

BOARD BYLAWS

Public Statements

The Board of Trustees will make its members, the district staff, and the public aware that only the board acting as a whole has authority to take official action.

The Governing Board recognizes the rights of Board members to freely express their views and encourages open discussion of issues during the Board meeting. The Board believes that effective Board members have a responsibility to express themselves, whether in agreement or disagreement with the Board majority, in ways that promote the Board's ability to govern the district.

All public statements in the name of the Governing board shall be issued by the Board President or, if appropriate, the Superintendent at the direction of the Board President. No individual Board member shall make public statements in the name of the Board or statements that contravene the policies and actions of the Board or that jeopardize the ability of the Board to act effectively.

(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)

(cf. 9121 - President)

(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

(cf. 9011 – Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

When speaking to community groups, the media, or other members of the public, individual Board members should recognize that their statements may be perceived as reflecting the views and positions of the Board. Board members have a responsibility to identify personal viewpoints as such and not as the viewpoint of the Board.

Before voting on any issue, all Board members shall be encouraged to present to their colleagues whatever evidence they may feel important to the matter at hand. The Board shall fully consider the implications and relevancy of all information so presented. All opinions, reactions and positions shall be openly discussed so that each member may understand all aspects of the issue before the Board decides the outcome or direction it will take.

When a board decision has been reached, all board members, even those who may have voted against it, will support that decision until it is amended or rescinded by board action. Any board member who may wish to criticize or oppose any specific board action should do so only in a board meeting.

No member of the governing board, or district personnel involved in closed session, individually, will release information from a closed session or speak for, or in the name of, the total board.

(cf. 1100 – Communication with the Public)

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

(cf. 9012 - Board Member Electronic Communications)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

GOVERNMENT CODE

6250-6270 California Public Records Act

54960 Actions to stop or prevent violation of meeting provisions

54963 Confidential information in closed session

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Bylaw adopted: 4/10/84

Bylaw revised: 8/27/02; 4/28/09; 8/8/17