policy No.

1410, the item of business must also appear on the agenda if final action is to be taken following the executive session.

No meeting notice is required when the Board is acting as a quasi-judicial body in a matter between named parties (e.g., hearing on discharge, nonrenewal or discipline of an employee, unless the employee requests a public meeting, hearing regarding suspension or expulsion of a student, unless the student requests a public meeting; or for the purpose of planning or adopting strategy or positions to be taken in collective bargaining, grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing such proposals made by a bargaining unit.)

Meeting Recesses and Continuances.

The Board may recess a regular, special or adjourned meeting to a specific future time. Notice of such recess or continuation must be posted at or near the door of the meeting room. Notification to the press is not required.

Implemented:	November 18, 1985	North Thurston School District
Amended:	June 1, 1993	North Thurston School District
	May 15, 2006	North Thurston School District
	July 27, 2023	Superintendent's Office