

Board of Education Meetings

Regular Meetings

All Board meetings are open to the public. Regular meetings are usually scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. The meetings are held at the Plattsmouth Schools Administration Center, 1912 Old Highway 34. The agenda is typically available at the Administration Center on Friday afternoon before the Monday meetings. Copies are also available at the meeting and at www.pcsd.org.

Closed Sessions

Closed sessions take place as part of an open meeting. Closed sessions may be held, if necessary for the protection of public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. The law allows the Board to go into closed session for such reasons as legal action, real estate transactions, some personnel matters, and employee negotiation strategy sessions.

Committee Meetings

Some matters require long deliberation, so these items may be considered at a committee meeting. This allows for more discussion and deliberation. Traditionally, committee meetings involve Board members, district staff, and community members. When action needs to be taken, items discussed at committee meetings may be placed on the agenda of a regular meeting.

Preparation for the Meeting

It shall be the responsibility of the Board President and Superintendent to develop the agenda for each board meeting. Board members typically receive copies of the agenda and explanatory materials three days before the meeting, in order to allow them time to read and prepare for the meeting.

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PLATTSMOUTH COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

1912 OLD HIGHWAY 34
PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA 68048
402-296-3361
WWW.PCSD.ORG

Welcome to the Plattsmouth Community School District. This brochure offers a brief explanation of the duties of the Board of Education and the way meetings are conducted. If you would like more information, please call the District office at (402) 296-3361.

The nine members of the Board of Education are elected by voters of the Plattsmouth Community School District. They represent the community by overseeing the operation of the school system. The board members are elected at-large so each member represents the entire District. Some of the Board's responsibilities include:

- Establishing the policies for all District operations such as curriculum, personnel, facilities, and finance. They delegate the performance of these policies to the District's administration.
- Employing and evaluating the Superintendent
- Approving the appointment of instructional staff members, upon the Superintendent's recommendation
- Overseeing the financial operation of the District by securing funding and approving expenditures
- Interpreting the needs of the community regarding the educational program
- Working with the administration to determine District standards and goals

Plattsmouth Community School District

Board elections are conducted every two years, with the term of office for members being four years. Board members are not paid, nor do they maintain offices at the Administration Center.

Mission Statement

Working together to achieve Academic success, respectful Behavior, and Career readiness in a Safe environment.

Specific Issues Raised at Board Meetings

The Board recognizes the importance of patron participation in District matters. In order to ensure patrons are heard, and Board meetings are conducted efficiently and in an organized manner, the Board sets aside time for patron participation. If members of the audience want to discuss matters that are not on the agenda, they may do so during the time for Reception of Delegates at the beginning of the meeting. A time limit of three minutes will be set for individual speakers on a given topic. A total time of thirty minutes will be set for all speakers on a given topic, with an effort to provide equal time for pros, cons, and neutral opinions. If an item presented requires information gathering, further discussion, or answers to questions, the Board may refer the matter to the Superintendent or they may put the item on a future meeting agenda. If action is desired, the topic must be placed on the agenda of a future meeting.

Protocol for Addressing Concerns

Whenever possible, concerned parties are encouraged to seek information or action first from the teacher or principal. Going directly to the source of the concern will, in many cases, clear up misunderstandings and resolve the issue. If the issue cannot be resolved at the school level, please contact the Superintendent. If you contacted the teacher, principal, and Superintendent, and the issue was not resolved, please contact the Board President.

Although business and committee meetings are held in public and visitors are welcome, they are not public meetings or forums. Only those speakers recognized by the President shall be allowed to speak. During the rest of the meeting, audience members may not participate in discussion. Each year the Board encourages citizen and staff input through participation on a variety of committees.

Persons wishing to place an item on the agenda must make a request to the Superintendent, prior to drafting of the agenda. An information sheet must be filled out by a person requesting to have an item placed on the agenda. This information sheet is available at the Administration Center. Requests received after the deadline (the Friday before a Monday meeting) may only be added to the agenda for items of an emergency nature. Any printed materials to be circulated for a Board meeting must be submitted to the Superintendent on the Wednesday preceding a Board meeting.