ADOPTION RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the bylaws and policies printed and codified in the comprehensive document entitled "Bylaws and Policies of the Weymouth Township Board of Education" are hereby adopted and that all bylaws and policies heretofore adopted by the Weymouth Township Board of Education and inconsistent with the bylaws and policies hereby adopted are hereby rescinded, and be it further

RESOLVED, that in the event any policy, part of a policy or section of the bylaws is judged to be inconsistent with law or inoperative by a court of competent jurisdiction or is invalidated by a policy or contract duly adopted by this Board, the remaining bylaws, policies, and parts of policies shall remain in full effect.

Adopted by the Weymouth Township Board of Education in the County of Atlantic at a public meeting held at Weymouth, New Jersey on the 25th day of October, 2018.

0000.02 INTRODUCTION

Definitions

The following terms used in these bylaws, policies, and regulations shall have the meanings set forth below unless the context requires a different meaning or a different definition is supplied:

"Board" means the Board of Education of Weymouth Township.

"Bylaw" means a rule of the Board for its own operation.

"Chief School Administrator" means the Chief Executive Officer of this school district, whose title in this district is Superintendent. The Superintendent shall also serve as the Principal of the Weymouth Township School.

"Collective Bargaining", "Negotiated Agreement", or "Collective Bargaining Agreement" means a contract collectively negotiated by the Board of Education and a recognized bargaining unit.

"Commissioner" means the New Jersey State Commissioner of Education.

"Core Curriculum Content Standards" means the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

"County Superintendent" means the Executive County Superintendent of Schools designated by the Department of Education for this school district.

"Day" means a calendar day.

"Division of Youth and Family Services" or "DYFS" means the New Jersey Department of Children and Families – Division of Child Protection and Permanency or DCP&P.

"Executive County Superintendent" means the "County Superintendent designated by the Department of Education for this school district."

"Full Board" means the authorized number of voting members of the Board of Education.

"Meeting" means a gathering that is attended by or open to all of the members of the Board of Education, held with the intent on the part of the Board members present to discuss or act as a unit on the specific public business of the Board of Education.

"New Jersey Student Learning Standards" or "NJSLS" means standards adopted by the State Board of Education on May 1, 1996, and as thereafter revised by the State Board, and the Common Core State Standards adopted by the State Board on June 16, 2010, and as thereafter revised by the State Board, that describe the knowledge and skills all New Jersey students are expected to acquire by benchmark grades in the following areas: English language arts; mathematics; science; social studies; visual and performing arts; comprehensive health and physical education; world languages; technology; and 21st century life and careers. The standards are established for the provision of a thorough and efficient education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-46 and as a basis for the evaluation of school districts in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:30.

"Parent" means the natural parent(s), adoptive parent(s), legal guardian(s), foster parent(s), or parent surrogate(s) of a student. Where parents are separated or divorced, "parent" means the person or agency who has legal custody of the student, as well as the natural or adoptive parent(s) of the student provided such parental rights have not been terminated by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

"Policy" means a Statement, formally adopted by the Board of Education, in which the Board recognizes the mandates and constraints of law, establishes practices and standards binding on staff members and students, and gives direction to the Superintendent.

"President" means the President of the Board of Education.

"Principal" means the administrator in charge of a school building or facility; except where prohibited by law, "Principal or designee" means the qualified person duly delegated by the Principal to discharge a particular duty in place of the Principal. The Superintendent shall serve as the Principal of the Weymouth Township School.

"Professional employee" means an employee who holds a position for which a certificate issued by the New Jersey State Board of Examiners is required.

"Pupil" means a student enrolled in a school in this district.

"Regulation" means a Statement developed and promulgated by the Superintendent that details the specific operations by which Board policy or a legal mandate is implemented.

"Secretary" means the Secretary of the Board of Education.

"Student" means a pupil enrolled in a school in this district.

"Superintendent" means the Chief School Administrator of this school district; except where prohibited by law, "Superintendent or designee" means the qualified person duly delegated by the Superintendent to discharge a particular duty in place of the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall also serve as the Principal of the Weymouth Township School.

"Support staff member" means an employee who holds a position for which no certificate issued by the New Jersey State Board of Examiners is required.

"Teaching staff member" means an employee who holds a position for which a certificate issued by the New Jersey State Board of Examiners is required.

"Treasurer" means the Treasurer of School Moneys for this school district.

Construction

The following rules of construction apply to these bylaws, policies and regulations:

1. Wherever possible, language shall be given its clear and ordinary interpretation;

2. Language shall be construed to have a meaning that complies with law;

3. In the event bylaws, policies and regulations conflict with one another, the later adopted bylaw, policy or regulation shall take precedence over the earlier, and the more specific bylaw, policy or regulation shall take precedence over the more general;

4. Except as otherwise provided by the context, the auxiliary verbs "shall," "will," and "must" indicate a mandated action, and the auxiliary verb "may" indicates an action that is permitted but is not mandated.

Effectuation

Except as may otherwise be expressly provided, a bylaw, policy or regulation will become effective on the date it is adopted and a revised bylaw, policy or regulation will become effective on the date it is revised.

Citations

Bylaws, policies and regulations may contain citations to the following codifications of State and Federal laws and regulations:

1. United States Code – U.S.C.

2. United States Regulations – Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.)

3. New Jersey Statutes

   N.J.S.A. 2C Code of Criminal Justice
   N.J.S.A. 9 Children-Juvenile and Domestic Relations
   N.J.S.A. 10 Civil Rights
   N.J.S.A. 11 Civil Service

N.J.S.A. 17 Corporations and Institutions for Finance and Insurance
N.J.S.A. 18A Education
N.J.S.A. 19 Elections
N.J.S.A. 24 Food and Drug
N.J.S.A. 26 Health and Vital Statistics
N.J.S.A. 27 Highways
N.J.S.A. 30 Institutions and Agencies
N.J.S.A. 34 Labor and Worker's Compensation
N.J.S.A. 36 Legal Holidays
N.J.S.A. 39 Motor Vehicles and Traffic Regulation
N.J.S.A. 41 Oaths and Affidavits
N.J.S.A. 45 Professions and Affidavits
N.J.S.A. 47 Public Records
N.J.S.A. 52 State Government, Departments, and Officers
N.J.S.A. 53 State Police
N.J.S.A. 54 Taxation
N.J.S.A. 59 Tort Claims

4. New Jersey Administrative Code

N.J.A.C. 1 Administrative Law
N.J.A.C. 6 & 6A Education
N.J.A.C. 8 Health
N.J.A.C. 10 Human Services
N.J.A.C. 13 Law and Public Safety
N.J.A.C. 17 Treasury-General

Severability

If any part of this manual is made invalid by judicial decision or legislative or administrative enactment, all other parts shall remain in full effect unless and until they are amended or repealed by the Board of Education or until regulations issued by the Superintendent are amended.

Enactment

The official record of the adoption, issuance, amendment, or repeal of the bylaws, policies and regulations of this district shall be the minutes of meetings of the Board of Education. Such alterations shall be duly entered in this manual; a master copy of the bylaw, policy and regulation manual shall be maintained by the Superintendent's office and shall be the manual to which all others may be compared for accuracy.

0000 BYLAWS

Number	Title
0110	Identification
0120	Authority and Powers
0131	Bylaws and Policies
0132	Executive Authority
0133	Adjudication of Disputes
0134	Board Self Evaluation
0141	Board Member Number and Term
0142	Board Member Qualifications, Prohibited Acts, and Code of Ethics (M)
0142.1	Nepotism (M)
0143	Board Member Election and Appointment
0144	Board Member Orientation and Training
0145	Board Member Resignation and Removal
0146	Board Member Authority
0148	Board Member Indemnification
0151	Organization Meeting
0152	Board Officers
0153	Annual Appointments
0154	Annual Motions and Designations
0155	Board Committees
0161	Call, Adjournment and Cancellation
0162	Notice of Board Meetings
0163	Quorum
0164	Conduct of Board Meetings
0165	Voting
0166	Executive Sessions
0167	Public Participation in Board Meetings
0168	Recording Board Meetings
0169	Board Member Use of Electronic Mail/Internet
0169.02	Board Member Use of Social Networks
0171	Duties of Board President and Vice President
0172	Duties of Treasurer of School Monies
0173	Duties of Public School Accountant
0174	Legal Services (M)
0175	Contracts with Independent Consultants
0176	Collective Bargaining and Contract Approval/Ratification
0177	Professional Services (M)

0110 IDENTIFICATION

Name

The official name of the Board of Education shall be "The Board of Education of Weymouth Township in the County of Atlantic."

Purpose

The Board of Education exists for the purpose of providing a thorough and efficient system of free public education in grades Pre-Kindergarten through eight in the Weymouth Township School District. The Weymouth Township School District shall maintain a sending/receiving relationship for the education of students in grades nine through twelve.

Composition

The Weymouth Township School District is comprised of all the area within the municipal boundaries of Weymouth Township.

Classification

The school district shall be classified as a Type II district.

Address

The address of the Board of Education shall be:

1202 Eleventh Avenue
Dorothy, New Jersey 08317

N.J.S.A. 18A:8-1; 18A:9-2; 18A:9-3; 18A:10-2

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0120 AUTHORITY AND POWERS

The Constitution requires the Legislature to "provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of free public schools". The Legislature, therefore, has sought to maintain in the management of schools an appropriate balance between local authority and initiative on the one hand, and State control and supervision on the other hand.

The State Department of Education, consisting of the State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education, with his/her staff, has been created by the Legislature to exercise general control and supervision of public education. The school district has similarly been created as a unit for the exercise of local authority and initiative as defined in Title 18A of New Jersey statutes. Other sections of the statutes state or imply that a local Board of Education or school district have full power to operate the public school program in its charge as it deems fit in compliance with State and Federal mandates and pertinent laws of the governing entity.

The Board of Education shall be a body corporate and shall be known as the Board of Education.

The Board of Education shall organize and operate in the manner provided by law and shall have all the powers as are now or may hereafter be provided by law.

In the interpretation of the powers and duties of the Board, it is understood that the Board shall act as a governing body in the determination of general policies for the control, operation, maintenance and expansion of the school district. The details of the administration of these policies shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent and his/her administrative staff. The Board functions only when it is in session.

The Board of Education sees these as its required functions:

1. Legislative or Policy-making

   The Board is responsible for the development of policy and for the employment of a Superintendent who shall carry out its policies through the development and implementation of regulations/procedures.

2. Appraisal

   The Board is responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of its policies and their implementation.

3. Educational Planning

   The Board is responsible for requiring and acquiring reliable information from responsible sources that will enable it and the staff to work toward the continuing improvement of the educational program.

4. Provision of Financial Resources

   The Board has major responsibilities for the adoption of a budget that will provide the wherewithal in terms of buildings, staff, materials, and equipment to enable the school system to carry out its functions.

5. Interpretation

   The Board is responsible for providing adequate and direct means for keeping the local community informed about the school and for keeping itself and the school staff informed about the concerns and opinions of the public.

The Board believes that, by diligently exercising these functions, it will be able to provide, within the financial limitations set by the community, the best educational opportunities available for the children.

The Board shall exercise its powers through the legislation of bylaws and policies for the organization and operation of the school district.

The Board shall be responsible for the operation of the school but shall delegate the administration to the Superintendent, who shall be appointed by a recorded roll call majority vote of the full Board.

The Board may hear appeals and complaints in grievance and disciplinary actions as defined in their policies and by the law.

N.J.S.A. 18A:10-1; 18A:11-1; 18A:16-1; 18A:20-1; 18A:27-4

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0131 BYLAWS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS

The Board of Education shall exercise its rule-making power by adopting, revising, and abolishing bylaws, policies, and regulations for the organization and operation of the school district.

"Regulations" for the purpose of this Bylaw are only those regulations that are required to be adopted by the Board.

Adoption, Amendment, and Abolishment

Bylaws, policies, and regulations may be adopted and revised at any meeting of the Board, provided the proposed adoption or revision has been approved by the Board at a previous meeting of the Board.

Bylaws, policies, or regulations may be abolished at any meeting of the Board provided the proposed abolishing of the proposed bylaw, policy, or regulation has been approved by the Board at a previous meeting of the Board.

The Board shall at its organization meeting or annually at a meeting of the Board and by a majority vote of those present and voting, readopt existing bylaws, policies, and regulations without prior notice.

The Board may, under emergency circumstances, suspend the operation of a bylaw, policy, or regulation and adopt, revise, or abolish a bylaw, policy, or regulation without prior notice. The emergency adoption, revision, or abolishment of a bylaw, policy, or regulation shall terminate at the next meeting of the Board or at such earlier date as may be specified by the Board unless further acted upon by the Board in accordance with this Bylaw.

The adoption, revision, abolishment, or suspension of a bylaw, policy, or regulation shall be recorded in the minutes of the Board. Any bylaw, policy, or regulation or part of a bylaw, policy, or regulation that is superseded by a term in a negotiated agreement or by a subsequently adopted bylaw, policy, or regulation shall no longer be in force and effect as a bylaw, policy, or regulation and shall be abolished by the Board in accordance with this Bylaw.

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Promulgation and Distribution

The manual of bylaws, policies, and regulations shall be maintained. A copy of the manual of bylaws, policies, and regulations shall be available and accessible to each Board member, the Superintendent, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, the Board Attorney, each Building Principal, and other individuals designated by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent shall institute a plan for the orderly promulgation of policies to staff members who are affected by them and shall provide staff members with access to an up-to-date manual of Board bylaws, ~~and~~ policies, and regulations.

The manual of bylaws, policies, and regulations shall be considered a public record open to inspection in the office of the Superintendent. The manual retained by the Superintendent shall be considered the master copy of the manual.

Consideration of Bylaws, Policies, and Regulations

Bylaws, policies, and regulations will be considered for adoption by the Board in accordance with the following procedure:

1. A recommendation for a new or revised bylaw, policy, or regulation shall be recommended to the Board and/or Superintendent;

2. A recommendation for a new or revised bylaw, policy, or regulation may be referred, at the discretion of the Board President and as appropriate to the subject, to the Superintendent, a Board committee, or a public advisory committee for study and formulation of a recommendation to the Board. Any study of a new or revised recommended bylaw, policy, or regulation will consider whether the matter is adequately addressed in existing Board bylaw, policy, or regulation;

3. If a recommendation for a new or revised bylaw, ~~or~~ policy, or regulation results from referral for study, a proposed draft will be referred to the Superintendent and at the discretion of the Board President and as appropriate to the subject, to a Board committee;

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4. All proposed new and revised bylaws, policies, and regulations shall be submitted to the Superintendent. The Superintendent or designee will review all new and revised draft bylaws, policies, and regulations prior to the Board receiving a draft of new or revised bylaws, policies, or regulations for Board consideration;

5. The proposed draft bylaw, policy, or regulation approved by the Board on first reading will be submitted for adoption at a succeeding meeting of the Board. Revisions in the draft may be made at any meeting prior to adoption by a simple majority vote of the Board. A revision at any succeeding meeting that alters the substantive meaning of the draft will constitute a new first reading, and the draft must be presented for adoption at a succeeding Board meeting. A change that is merely editorial may be followed by a vote to adopt the new or revised bylaw, policy, or regulation on second reading.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1

Adopted: October 25, 2018
Revised: November 18, 2021

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The Board directs the Superintendent to review the rules and regulations implementing any revised or altered policy to ensure that they confirm to the intent of the policy as revised or changed.

The Board of Education shall develop and implement a five year review cycle to ensure that all policies and bylaws of the district are current with present practice and statute.

The Board of Education has developed a careful and deliberate process of formulating and adopting its policies and bylaws. Requests for suspension of any existing policy or bylaw should receive the same careful consideration.

Therefore:

1. Any request for a waiver of policy or bylaw shall be considered in light of the policy or bylaw itself, rather than any particular circumstances of the moment.

2. The Board shall decide whether the policy or bylaw still reflects the considered intent of the Board. If it does, the suspension will be denied and the policy or bylaw reaffirmed in the minutes.

3. If the policy or bylaw does not reflect the intent of the Board, then the policy shall be waived by a majority vote of the members of the Board present and voting and development of a revised policy or bylaw shall become the Board's prime policy priority.

4. The Board of Education shall determine if the rights of the public would be adversely affected by the proposed suspension or waiver of policy. If the public's rights would be adversely affected, the suspension or waiver will be denied.

In the event of an emergency requiring immediate action, the Superintendent shall have the authority to waive policy or regulation in the single instance. In such cases, the Superintendent shall report the instance to the Board President immediately, and request reconsideration of the policy at the next regular meeting.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0132 EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY

The Board of Education shall exercise its executive power in part by the appointment of a Superintendent as Chief School Administrator, who shall enforce the statutes of the State of New Jersey, rules of the State Board of Education, and policies of this Board.

The Superintendent shall prepare regulations for the administration of the school district that are consistent with statutes or rules of the State Board of Education and are dictated by the policies of this Board. Administrative regulations shall be binding on the employees and the students of this school district when issued and shall be provided to the Board for the information of Board members except where Board approval is required by law.

The Superintendent shall be delegated the authority to take necessary action in circumstances not governed by Board policy and shall report any such action to the Board at the first regular Board meeting following the action.

The Superintendent shall have a seat on the Board and shall have the right to speak on all matters at meetings of the Board, but shall have no vote.

N.J.S.A. 18A:17-20

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0133 ADJUDICATION OF DISPUTES

The Board of Education may assume jurisdiction over any dispute or controversy arising within this school district and concerning any matter over which authority has been vested in the Board by statute, rule of the State Board of Education, or a contract or policy of this Board.

The Board may hold hearings that will offer the parties to a dispute, on notice duly given, a fair and impartial forum for the resolution of the matter.

Beyond the basic requirements of due process a hearing will vary in form and content as dictated by the severity of the consequences that may flow from the Board's determination, the degree of difficulty of establishing findings of fact from conflicting evidence, and the impact of the Board's decision on the school district.

Regulations for the conduct of adjudicatory hearings of the Board shall be prepared as guidelines for those who may be heard by the Board.

A decision of the Board may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0134 BOARD SELF EVALUATION

The Board of Education may determine to conduct a self-evaluation on a periodic or regular basis. In the event the Board determines to conduct a self-evaluation, it will adopt an evaluation instrument that permits individual Board members to record their assessment of the conduct of the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities in accordance with applicable statutes and administrative codes.

The assessments will be tabulated by the Board President or designee and presented for discussion at a regular meeting of the Board in which the Superintendent will be invited to participate. The Board will formulate, as appropriate, goals and priorities that will serve to guide the Board's future conduct.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0141 BOARD MEMBER NUMBER AND TERM

The Board of Education shall consist of nine members.

The term of a Board member shall be three years.

The term of a Board member appointed to fill a vacancy shall be from the member's appointment to the organizational meeting following the next annual election. Any vacancy for the remainder of the term shall be filled at the next annual school election, except that

1. A Board member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring within sixty days immediately preceding an annual election occurring in April, to fill a term extending beyond the next election, shall serve until the organizational meeting following the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy; or

2. A Board member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring after the third Monday in July for an annual election occurring in November, to fill a term extending beyond the next election, shall serve until the organizational meeting following the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy.

Any vacancy for the remainder of a term shall be filled at the annual election or the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of a vacancy, as the case may be.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-6; 18A:12-9; 18A:12-11; 18A:12-15

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0141 BOARD MEMBER NUMBER AND TERM

The Board of Education shall consist of 9 members.

The term of a Board member shall be 3 years, except vacancies in the membership of the Board shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:12-15. Each Board member appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve until the organizational meeting following the next annual election unless the Board member is appointed to fill a vacancy occurring within the sixty days immediately preceding such election if the annual election is held in April, or occurring after the third Monday in July if the election is held in November, to fill a term extending beyond such election, in which case the Board member shall serve until the organizational meeting following the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy, and any vacancy for the remainder of the term shall be filled at the annual election or the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy, as the case may be.

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N.J.S.A. 18A:12-6; 18A:12-9; 18A:12-11; 18A:12-15
N.J.S.A. 18A:13-8 et seq. [regional districts]
N.J.S.A. 18A:54-16 et seq. [vocational districts]

Adopted: October 25, 2018
Revised: October 17, 2024

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0141.1 BOARD MEMBER NUMBER AND TERM – SENDING DISTRICT

The Board of Education shall consist of _____ members.

The term of a Board member shall be _____ years, except vacancies in the membership of the Board shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:12-15. Each Board member appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve until the organizational meeting following the next annual election unless the Board member is appointed to fill a vacancy occurring within the sixty days immediately preceding such election if the annual election is held in April, or occurring after the third Monday in July if the election is held in November, to fill a term extending beyond such election, in which case the Board member shall serve until the organizational meeting following the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy, and any vacancy for the remainder of the term shall be filled at the annual election or the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy, as the case may be.

The Board of Education shall have representation on the _____ (receiving district) Board(s) of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.a.(1), if the students of the sending district comprise less than ten percent of the total enrollment of the students in the grades of the receiving district in which the students of the sending district will be enrolled, the sending district shall have no representation on the receiving district Board of Education. If the students of the sending district comprise at least ten percent of the total enrollment of the students in the grades of the receiving district in which the students of the sending district will be enrolled, the sending district shall have one representative on the receiving Board of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.a.(2).

If the total number of students of two or more sending districts, which do not qualify for representation in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.a., comprise at least fifteen percent of the total enrollment of the students in the grades of the receiving district in which the students of the sending district will be enrolled, the sending districts shall have collectively two representatives on the receiving district Board of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.b.

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The annual designation of the representatives, in the event more than two districts collectively qualify under N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.b., shall be rotated among the Boards of Education of the sending districts according to a schedule determined by the joint agreement of the Boards.

Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.a. and b., the number of representatives designated by the sending districts to be additional members shall not exceed three additional members on a receiving Board with originally nine or more members, two additional members on a receiving Board with originally seven or eight members, and one additional member on a receiving Board with originally less than seven members. In the event that this restriction results in unequal representation of sending districts, the annual designation of the representative or representatives shall be rotated among the Boards of Education of the sending districts according to a schedule determined by the joint agreement of the Boards in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.c.
Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2 or any other law or regulation to the contrary, a school district which is located in a county of the sixth class according to the latest Federal decennial census, which has an October 1998 resident enrollment greater than 2,400 students but less than 2,600 students, and which sends its students in grades nine through twelve to a school district in the same county pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8 shall have representation on the Board of Education of the receiving district in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.4.

The sending district Board of Education shall designate their representative(s) to serve on the receiving district Board of Education on an annual basis upon notification from the Executive County Superintendent of the appropriate representation on the receiving Board of Education. A representative of a sending district Board of Education shall be designated at the meeting of the Board which is closest in time to the annual organizational meeting of the receiving district Board of Education and shall serve a one-year term beginning with the organizational meeting of the receiving district Board of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.d. The sending district representative(s) shall be subject to the rules and procedures of the receiving district Board of Education. If the sending district position on the receiving Board becomes vacant, the sending Board shall designate a new representative to serve on the receiving Board for the remainder of the term.

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The calculation of percentages required shall be based on the number of students reported as of the last school day prior to October 16 of each prebudget year pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.e. and N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.4.b.

A sending district representative(s) shall be eligible to vote on the following matters before the receiving district Board of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.1:

a. Tuition to be charged the sending district by the receiving district and the bill lists or contracts for the purchase, operation or maintenance of facilities, equipment and instructional materials to be used in the education of the students of the sending district;

b. New capital construction to be utilized by sending district students;

c. Appointment, transfer or removal of teaching staff members providing services to the students of the sending district, including any teaching staff member who is a member of the receiving district's central administrative staff;

d. Addition or deletion of curricular and extracurricular programs involving students of the sending district;

e. Any matter directly involving the sending district students or programs and services utilized by those students;

f. Approval of the annual receiving district budget;

g. Any collectively negotiated agreement involving employees who provide services utilized by sending district students;

h. Any individual employee contracts not covered by a collectively negotiated agreement, if those employees provide or oversee programs or services utilized by sending district students; and

i. Any matter concerning governance of the receiving district Board of Education including, but not limited to, the selection of the Board President or Vice President, approval of Board Bylaws, and the employment of professionals or consultants such as attorneys, architects, engineers, or others who provide services to the receiving district Board of Education.

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While the sending district representative shall have limited voting rights in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.1, in all other respects the representative shall function as a full member of the receiving Board of Education, including participation in the closed session discussions.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-6; 18A:12-9; 18A:12-11; 18A:12-15; 18A:38-8;
18A:38-8.1; 18A:38-8.2; 18A:38-8.3; 18A:38-8.4
N.J.S.A. 18A:13-8 et seq. [regional districts]
N.J.S.A. 18A:54-16 et seq. [vocational districts]
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-2.1 et seq.

Adopted: October 25, 2018
Revised: October 17, 2024

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0141.2 BOARD MEMBER NUMBER AND TERM – RECEIVING DISTRICT

The Board of Education shall consist of 9 members.

The term of a Board member shall be 3 years, except vacancies in the membership of the Board shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:12-15. Each Board member appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve until the organizational meeting following the next annual election unless the Board member is appointed to fill a vacancy occurring within the sixty days immediately preceding such election if the annual election is held in April, or occurring after the third Monday in July if the election is held in November, to fill a term extending beyond such election, in which case the Board member shall serve until the organizational meeting following the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy, and any vacancy for the remainder of the term shall be filled at the annual election or the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy, as the case may be.

The Board of Education shall have representation from the _____ (sending district) Board(s) of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.a.(1), if the students of the sending district comprise less than ten percent of the total enrollment of the students in the grades of the receiving district in which the students of the sending district will be enrolled, the sending district shall have no representation on the receiving district Board of Education. If the students of the sending district comprise at least ten percent of the total enrollment of the students in the grades of the receiving district in which the students of the sending district will be enrolled, the sending district shall have one representative on the receiving Board of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.a.(2).

If the total number of students of two or more sending districts, which do not qualify for representation in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.a., comprise at least fifteen percent of the total enrollment of the students in the grades of the receiving district in which the students of the sending district will be enrolled, the sending districts shall have collectively two representatives on the receiving district Board of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.b.

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The annual designation of the representatives, in the event more than two districts collectively qualify under N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.b., shall be rotated among the Boards of Education of the sending districts according to a schedule determined by the joint agreement of the Boards.

Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.a. and b., the number of representatives designated by the sending districts to be additional members shall not exceed three additional members on a receiving Board with originally nine or more members, two additional members on a receiving Board with originally seven or eight members, and one additional member on a receiving Board with originally less than seven members. In the event that this restriction results in unequal representation of sending districts, the annual designation of the representative or representatives shall be rotated among the Boards of Education of the sending districts according to a schedule determined by the joint agreement of the Boards in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.c.
Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2 or any other law or regulation to the contrary, a school district which is located in a county of the sixth class according to the latest Federal decennial census, which has an October 1998 resident enrollment greater than 2,400 students but less than 2,600 students, and which sends its students in grades nine through twelve to a school district in the same county pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8 shall have representation on the Board of Education of the receiving district in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.4.

The sending district Board of Education shall designate their representative(s) to serve on the receiving district Board of Education on an annual basis upon notification from the Executive County Superintendent of the appropriate representation on the receiving Board of Education. A representative of a sending district Board of Education shall be designated at the meeting of the Board which is closest in time to the annual organizational meeting of the receiving district Board of Education and shall serve a one-year term beginning with the organizational meeting of the receiving district Board of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.d. The sending district representative(s) shall be subject to the rules and procedures of the receiving district Board of Education. If the sending district position on the receiving Board becomes vacant, the sending Board shall designate a new representative to serve on the receiving Board for the remainder of the term.

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The calculation of percentages required shall be based on the number of students reported as of the last school day prior to October 16 of each prebudget year pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.2.e. and N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.4.b.

A sending district representative(s) shall be eligible to vote on the following matters before the receiving district Board of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.1:

a. Tuition to be charged the sending district by the receiving district and the bill lists or contracts for the purchase, operation or maintenance of facilities, equipment and instructional materials to be used in the education of the students of the sending district;

b. New capital construction to be utilized by sending district students;

c. Appointment, transfer or removal of teaching staff members providing services to the students of the sending district, including any teaching staff member who is a member of the receiving district's central administrative staff;

d. Addition or deletion of curricular and extracurricular programs involving students of the sending district;

e. Any matter directly involving the sending district students or programs and services utilized by those students;

f. Approval of the annual receiving district budget;

g. Any collectively negotiated agreement involving employees who provide services utilized by sending district students;

h. Any individual employee contracts not covered by a collectively negotiated agreement, if those employees provide or oversee programs or services utilized by sending district students; and

i. Any matter concerning governance of the receiving district Board of Education including, but not limited to, the selection of the Board President or Vice President, approval of Board Bylaws, and the employment of professionals or consultants such as attorneys, architects, engineers, or others who provide services to the receiving district Board of Education.

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While the sending district representative shall have limited voting rights in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.1, in all other respects the representative shall function as a full member of the receiving Board of Education, including participation in the closed session discussions.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-6; 18A:12-9; 18A:12-11; 18A:12-15; 18A:38-8;
18A:38-8.1; 18A:38-8.2; 18A:38-8.3; 18A:38-8.4
N.J.S.A. 18A:13-8 et seq. [regional districts]
N.J.S.A. 18A:54-16 et seq. [vocational districts]
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-2.1 et seq.

Adopted: October 25, 2018
Revised: October 17, 2024

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See POLICY ALERT No. 235

0141.3 BOARD MEMBER NUMBER AND TERM – REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

The regional Board of Education shall consist of nine members unless it consists of more than nine constituent districts, in which case the membership shall be the same as the number of constituent districts, plus one. Except as otherwise provided pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:13-34a or N.J.S.A. 18A:13-46.1, if there are nine or less constituent districts, the members of the regional Board shall be apportioned by the Executive County Superintendent or Executive County Superintendents of the county or counties in which the constituent districts are situate, among said districts as nearly as may be according to the number of their inhabitants except that each constituent district shall have at least one member in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:13-8. A member of a regional Board shall be for at least one year a resident of the constituent district of the regional district, to be represented by the member, in the regional Board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:13-7.

In making the apportionment of the membership of a regional Board among the several school districts uniting to create a regional school district having nine or less constituent districts, as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:13-36, there shall be subtracted from the number of inhabitants of a constituent school district, as shown by the last Federal census officially promulgated in this State as reported by the New Jersey Secretary of State pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:4-1.6, the number of such inhabitants who according to the records of the Federal Bureau of the Census were patients in any State or Federal hospital, or who are military personnel stationed at, or civilians residing within the limits of, any United States Army, Navy, or Air Force installation, located in such constituent school district.

Except as otherwise provided pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:13-34a or N.J.S.A. 18A:13-46.1, if there are more than nine constituent districts, the members on the regional Board shall be apportioned among the constituent districts and the weight of their votes in all proceedings of the regional Board shall be determined by the appropriate Executive County Superintendent or Superintendents through the following procedure:

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1. The number of inhabitants of each constituent district shall be determined as shown by the last Federal census officially promulgated in this State as reported by the Secretary of State pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:4-1.6.

2. A representative ratio shall be calculated by adding the number of inhabitants of all constituent districts and dividing the sum by the regional Board size.

3. All constituent districts shall be listed in ascending order of their number of inhabitants. If the first constituent district in said list has a number of inhabitants which is less than the representative ratio, it shall be combined with the constituent district contiguous to it having the smallest number of inhabitants. This process shall be repeated for each successively larger constituent district or combination of constituent districts until all remaining constituent districts or combinations of constituent districts shall have a number of inhabitants equal to, or exceeding the representative ratio. The districts formed in this manner shall be known as representative districts.

4. There shall be established a priority list according to the method of equal proportions for the apportionment of the members of the regional Board among the representative districts.

5. The members of the regional Board shall be apportioned among the representative districts according to the method of equal proportions, and where a representative district is composed of more than one constituent district, members shall be elected at large from within the representative district.

6. The number of inhabitants of each representative district shall be divided by the number of members assigned to that district to find the number of inhabitants per member.

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7. The vote to be cast by each member of the regional Board in all proceedings of the regional Board shall be determined by dividing the number of inhabitants per member in the representative district from which the member is elected by the representative ratio for the regional district, and rounding off the quotient to the nearest tenth of a full vote.

   Wherever any statute or bylaw of the regional Board requires decision in any matter by vote of a majority of the regional Board members, or of the members present, this shall be interpreted as meaning a majority of the weighted votes of all members, or of the members present, as the case may be.

8. Whenever the above reapportionment procedure is used for a regional district having more than nine constituent districts, the terms of office of all incumbent Board members shall terminate on the day on which the annual organization meeting of the regional Board is held pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:13-12 following certification by the Executive County Superintendent of the representative districts and the number of members to be elected from each; provided, that if the reapportionment results in any representative district retaining its former boundaries and the same number of Board members, that the members elected from such a district shall serve the full term for which they were elected. All other Board members shall be elected in an election to be held on the date of the annual school election at least sixty days following certification by the Executive County Superintendent for initial terms of office to be designated in advance by the Executive County Superintendent so that, as nearly as possible, one-third of the regional Board shall be elected in each future year, to serve for three-year terms, and where a representative district has more than one member, their terms of office shall terminate in different years.

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If any constituent district is a consolidated district, or a district composed of two or more municipalities, and:

1. The original district is a limited purpose regional district and such constituent district has such population that it is entitled to have apportioned to it a number of members equal to or greater than the number of districts making up such constituent district, or

2. The regional district is an all purpose district, the membership of the regional Board from such district shall be apportioned, and from time to time reapportioned, and the members from the district shall be elected, as their respective terms expire, in the same manner as though each of the municipalities making up such constituent district were constituent districts of the regional district.

Vacancies in the membership of the regional Board shall be filled from the constituent districts represented by the former incumbents in the same manner as vacancies in the membership of Boards of Type II districts having elected Boards are filled pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:13-11.

Reapportionment of the regional Board shall follow the rules prescribed in N.J.S.A. 18A:13-9; 18A:13-9a; 18A:13-9.1; and 18A:13-9.2.

N.J.S.A. 18A:13-7; 18A:13-8 et seq.; 18A:13-9; 18A:13-9a; 18A:13-9.1;
18A:13-9.2.; 18A:13-34a; 18A:13-36; 18A:13-46.1;
N.J.S.A. 52:4-1.6

Adopted: September 18, 2025

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See POLICY ALERT No. 235

0141.4 BOARD MEMBER NUMBER AND TERM – COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

For each county system of vocational schools established in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:54, there shall be a Board of Education consisting of the Executive County Superintendent and four persons to be appointed; provided, however, that a county of the first class which has adopted a form of government pursuant to the provisions of the "Optional County Charter Law", N.J.S.A. 40:41A-1 et seq., may, by ordinance, establish a Board consisting of six, seven, or nine persons to be appointed and any other county may, by ordinance, establish a Board consisting of six persons to be appointed.

In counties of the first class which, by ordinance, have established a Board consisting of six, seven, or nine persons to be appointed, the appointive members shall be appointed by the Chief Elected Executive Officer of the county with the advice and consent of the Board of County Commissioners. In all other counties, the appointive members of the Board shall be appointed by the Chief Elected Executive Officer of the county, or the Director of the Board of County Commissioners, with the advice and consent of the Board of County Commissioners, as appropriate to the appointment procedures established by the form of government of the county. On a Board with four appointive members, not more than two members, or in the case of a Board with six appointive members, not more than three members, appointed in any such county of the second, third, fifth, or sixth class shall be members of the same political party, but no changes for adjustment of party representation shall be made in a Board except as vacancies occur pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:54-16.

Annually during the month of October a member or members, as the case may be, of the Board shall be appointed to serve for a term of four years, and thereafter until the appointment and qualification of their respective successor, to take the place of the member or members, as the case may be, whose term or terms shall expire on November 1 then next ensuing pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:54-16.

A vacancy in the Board shall be deemed to exist, and shall be filled, in the manner prescribed in N.J.S.A. 40A:9-12.1 and Bylaw 0143.

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BYLAW GUIDE

Notwithstanding any provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:54 to the contrary, a Board of County Commissioners may, by resolution, establish one Board for the county special services school district established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:46-29 and the county vocational school district established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:54, according to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:46-47 through N.J.S.A. 18A:46-52 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:54-12.1.

N.J.S.A. 18A:54-16

Adopted: September 18, 2025

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0142 BOARD MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS, PROHIBITED ACTS, AND CODE OF ETHICS

Each member of the Board of Education shall possess the qualifications required by law and shall be bound by the provisions of the School Ethics Act.

Qualification of Office

A Board member must be a citizen of the United States.

A Board member must be a resident of the district the member represents and must have been such for at least one year immediately preceding the member's election or appointment.

A Board member must be able to read and write.

A Board member must be registered to vote in the district and not disqualified from voting pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:4-1.

A Board member may not have been convicted of a crime or offense as listed in N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1.

A Board member cannot concurrently hold office as mayor or a member of the governing body of Weymouth Township.

Each member of the Board of Education, within thirty days of election or appointment to the Board shall undergo a criminal history background investigation for the purpose of ensuring the member is not disqualified from membership due to a criminal conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1 et seq. The Board of Education will reimburse the Board member for the costs of the criminal history record check. The Commissioner of Education shall notify the Board of Education if a member has been disqualified from membership on the Board as the result of the criminal history record check. The Commissioner of Education will also notify the Board if a Board member has charges enumerated in N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1 pending against him/her and the Board shall take appropriate action. If the pending charges result in conviction, the member shall be disqualified from continued membership on the Board.

Prohibited Acts

"Business" means any corporation, partnership, firm, enterprise, franchise, association, trust, sole proprietorship, union, political organization, or other legal entity but does not include a school district or other public entity.

"Interest" means the ownership of or control of more than ten percent of the profits, assets, or stocks of a business but does not include the control of assets in a labor union.

"Immediate family" means the person to whom the Board member is legally married and any dependent child of the Board member residing in the same household.

No Board member or member of his/her immediate family shall have an interest in a business organization or engage in any business, transaction, or professional activity that is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his/her duties in the public interest.

No Board member shall use or attempt to use his/her official position to secure unwarranted privileges, advantages, or employment for him/herself, members of his/her immediate family, or others.

No Board member shall act in his/her official capacity in any matter where he/she, a member of his/her immediate family, or a business organization in which he/she has an interest, has a direct or indirect financial or personal involvement that might reasonably be expected to impair his/her independence of judgment in the exercise of official duties. No Board member shall act in his/her official capacity in any matter where he/she or a member of his/her immediate family has a personal involvement that is or creates some benefit to the Board member or a member of his/her immediate family.

No Board member shall undertake any employment or service, whether compensated or not, which might reasonably be expected to prejudice his/her independence of judgment in the exercise of official duties.

No Board member or member of his/her immediate family or business organization in which he/she has an interest shall solicit or accept any gift, favor, loan, political contribution, service, promise of future employment, or other thing of value based upon an understanding that the gift, favor, loan, contribution, service, promise, or other thing of value was given or offered for the purpose of influencing him/her, directly or indirectly, in the discharge of his/her official duties, except that the member may have solicited or accepted contributions to his/her campaign for election to public office if he/she had no knowledge or reason to believe that the campaign contribution, if accepted, was given with the intent to influence him/her in the discharge of official duties. Board members may not accept offers of meals, entertainment or hospitality which are limited to clients/customers of the individual providing such hospitality. Board members may attend hospitality suites or receptions at conferences only when they are open to all persons attending the conference.

No Board member shall use, or allow to be used, his public office or any information not generally available to the members of the public which he/she receives or acquires in the course of and by reason of his/her office, for the purpose of securing financial gain for him/herself, any member of his/her immediate family, or any business organization with which he/she is associated.

No Board member or business organization in which he/she has an interest shall represent any person or party other than the Board of Education or this school district in connection with any cause, proceeding, application, or other matter pending before this school district or in any proceeding involving this school district, except that this provision shall not be deemed to prohibit representation within the context of official labor union or similar representational responsibilities.

It is not a conflict of interest if, merely by reason of his/her participation in any matter voted upon by the Board, a Board member accrues material or monetary gain that is no greater than the gain that could reasonably be expected to accrue to any other member of the member's business, profession, occupation, or group.

No elected Board member shall be prohibited from making an inquiry for information on behalf of a constituent, if no fee, reward, or other thing of value is promised to or given to or accepted by the member or a member of his/her immediate family, whether directly or indirectly, in return for the information so requested.

Nothing shall prohibit a Board member or members of his/her immediate family from representing him/herself or themselves in negotiations or proceedings concerning his/her or their own interests, except that Board members shall disqualify themselves from participating in negotiations and voting on collective bargaining agreements where their spouse or dependent children are members of the bargaining unit.

Each Board member shall annually, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-25 and 18A:12-26, file a disclosure statement regarding potential conflicts of interest.

Ineligibility for District Employment

A Board member cannot be appointed to a paid office or position required to be filled by the Board, except where law permits or requires that the office or position be filled by a Board member, and is ineligible for appointment to a paid office or position in the district for at least six months after the member's retirement, resignation, or removal from Board membership.

Code of Ethics

In accordance with N.J.S.A 18A:12-24.1 every Board member will abide by the following Code of Ethics. The Board member will:

1. Uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.

2. Make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.

3. Confine his/her Board action to policy making, planning and appraisal, and help to frame policies and plans only after the Board has consulted those who will be affected by them.

4. Carry out his/her responsibility not to administer the school, but together with fellow Board members, insure they are well run.

5. Recognize that authority rests with the Board of Education and make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the Board.

6. Refuse to surrender his/her independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the school for personal gain or for the gain of friends.

7. Hold confidential all matters pertaining to the school, which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals, or the school. In all other matters, he/she will provide accurate information and, in concert with fellow Board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.

8. Vote to appoint the best-qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.

9. Support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.

10. Refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

Each Board member is required to sign an acknowledgment that he/she received a copy, read and will become familiar with the Code of Ethics for School Board Members contained within N.J.S.A. 18A:12-21 et seq. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will provide each Board member with a copy of the Code of Ethics and the required acknowledgement on an annual basis and will maintain the original signed acknowledgment(s) in the Business office.

The Board will receive a copy of and discuss the School Ethics Act and the Code of Ethics for School Board Members, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 12-21 et seq., at a regular scheduled public meeting each year. The discussion may include presentations by school administrative staff, the Board attorney, Board members and/or other professionals familiar with the School Ethics Act and the Code of Ethics. In addition, the Board Attorney, Superintendent, and/or School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will keep the Board informed of decisions by the School Ethics Commission, Commissioner of Education, State Board of Education and courts.

Oath of Office

Each Board member shall, before entering upon the duties of the office, swear or affirm under oath that he/she qualifies for membership and will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Board member.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1; 18A:12-1.1; 18A:12-2;
18A:12-2.1; 18A:12-21 through 18A:12-34
N.J.S.A. 41:1-3
School Ethics Commission Policy Guideline 1.

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0142.1 NEPOTISM

The Board of Education adopts this Nepotism Policy as a condition of receiving State aid pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.2.

For the purposes of this Policy, "relative" means an individual's spouse, by marriage or civil union pursuant to N.J.S.A. 37:1-33, domestic partner as defined in N.J.S.A. 26:8A-3, or the individual's or spouse's parent, child, sibling, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, grandparent, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepparent, stepchild, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother or half-sister, whether the relative is related to the individual or the individual's spouse by blood, marriage or adoption.

For the purposes of this Policy, "immediate family member" means the person's spouse, partner in a civil union as defined in N.J.S.A. 37:1-33, domestic partner as defined in N.J.S.A. 26:8A-3, or dependent child residing in the same household.

For the purposes of this Policy, "administrator" is defined as set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:12-23.

No relative of a Board member or the Superintendent shall be employed in an office or position in this school district except that a person employed by the school district on the effective date of the Policy or the date a relative becomes a Board member or Superintendent shall not be prohibited from continuing to be employed or promoted in the district.

The Superintendent of Schools shall not recommend to the Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:27-4.1 any relative of a Board member or the Superintendent.

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.2(a)6.(b), per diem substitutes and student employees who are relatives of a Board member or the Superintendent shall be excluded from the provisions of this Policy and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.2.

A school district administrator shall be prohibited from exercising direct or indirect authority, supervision, or control over a relative of the administrator. Where it is not feasible to eliminate such a direct or indirect supervisory relationship, appropriate screens and/or alternative supervision and reporting mechanisms must be put in place.

A school district administrator or Board member who has a relative who is a member of the bargaining unit shall be prohibited from discussing or voting on the proposed collective bargaining agreement with that unit or from participating in any way in negotiations, including, but not limited to, being a member of the negotiating team; nor should that school district administrator be present with the Board in closed session when negotiation strategies are being discussed; provided however, that the administrator may serve as a technical resource to the negotiating team and may provide technical information necessary to the collective bargaining process when no one else in the district can provide such information.

A school district administrator or Board member who has an immediate family member who is a member of the same Statewide union in another school district shall be prohibited from participating in any way in negotiations, including but not limited to, being a member of the negotiating team or being present with the Board of Education in closed sessions when negotiation strategies are being discussed, prior to the Board of Education attaining a Tentative Memorandum of Agreement with the bargaining unit that includes a salary guide and total compensation package. Once the Tentative Memorandum of Agreement is established, a school district administrator with an immediate family member who is a member of the same State-wide union in another school district may fully participate in the process, absent other conflicts. Notwithstanding these provisions, a district administrator who has an immediate family member who is a member of the same Statewide union in another district may serve as a technical resource to the negotiating team and may provide technical information necessary to the collective bargaining process when no one else in the district can provide the information.

N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.2

Adopted: 25 October 2018

See POLICY ALERT No. 235

0143 BOARD MEMBER ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT

The election and appointment of Board of Education members will be conducted in strict compliance with law.

Applicable For Type II Districts With an Elected Board And Regional School District Boards

Vacancies in the membership of Boards of Type II districts having elected Boards shall be filled in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-15. Vacancies in the membership of a regional Board shall be filled from the constituent districts represented by the former incumbents in the same manner as vacancies in the membership of Boards of Type II districts having elected Boards in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:13-11. Such vacancies shall be filled as follows:

1. By the Executive County Superintendent, if the vacancy is caused by the absence of candidates for election to the Board or by the removal of a member because of lack of qualifications, or is not filled within sixty-five days following its occurrence;

2. By the Executive County Superintendent, to a number sufficient to make up a quorum of the Board if, by reason of vacancies, a quorum is lacking;

3. By special election, if in the annual school election two or more candidates qualified by law for membership on the Board receive an equal number of votes. Such special election shall be held only upon recount and certification by the County Board of Elections of such election result, shall be restricted to such candidates, shall be held within sixty days of the annual school election, and shall be conducted in accordance with procedures for annual and special school elections set forth in Title 19 of the Revised Statutes. The vacancy shall be filled by the Executive County Superintendent if in such special election two or more candidates qualified by law for membership on the Board receive an equal number of votes;

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4. By special election, if there is a failure to elect a member at the annual school election due to improper election procedures. Such special election shall be restricted to those persons who were candidates at such annual school election, shall be held within sixty days of such annual school election, and shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures for annual and special school elections set forth in Title 19 of the Revised Statutes;

5. By the Commissioner of Education if there is a failure to elect a member at the annual school election due to improper campaign practices; or

6. By a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board after the vacancy occurs in all other cases.

Each member so appointed shall serve until the organizational meeting following the next annual election unless the member is appointed to fill a vacancy occurring within the sixty days immediately preceding such election if the annual election is held in April, or occurring after the third Monday in July if the election is held in November, to fill a term extending beyond such election, in which case the member shall serve until the organizational meeting following the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy, and any vacancy for the remainder of the term shall be filled at the annual election or the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy, as the case may be in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-15.

The Board Secretary shall promptly notify the President of a vacancy to be filled by the Board. The President shall inform all other Board members. The Board will give public notice of the vacancy and invite any qualified person to submit a written request for consideration of their candidacy for the vacancy. The Board may also require candidates submit a resume with their written request.

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In considering candidates who have expressed an interest in a vacancy, the Board may interview candidates in public or executive session. The Board must vote to appoint a candidate to a vacancy in public session and there shall be no decisions made in executive session. In the event interviews are conducted in executive session, Board members, in the public session nomination and voting process, shall express their opinion in support of their vote so the public can witness any deliberations, policy formulation, and the decision making process of the Board.

A roll call vote will be conducted on candidates in the order the candidates were nominated with a second. If there are two or more vacancies, each vacancy will be filled by a separate election process. The first candidate who receives the votes of a majority of the remaining Board members will be elected to the vacancy. In the event no candidate receives a majority vote of the remaining Board members, another election process shall be conducted between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Applicable for County Vocational School Districts Only

A vacancy on the county vocational school district Board shall be deemed to exist and shall be filled in the manner prescribed in N.J.S.A. 40A:9-12.1, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:54-16.

The seat of a Board member on the county vocational school district Board shall be deemed vacant:

1. Upon its being so declared by judicial determination;

2. Upon the filing by such Board member of their written resignation;

3. Upon the refusal of a person designated for appointment to the Board to qualify or serve;

4. Upon the determination of the appointing authority that such Board member shall have become physically or mentally incapable of serving;

5. Upon the death of such Board member;

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6. Upon the determination of the appointing authority that, in violation of a lawful residency requirement, such Board member no longer resides within the county in which the county vocational school district is located;

7. In the case of a member of the Board, whenever the Board member, without being excused by a majority of the members of the Board, fails to attend and participate at meetings of the Board for a period of eight consecutive weeks, or for four consecutive regular meetings, whichever shall be of longer duration, at the conclusion of such period, provided that such Board shall notify the appointing authority in writing of such determination; provided, further, that such Board may refuse to excuse only with respect to those failures to attend and participate which are not due to legitimate illness; provided, however, that nothing in N.J.S.A. 40A:9-12.1 shall preclude a municipal appointing authority from adopting by ordinance a policy establishing a lower absentee threshold, provided that the ordinance shall not permit the removal of the Board member if the Board member has been absent for less than six consecutive weeks, or three consecutive meetings, whichever shall be of longer duration, without being excused, within the term of office for the position held by the individual;

8. Upon the removal of a Board member for cause in accordance with law, or for any other reason prescribed by law.

Whenever any of the above shall occur the appointing authority shall forthwith fill the vacant Board seat for the unexpired term in the manner prescribed by law; provided, however, that in the case of a person failing to qualify or refusing to serve pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-12.1.c. and 3. above, such Board seat shall not be deemed vacant, if the incumbent Board member is authorized by law to continue serving on the Board until a successor is appointed and qualifies therefor.

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BYLAW GUIDE

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-11; 18A:12-15
N.J.S.A. 18A:13-5; 18A:13-10; 18A:13-11 [regional district]
N.J.S.A. 18A:54-16
N.J.S.A. 40A:9-12.1 [vocational district]

Adopted: October 25, 2018
Revised: September 18, 2025

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0144 BOARD MEMBER ORIENTATION AND TRAINING

The preparation of each member for the performance of Board of Education duties is essential to the proper functioning of the Board. The Board encourages each new Board member in the acquisition of information about school district governance, the separate functions of the Board and the Superintendent, the operations of the district, and Board procedures.

The Board directs that each new member receive access to and/or a copy of the Board of Education Bylaw and Policy Manual, and such other materials as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent.

Each new Board member will be invited and is encouraged to meet and discuss the responsibilities and authority of a Board member, Board functions, and Board policies and procedures with the Board President (if available), the Superintendent, and the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

Each newly elected or appointed Board member shall complete during the first year of the member's first term a training program to be prepared and offered by the New Jersey School Boards Association, in consultation with the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, and the Department of Education, regarding the skills and knowledge necessary to serve as a Board member.

The training program shall include information regarding the school district monitoring system established pursuant to P.L. 2005, c. 235, the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum, and the five key components of school district effectiveness on which school districts are evaluated under the monitoring system: instruction and program; personnel; fiscal management; operations; and governance.

The Board member shall complete a training program on school district governance in each of the subsequent two years of the Board member's first term.

Within one year after each re-election or re-appointment to the Board of Education, the Board member shall complete an advanced training program to be prepared and offered by the New Jersey School Boards Association. This advanced training program shall include information on relevant changes to New Jersey school law and other information deemed appropriate to enable the Board member to serve more effectively.

The New Jersey School Boards Association shall examine options for providing training programs to Board members through alternative methods such as on-line or other distance learning media or through regional-based training.

Within one year after being newly elected or appointed or being re-elected or re-appointed to the Board of Education, a Board member shall complete a training program on harassment, intimidation, and bullying in schools, including a school district's responsibilities under P.L. 2002, c.83 (C.18A:37-13 et seq.). A Board member shall be required to complete the program only once. Training on harassment, intimidation, and bullying in schools shall be provided by the New Jersey School Boards Association, in consultation with recognized experts in school bullying from a cross section of academia, child advocacy organizations, nonprofit organizations, professional associations, and government agencies.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-33; 18A:37-13 et seq.

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0145 BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL

The membership of a Board of Education member shall terminate immediately upon:

1. The cessation of the member's bona fide residency in the school district the member represents (N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2.2); or

2. The member's election or appointment to the office of mayor or member of the governing body of Weymouth Township) (N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2.2); or

3. The member's disqualification from voting pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:4-1 (N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2.2); or

4. The member falsely affirms or declares that he/she is not disqualified as a voter pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:4-1 or that he/she is not disqualified from membership on the Board due to conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1; or

5. The removal of the member by the Commissioner of Education; or

6. Recall of a Board member pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:27A-1 et seq.

A member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board without good cause may be removed from office on the affirmative votes by majority of the remaining Board members, provided that:

1. The member's removal was proposed at the immediately previous Board meeting; and

2. Notice of the proposed removal was given to the affected member at least forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting at which the vote will be taken.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2; 18A:12-2.2; 18A:12-3; 18A:12-29
N.J.S.A. 19:27A-1 et seq.

Adopted: October 25, 2018
Revised: April 22, 2021

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0146 BOARD MEMBER AUTHORITY

A Board member does not possess individually the authority and powers that reside in the Board of Education. No Board member by virtue of his/her office shall exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the operation of the school district or as an individual command the services of any school district employee.

Release of Information

Board member access to public, personnel, and student records shall be governed by law and by the provisions of Policy Nos. 8310, 8320, and 8330.

Confidential information to which a Board member becomes privy as a result of his/her office shall be used only for the purpose of helping the member discharge his/her responsibilities as Board member. No Board member shall reveal information contained in a confidential record or received during a duly convened private session of the Board except when that information has been released to the public by the Board.

Public Expressions

Board members are entitled to express themselves publicly on any matter, including issues involving the Board and the school district. Individual Board members cannot, however, express the position of the Board except as expressly authorized, in accordance with Board Policy No. 9120. A Board member shall not represent his/her personal opinion as the position of the Board and shall include in all formal expressions in which his/her Board affiliation is likely to be recognized, such as letters to government officials or newspapers, speeches to organizations, and the like, a statement that the opinions expressed do not necessarily represent those of the Board.

Board members visiting a school shall comply with district policy and procedures for school visitors.

Members of the Board shall adhere to the Code of Ethics for Board members in Bylaw 0142.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0148 BOARD MEMBER INDEMNIFICATION

The Board of Education will indemnify Board members in accordance with law whenever a civil, administrative, criminal or quasi-criminal action or other legal proceeding is brought against a Board member for any act or omission arising out of and in the course of the performance of his/her duties as Board member. In the case of a criminal or quasi-criminal action which results in a final disposition in favor of the Board member, the Board will defray all costs of defending the action, including reasonable counsel fees and expenses, together with costs of appeal, and will save harmless and protect the Board member from any financial loss resulting from the action. Indemnification for exemplary or punitive damages is not required and will be governed by the standards and procedures set forth in N.J.S.A. 59:10-4.

The Board may arrange for and maintain appropriate insurance to cover all such damages, losses and expenses.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11.1; 18A:12-20; 18A:16-6;
18A:16-6.1; 18A:18A-46; 18A:18A-47

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0151 ORGANIZATION MEETING

The Board of Education shall organize annually at a regular meeting held in all Type II school districts with an April school election, on any day during the first or second week following the April school election or with a November school election, on any day of the first week in January.

If the organization meeting cannot take place on the date(s) above by reason of lack of quorum or for any other reason, said meeting shall be held within three days thereafter.

The meeting shall be called to order by the Board Secretary, who shall serve as presiding officer pro tempore until the election of a President and Vice President.

The Board Secretary shall administer the oath of office to new Board members.

N.J.S.A. 18A:10-3; 18A:10-5
N.J.S.A. 41:1-1; 41:1-3

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0152 BOARD OFFICERS

Election of officers shall be by plurality vote of the Board. Officers shall serve for one year and until their respective successors are elected and shall qualify. Appointees may be appointed at the organization meeting, but if the Board shall fail to hold said election as prescribed by law, the Executive County Superintendent shall appoint from among the members of the Board a President and Vice President.

Officers shall serve for one year and/or until their respective successors are elected and may be removed by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board, should either officer refuse to perform the duties of his/her office. This action requires a recorded, roll-call majority vote of the full membership of the Board of Education.

In the event that the office of President or Vice President shall become vacant, the Board shall, within thirty days thereafter, fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. If the Board fails to fill such vacancy within said time, the Executive County Superintendent shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

If the Board President or Vice President resigns his/her seat as a member of the Board of Education, the newly appointed Board Member shall not assume the role of the President or Vice President, unless elected to do so by the Board. In all cases, upon the resignation or removal of the President or Vice President, an election will be held at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education to elect a President or Vice President.

N.J.S.A. 18A:15-1; 18A:15-2

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0153 ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

The Board of Education may annually appoint the following positions:

1. A Board Secretary,
   N.J.S.A. 18A:17-2, 17-5;

2. A public school accountant,
   N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1;

3. A medical inspector,
   N.J.S.A. 18A:40-1;

4. A member to serve as delegate to the New Jersey School Boards Association,
   N.J.S.A. 18A:6-46;

5. A Treasurer of School Moneys,
   N.J.S.A. 18A:17-31;

6. A member to serve as delegate to the Atlantic County School Boards Association;

7. An attorney.

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0154 ANNUAL MOTIONS AND DESIGNATIONS

The Board of Education shall at the organizational meeting:

1. Designate one or more depositories for school funds, N.J.S.A. 18A:17-34;

2. Designate those persons authorized to sign school warrants, N.J.S.A. 18A:19-1;

3. Designate the official newspaper, N.J.S.A. 18A:22-11; 18A:39-3;

4. Designate a second newspaper for the publication of Board meetings, N.J.S.A. 10:4-8;

5. Designate the day, place, and time for regular meetings of the Board;

6. Approve the curriculum for all grades;

7. Designate a day for regular informal meetings of the Board.

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0155 BOARD COMMITTEES

In order to use the time, effort and expertise of the members of the Board effectively, the Board shall operate under a committee system.

Standing Committees

The Board may authorize the establishment of such standing committees from among its membership as it finds necessary to study operations in specific areas and to make recommendations for Board action. The following rules will govern the appointment and function of such committees:

1. The committee shall be established through action of the Board.

2. The committee chairperson and members shall be appointed by the Board President.

3. The committee may make recommendations for Board action, but it may not act for the Board.

4. The Board President and Superintendent shall be ex officio members of all standing committees.

5. The committee chairperson, with the assistance from the office of the Superintendent, shall schedule all meetings.

6. In emergency situations pertaining to specific committee affairs, the Superintendent will advise the Board President and committee chair of action anticipated or taken.

Special Committees

Special committees may be created for special assignments. The same rules shall apply to special committees as apply to standing committees, except that they shall be dissolved upon completion of their assignment.

Ad Hoc Committees

Ad hoc committees shall be appointed by the President to research specific problems before deliberation by the full Board. The same rules shall apply to ad hoc committees as apply to standing committees, except that they shall be dissolved upon completion of their assignment.

Committee of the Whole

The Board reserves the right to meet and work as a committee of the whole in informational, discussion, and exploratory sessions. No official action shall be taken at these meetings, unless so advertised.

All meetings shall be held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0161 CALL, ADJOURNMENT AND CANCELLATION

The Board of Education shall meet in public session at least once every two months during the period in which the school is in session.

All meetings shall be called to commence not later than 8:00 p.m. of the day designated.

A meeting not regularly scheduled may be called by the Board Secretary at the request of the President or upon the presentation to the Board Secretary of a petition requesting a meeting and signed by a majority of the full Board.

The Board may at any time recess or adjourn to an adjourned meeting at a time, date, and place announced before the adjournment takes place. The adjourned meeting shall take up its business at the point in the agenda where the motion to adjourn was passed.

When circumstances are such as to prevent the attendance of a majority or all of Board members or to frustrate the purpose of the meeting, a meeting may be canceled by the Board Secretary at the request of the President. Notice of the cancellation shall be given, by expedient means, to all Board members, to the Superintendent, and, whenever possible, to the newspapers in which notice of Board meetings is regularly given. If possible, written notice of the cancellation shall also be posted at the place where the canceled meeting was scheduled to occur. Notice of the cancellation shall include the date, time, and place of the next scheduled meeting. Notice of the cancellation shall be read at the next following Board meeting and shall be duly recorded in the official minute book.

N.J.S.A. 18A:10-6
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-3.1

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0162 NOTICE OF BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education will give notice of all meetings in accordance with law.

Public Notice

The Board Secretary shall notify, in writing and no later than forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting, each Board member and each person who has duly requested such notification of the time, date, location, and, to the extent it is known, the agenda of any regular, special, or rescheduled meeting. Forty-eight hour notice shall also be posted in the Board office, delivered to two newspapers designated by the Board, and filed with the clerk of the municipality, except that forty-eight hour notice is not required where the time, date, and location of the meeting has been published in the annual list of meetings approved by the Board in accordance with law.

Upon the affirmative vote of three-quarters of the members present, the Board may meet in the absence of adequate notice, provided that discussion and action is limited to specific and unforeseen or unforeseeable matters of such urgency and importance that delay for the provision of notice would be likely to result in substantial harm to the public interest and that notice is given as soon as possible after the call of the meeting in accordance with the provisions of law and this bylaw.

Personal Notice of Meeting

The Board shall provide personal notice in writing to an adult student, the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a minor student, an employee or officer of this district, or a prospective employee whose privacy may be invaded or whose employment may be affected by the Board's deliberations in private session. Such personal notice will include the date and time of the private meeting, the subject or subjects scheduled for discussion at the private meeting, and the right of the individual given notice to request that the discussions be conducted at a public meeting. Personal notice will be given no less than seventy-two hours in advance of the private meeting.

A written request for public discussion must be signed by the person making the request and must be submitted to the Board Secretary prior to the commencement of the meeting. Any such properly submitted request will be granted. In the event that one or more, but fewer than all, of a group of persons whose employment will be discussed request a public meeting, the discussion regarding the person or persons who have submitted the request will be severed from the rest and will be conducted publicly.

A discussion held in public by reason of the written request of an individual will be conducted at a regularly scheduled meeting for which annual notice has been given or at a meeting for which adequate public notice has been given in accordance with law.

Nothing in this bylaw will permit an employee to request or the Board to grant the public discussion of tenure charges or permit the public disclosure of information regarding a disabled student.

N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.; 10:4-8d; 10:4-9b
N.J.S.A. 18A:6-11; 18A:10-6
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-3.1

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0163 QUORUM

A quorum shall consist of five Board members, and no business shall be conducted in the absence of a quorum, except when the Doctrine of Necessity is invoked.

In the event a quorum is not present at the hour of convening, the meeting may be recessed to a time not later than 9:00 p.m. of the same day. If a quorum is not then present, the members present may adjourn the meeting to a later date within seven days.

The Board of Education recognizes that there may be matters that come before the Board or acts required of Board members in their official capacity where the Board member may have a conflict of interest or the act would be in violation of N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24. In these matters, the Board member(s) will remove himself/herself from any discussions, meetings (informal or formal), committee meetings, and/or a vote regarding the matter. The Board will consider this matter without the Board member(s) who has the conflict.

In the event a matter comes before the Board or an act is required of a Board member in his/her official capacity that is a conflict or would be in violation of N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24, the Board would still be required to have a quorum to consider the matter. However, the New Jersey Department of Education and the School Ethics Commission has envisioned this prohibition could create a situation in which so many Board members have a conflict, that the Board would be unable to take action on a matter. Therefore, when more than a quorum of the Board members must abstain from voting on a matter, the Board will invoke the Doctrine of Necessity consistent with the New Jersey Department of Education and School Ethics Commission guidelines as follows:

A. Board Member(s) in Conflict - Less Than a Majority of The Board

1. In the event a Board member(s) has a conflict of interest where the Board member will act in his/her official capacity, the Board member must remove himself/herself from any discussions, meetings (informal or formal), committee meetings, and/or a vote regarding the matter.

2. In the event a Board member is unsure whether he/she or any other Board member has a conflict of interest or whether the matter, if acted upon by a Board member(s) is in violation of N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24 - Prohibited Acts, the School Board Attorney will make a determination.

3. The School Board Attorney will provide the Board of Education an opinion on whether the matter is a conflict of interest or act prohibited by N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24 - Prohibited Acts.

4. If the Board member(s) believes he/she has a conflict of interest where he/she will act in his/her official capacity or if the School Board Attorney renders an opinion that the Board member has a conflict of interest where the Board member will act in his/her official capacity, the Board member will remove himself/herself from any discussions, meetings (informal or formal), committee meetings, and/or a vote regarding the matter.

B. A Majority of Board Members in Conflict

1. In the event:

a. A Board member(s) believes he/she has a conflict of interest where he/she will act in his/her official capacity; or

b. If the School Board Attorney renders an opinion that the Board member(s) has a conflict of interest where the Board member will act in his/her official capacity; and

c. The number of Board members that have a conflict would make it so the Board would be unable to take action on the matter, then the Board may invoke the "Rule [or Doctrine] of Necessity." (Citing *U.S. v. Will*, 449 *U.S.* 200 (1980)).

C. Rule [Or Doctrine] Of Necessity

1. The Doctrine of Necessity may be invoked when more than a quorum of the Board must abstain from voting on a matter.

2. There are three prerequisites necessary for a Board to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity:

a. The Board must be unable to act without the members in conflict taking part;

b. There must be a pressing need for action, i.e. the matter cannot be laid aside until another date; and

c. There can be no alternative forum that can grant the same relief. (*Allen v. Toms River Regional Board of Education*, 233 *N.J. Super* 651 (Law Division 1989).

3. When the School Board Attorney advises the Board the Doctrine of Necessity must be invoked in order to obtain a quorum on a vote, the Board must announce that it is invoking the Doctrine.

a. The announcement must include the reason the Board must invoke the Doctrine of Necessity including stating the nature of each Board members conflict.

b. The announcement will be in writing and should be recorded in the minutes of the meeting by the Board Secretary at the point when the vote takes place.

c. It is enough for the Board to announce it is invoking the Doctrine and a Board Resolution is not required.

4. When the Board announces the Doctrine of Necessity is being invoked, the details, parameters and/or other pertinent facts of the matter to be voted should be revealed on an agenda for the public meeting in which the matter is to be voted upon.

5. The Board members who have a conflict in the matter are prohibited from:

   a. Participating in any discussions on the matter prior to the announcement and public meeting; and

   b. From entering an executive session in order to discuss the merits of the matter or contract; and

   c. From offering their opinions on the matter at any time prior to the announcement and public meeting.

6. The Board members who have a conflict in the matter may only participate to the extent they may vote after the motion to approve and/or ratify the matter has been made and seconded and the Doctrine of Necessity has been thoroughly explained to the public.

7. Board members in conflict may only ask questions regarding the matter to be voted on in public and after the Board has invoked the Doctrine of Necessity.

8. Board members in conflict may explain their reasons for not voting just before the vote.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24
New Jersey School Ethics Commission Advisory Opinion
A10-93(b) and A07-94

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0164 CONDUCT OF BOARD MEETINGS

Parliamentary Authority

Roberts' Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the Board of Education in its deliberations and acts in all cases in which it is not inconsistent with statutes of the State of New Jersey, rules of the State Board of Education, or these bylaws.

Presiding Officer

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board. In the absence, disability, or disqualification of the President, the Vice President shall act in his/her place; if neither person is present, any member shall be designated by a plurality of those present to preside. The act of any person so designated shall be legal and binding.

Announcement of Adequate Notice

The person presiding shall commence each meeting with an announcement of the notice given for the meeting or a statement regarding the lack of adequate notice, in accordance with law.

Agenda

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Superintendent shall prepare an agenda of items of business to come before the Board at each meeting. The agenda shall typically be delivered to each Board member no later than two days before the meeting and shall include such reports and supplementary materials as are appropriate and available.

The order of business shall be as follows:

Call to order
Flag salute
Roll call
Announcement (Article VI, 5)
Reading of notice of meeting
Agenda items
Correspondence
Transaction of Business for which meeting was called
Public Discussion
Adjournment

N.J.S.A. 10:4-10
N.J.S.A. 18A:16-1.1

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0164.6 REMOTE PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS DURING A DECLARED EMERGENCY

A. Purpose – N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1

1. The purpose of N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 et seq. and Bylaw 0164.6 is to ensure a Board of Education or Board of Trustees of a charter school can conduct official public business in an open and transparent manner whenever a declared emergency requires a local public body to conduct a public meeting without physical attendance by members of the public.

2. Nothing in N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 et seq. prevents a local public body from holding a remote public meeting under such other circumstances as may be permitted by the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq.

B. Definitions – N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.2

For the purpose of this Bylaw and in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.2, the following words and terms have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Adequate notice" shall have the same definition as at N.J.S.A. 10:4-8; however, for the purpose of N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 et seq., and to the extent not otherwise set forth at N.J.S.A. 10:4-8, the notice transmitted to at least two newspapers for publication may occur through electronic mail or other electronic means that is accepted or requested by the newspaper.

"Annual notice" means a schedule of regular meetings of the public body to be held in the succeeding year noticed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-8 and 10:4-18. For the purpose of N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 et seq., the annual notice may be transmitted through electronic mail to newspapers and persons requesting an annual notice pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-18. If the declared emergency prevents the local public body from mailing an annual notice to individuals requesting notice pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-18, it shall be mailed to individuals for whom the local public body does not have an electronic mail account as soon as practicable.

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"Board" or "Board of Education" means a Board of Education or a Board of Trustees of a charter school as defined as a "local public body" or "public body" as per N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.2.

"Declared emergency" means a public health emergency, pursuant to the Emergency Health Powers Act, P.L. 2005, c. 222 (N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 et seq.), or a state of emergency, pursuant to P.L. 1942, c. 251 (N.J.S.A. App.A.9-33 et seq.), or both, or a state of local disaster emergency that has been declared by the Governor and is in effect.

"Electronic notice" means advance notice available to the public via electronic transmission of at least forty eight hours, giving the time, date, location, and to the extent known, the agenda of any regular, special, or rescheduled meeting, which shall accurately state whether formal action may or may not be taken at such meeting.

"Internet" means the international computer network of both Federal and non-Federal interoperable packet switched data networks.

"Live streaming" means the live audio and video transmission of a remote public meeting over the Internet.

"Local public body" means any "public body," as that term is defined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-8, with territorial jurisdiction equal to or less than a county. This term shall include Boards of Education, counties, municipalities, boards and commissions created by one or more counties or municipalities, and any authorities subject to N.J.S.A. 40A:5A-1 et seq., including fire districts and other special districts, along with joint meetings or regional service agencies as defined in N.J.S.A. 40A:65-3.

"Public business" means and includes all matters which relate in any way, directly or indirectly, to the performance of the public body's functions or the conduct of its business.

"Public meeting" means and includes any gathering whether corporeal or by means of communication equipment which is attended by, or open to, all of the members of a public body, held with the intent, on the part of the members of the body present, to discuss or act as a unit upon the specific

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public business of that body. Meeting does not mean or include any such gathering (1) attended by less than an effective majority of the members of a public body, or (2) attended by or open to all the members of three or more similar public bodies at a convention or similar gathering.

"Remote public meeting" means a public meeting that is conducted by any means of electronic communication equipment permitted pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 et seq.

C. Circumstances Under Which a Board of Education May Hold a Remote Public Meeting During a Declared Emergency for Conducting Public Business – N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.3

1. In addition to any circumstances under which public meetings held by means of communication equipment may be authorized pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq., the Board may hold a remote public meeting to conduct public business during a declared emergency if the emergency reasonably prevents the Board from safely conducting public business at a physical location with members of the public present.

2. If, during a declared emergency, the Board holds a physical meeting in a location where, pursuant to State and/or Federal guidelines meant to mitigate the risk of a contagious infection, the declared emergency necessitates capacity restrictions reducing the number of individuals that can be present in the meeting room to an amount below that reasonably expected for the public meeting by the Board, the Board must either hold the public meeting at another location with adequate capacity for the reasonably expected attendance by the public or hold the public meeting as both an in-person meeting and a remote public meeting.

   a. As set forth at N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.4(c), no in-person meeting shall proceed if the room capacity does not permit any member of the public to attend.

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3. Nothing in N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.3 shall be interpreted to prevent the Board from broadcasting the audio and/or video of, or taking remote public comment during, a public meeting that the public can physically attend without being subject to public health-related capacity restrictions.

D. Minimum Technological and Procedural Requirements for Remote Public Meetings Necessitated by a Declared Emergency – N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.4

1. If a declared emergency requires the Board to hold a remote public meeting to conduct public business, the Board shall use an electronic communications technology that is routinely used in academic, business, and professional settings, and can be accessed by the public at no cost.

   a. Participant capacity on the selected platform should be consistent with the reasonable expectation of the public body for public meetings of the type being held and shall not be limited to fewer than fifty public participants (beyond those persons required to conduct business at the meeting).

2. Remote public meetings may be held by means including, but not limited to, audio-only teleconferencing, electronic communications platforms with video and audio, and Internet-accessible technology, such as live-streaming.

   a. If an electronic communications platform or Internet-accessible technology is being utilized for a remote public meeting, a telephonic conference line shall also be provided to allow members of the public to dial-in by telephone to listen and provide public comment as otherwise required by law.

   b. The Board shall require members of the public to state, prior to providing public comment, whether they wish to speak and to identify themselves prior to speaking.

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3. The Board shall provide the public with similar access to a remote public meeting as members of the Board, staff of the Board, and any individuals seeking one or more approvals from the Board.

   a. If a remote public meeting is held by audio and video, the public shall also have the opportunity to participate in the meeting in both audio and video capacities.

   b. The Board meeting held in-person shall not prohibit members of the public from attending in-person.

4. Any remote public meeting where sworn testimony is being taken shall be broadcast by video, as well as by audio.

   a. All individuals giving sworn testimony at a remote public meeting shall appear by video in addition to audio.

5. Any presentations or documents that would otherwise be viewed or made available to members of the public physically attending the Board meeting shall be made visible on a video broadcast of the remote public meeting or made available on the Internet website or webpage of the entity governed by the Board, or the Internet website or webpage of the entity responsible for appointing the members of the Board.

   a. If a document would be made available to individual members of the public in hard copy while physically attending the meeting, the document shall be made available in advance of the meeting for download through an internet link appearing either on the meeting notice, or near the posting of the meeting notice, both on the website and at the building where the meeting would otherwise be held.

   b. If the Board does not have its own website, such documents shall be available upon request ahead of the meeting and provided through an official social media account if one exists.

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6. The Board holding a remote public meeting shall allow members of the public to make public comment by audio, or by audio and video, if the remote public meeting is held over both audio and video, during the meeting.

   a. In advance of the remote public meeting, the Board shall allow public comments to be submitted to the Board Secretary) by electronic mail and in written letter form by a reasonable deadline.

   b. The Board shall not accept text-based public comment received during a remote public meeting held through an electronic communications platform or Internet-accessible technology. Public comments submitted before the remote public meeting through electronic mail or by written letter shall be read aloud and addressed during the remote public meeting in a manner audible to all meeting participants and the public.

   c. The Board shall impose a reasonable time limit, where permitted by law, of three (3) minutes on individual public comments and the same limits shall be placed on the reading of written comments. Each comment shall be read from the beginning, until the time limit is reached. The Board may pass over duplicate written comments; however, each duplicate comment shall be noted for the record with the content summarized. If the Board elects to summarize duplicative comments, the Board must not summarize certain duplicative comments while reading other duplicative comments individually.

7. The electronic communications technology used for a remote public meeting must have a function that allows the Board to mute the audio of all members of the public, as well as allow members of the public to mute themselves.

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a. Any electronic communications platform or Internet-accessible technology used for a remote public meeting shall also allow the Board to regulate participation by individual members of the public.

b. A telephonic audio conference call line must have a queueing or similar function for regulating public comment.

8. Subject to D.5. and D.6. above, the Board shall adopt, by resolution, standard procedures and requirements for public comment made during a remote public meeting, as well as for public comments submitted in writing ahead of the remote public meeting.

a. Such procedures and requirements shall include standards of conduct to be followed by members of the public when making comment.

b. The procedures and requirements for making public comment, along with an explanation of the audio muting function of the electronic communications platform being used, shall be announced at the beginning of the remote public meeting.

c. Regulation of conduct by members of the public on a remote public meeting shall be consistent with law and practices followed if a member of the public disrupts an in-person meeting. The following procedures shall be incorporated:

(1) The Board shall facilitate a dialogue with the commenter to the extent permitted by the electronic communications technology;

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(2) If a member of the public becomes disruptive during a remote public meeting, including during any period for public comment, the member of the Board charged with running the remote public meeting shall mute or continue muting, or direct appropriate staff to mute or continue muting, the disruptive member of the public and warn that continued disruption may result in being prevented from speaking during the remote public meeting or removed from the remote public meeting.

(a) Disruptive conduct includes sustained inappropriate behaviors, such as, but not necessarily limited to, shouting, interruption, and use of profanity.

(3) A member of the public who continues to act in a disruptive manner after receiving an initial warning may be muted while other members of the public are allowed to proceed with their questions or comments.

(a) If time permits, the disruptive individual shall be allowed to speak after all other members of the public have been given the opportunity to make their comment. Should the person remain disruptive, the individual may be muted or kept on mute for the remainder of the remote public meeting, or removed from the remote public meeting.

9. Electronic communications platforms and Internet-accessible technologies used for remote public meetings shall be hosted on FedRAMP Moderate Impact Level Authorized dedicated servers or in a FedRAMP Moderate Impact Level Authorized Cloud, unless the host of the dedicated servers or cloud provides annual evidence of satisfactory cybersecurity internal controls through a SOC2 audit report.

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a. When using cloud services, the technology vendor shall check provider credentials and contracts to ensure FedRAMP Moderate Impact compliance unless annual evidence of satisfactory internal controls is provided through a SOC2 audit report.

E. Notice of Remote Public Meetings; Statement in Minutes – N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.5

1. Adequate notice of a remote public meeting must include, in addition to the content required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-8, clear and concise instructions for accessing the remote public meeting, the means for making public comment, and where relevant documents, if any, will be made available.

2. In addition to adequate notice, the Board shall also provide electronic notice of a remote public meeting, except as may be permitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-9.3 and E.3. below.

a. The electronic notice shall contain the content required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-8 and 10:4-9.1 and E.1. above, and shall be posted on the Internet website or webpage of Board and/or school district, or the entity responsible for appointing the members of the Board.

(1) If the Board does not have a website, electronic notice shall be provided on an official social media platform of the Board; however, electronic notice is not required if the Board does not have an internet presence.

(2) Unless otherwise prohibited by the declared emergency, the content of the electronic notice shall also be posted on the main access door of the building where the public would routinely attend public meetings of the Board in-person. The notice must be viewable from the outside.

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3. If during a declared emergency the Board elects to issue electronic notice of a remote public meeting in lieu of, rather than in addition to, adequate public notice, as permitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-9.3, the Board shall limit public business discussed or effectuated at the meeting to matters:

   a. Necessary for the continuing operation of government and which relate to the emergency declaration connected with the declared emergency; or

   b. Requiring decision during the remote public meeting due to imminent time constraints.

4. Nothing in N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.5 prohibits the Board from holding a remote public meeting, notwithstanding the failure to provide adequate notice and electronic notice where permitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-9.

5. If the Board expects to conduct remote public meetings for a series of regularly scheduled meetings advertised in its annual notice, the annual notice shall be revised at least seven days prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting, indicating which meeting(s) will be held as a remote public meeting and shall contain clear and concise instructions for accessing those remote public meetings, the means for making public comment, and where relevant documents, if any, will be made available.

   a. In addition to the means of notice transmission required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-18, the revised annual notice shall be posted on the Internet website or webpage of the Board and/or school district, or the entity responsible for appointing the members of the Board.

   b. If the Board does not have its own website, the revised notice shall be provided on an official social media platform unless the Board does not have an Internet presence.

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c. Unless otherwise prohibited by the declared emergency, the content of the electronic notice shall also be posted on the door of the main public entrance to the building where the public would routinely attend public meetings held by the Board.

(1) Notice must also be posted on the door for any designated and clearly delineated handicap accessible entrance. These notices must be viewable from the outside.

6. If a previously scheduled Board meeting was to allow public attendance without a public health-related restriction as to capacity, but the Board intends to hold the same meeting as a remote public meeting due to a declared emergency and the change is not reflected in a revised annual notice issued pursuant to E.5. above, the Board shall issue adequate and electronic notice for said meeting pursuant to E.1. and E.2. above as if the meeting were not included in the annual notice.

7. At the commencement of every remote public meeting of the Board, the person presiding shall announce publicly, and shall cause to be entered in the minutes of the meeting, an accurate statement to the effect that:

a. Both adequate and electronic notice of the meeting has been provided, specifying the time, place, and manner in which such notice was provided;

b. Only electronic notice of the meeting has been provided, specifying the time, place, and manner in which such notice was provided, and that discussion and effectuation of public business shall be limited to only those matters:

(1) Necessary for the continuing operation of government and that relate to the applicable emergency declaration; or

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(2) Requiring decision during the remote public meeting due to imminent time constraints; or

c. That adequate notice and electronic notice was not provided, in which case such announcement shall state:

(1) The reason(s) why the matter(s) discussed are of such urgency and importance, as contemplated pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-9(b)(1), and the nature of the substantial harm to the public interest likely to result from a delay in the holding of the meeting;

(2) That the remote public meeting will be limited to discussion of, and acting with respect to, such matters of urgency and importance;

(3) The time, place, and manner in which notice of the meeting was provided; and

(4) Either that the need for such meeting could not reasonably have been foreseen at a time when adequate notice and/or electronic notice could have been provided, in which event, such announcement shall specify the reason why such need could not reasonably have been foreseen; or that such need could reasonably have been foreseen at a time when adequate notice and/or electronic notice could have been provided, but such notice was not provided, in which event the announcement shall specify the reason why adequate notice and/or electronic notice was not provided.

8. Where the Board is required by law to provide a meeting agenda, or otherwise provides a meeting agenda by practice at its regularly scheduled meetings, prior to the commencement of the remote public meeting, the Board shall also make a copy of the agenda available to the public for download through an Internet link appearing either on the meeting notice, or near the posting of the meeting notice on the website.

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a. The notice shall also be posted at the building where the meeting would otherwise be held prior to the commencement of the remote public meeting.

F. Executive or Closed Session During Remote Public Meetings

1. A Board entering into an executive or closed session shall ensure that audio or video of the session cannot be accessed, except by those individuals that are participating in the session.

   a. A separate non-public conference line or e-platform session may be employed for this purpose.

2. The secretary of the Board should take roll call with each individual affirmatively identifying themselves prior to commencing the closed session.

3. If a closed session is held through a telephonic conference call a separate call-in line should be made available to ensure confidentiality.

4. For closed sessions during remote public meetings held through video conferencing, audio recording should be muted and video recording blocked by a graphic labeled “Executive Session”.

5. As with in-person meetings, the Board shall have read into the record the reason(s) for entering into executive session.

N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 et seq.

Adopted: April 22, 2021

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0165 VOTING

All Board of Education actions requiring a vote may be conducted by voice, show of hands, or roll call provided that the vote of each member is recorded in the minutes of the meeting. Proxy voting shall not be permitted.

Abstentions shall not be counted as votes but shall be recorded; a member who abstains from voting is deemed to acquiesce in the outcome of the vote.

All motions shall require for adoption the majority vote of Board members present and voting, except as provided by statutes of the State of New Jersey, this bylaw, or parliamentary authority and provided that the number of affirmative votes is at least a majority of the Board's quorum.

1. The affirmative votes of three-quarters of the members present are required for the conduct of a Board meeting when adequate notice has not been provided in accordance with law, N.J.S.A. 10:4-9;

2. A two-thirds vote of the full membership of the Board is required for:

    a. Bids that have been advertised pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4 on two occasions and;

        (1) No bids have been received on both occasions in response to the advertisement; or

        (2) The Board of Education has rejected such bids on two occasions because it has determined that they are not reasonable as to price, on the basis of cost estimates prepared for or by the Board of Education prior to the advertising therefore, or have not been independently arrived at in open competition; or

        (3) On one occasion no bids were received pursuant to #(1) and on one occasion all bids were rejected pursuant to #(2), in whatever sequence; any such contract may then be negotiated.

    b. Purchase of goods also available under State contract when the Board has received at least three quotations and the lowest responsible quotation is at least ten percent less than the price under the State contract for the identical goods and quantities, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5.e;

c. Determine that it is necessary, in a Type II school district having a Board of School Estimate, to sell bonds to raise money for any capital project, N.J.S.A. 18A:22-27; and

d. Sell bonds of a Type II district without further advertisement at private sale if no legally acceptable bid is received for the bonds pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:24-45.

3. A majority vote of the full membership of the Board is required for:

a. Admission after October 1 of a student who has never attended school, N.J.S.A. 18A:38-6;

b. Adoption or alteration of a course of study, N.J.S.A. 18A:33-l;

c. Application for membership in an established county audiovisual aid center, N.J.S.A. 18A:51-11;

d. Appointment of a Superintendent, N.J.S.A. 18A:17-15; School Business Administrator, N.J.S.A. 18A:17-14.1; Board Secretary, N.J.S.A. 18A:17-5; Assistant Board Secretary, N.J.S.A. 18A:17-13; Administrative Principals, N.J.S.A. 18A:17-20.5; and Shared Superintendent or School Business Administrator, N.J.S.A. 18A:17-24.3. Appointment and removal of Assistant Superintendent(s), N.J.S.A. 18A:17-16 and appointment, salary, and removal of Business Manager in Type I school district, N.J.S.A. 18A:17-25.

e. Appointment, transfer, removal and/or renewal of teaching/certificated and/or non-certificated staff members, N.J.S.A. 18A:25-1, 27-1;

f. Fix and determine, in a Type II district having no Board of School Estimate, the amount of money to be raised for budgets and capital construction, N.J.S.A. 18A:22-32, 22-39;

g. Approval of employee salary deductions for hospital and insurance plans and government bonds, N.J.S.A. 18A:16-8;

h. Authorization, in Type II school districts, of school bonds, N.J.S.A. 18A:24-10;

i. Decision to establish with other school districts a county audiovisual educational aid center, N.J.S.A. 18A:51-1;

j. Determination of sufficiency of charges warranting dismissal or reduction in salary of a tenured employee, N.J.S.A. 18A:6-11;

k. Disposition or exchange of lands owned by the Board, N.J.S.A. 18A:20-5, 20-8;

l. Purchase of bonds or other obligations as investments, N.J.S.A. 18A:20-37;

m. Removal of the President or Vice President of the Board, N.J.S.A. 18A:15-2;

n. Restoration or removal following suspension of an Assistant Superintendent, Principal, or teacher, N.J.S.A. 18A:25-6;

o. Selection of textbooks, N.J.S.A. 18A:34-1;

p. Withholding a salary increment, N.J.S.A. 18A:29-14;

q. Direct the Secretary of the Board to deduct salaries of employees to participate in any plan for the purchase of bonds of the United States government, N.J.S.A. 18A:16-8;

r. Appointment and salary of Executive Superintendent in district in city of the first class with a population over 325,000 have a unit control organizational structure.

4. A roll call vote of the Board is required for the following actions with the necessary vote is indicated:

	Issue	Required Vote
a.	Salary deductions for government bonds N.J.S.A. 18A:16-8	Majority of full Board

	Issue	Required Vote
b.	Appointment of a secretary of Board of Education; terms; compensation; vacancy N.J.S.A. 18A-17-5	Majority of full Board
c.	Assistant and acting secretaries; appointment, powers and duties N.J.S.A. 18A:17-13	Majority of full Board
d.	Appointment of Superintendents; terms; apportionment of expense N.J.S.A. 18A:17-15	Majority of full Board
e.	Appointment and removal of Assistant Superintendents N.J.S.A. 18A:17-16	Majority of full Board
f.	Appointment of Administrative Principals N.J.S.A. 18A:17-20.5	Majority of full Board
g.	Appointment of shared Superintendent, School Business Administrator; terms N.J.S.A. 18A:17-24.3	Majority of the membership of each Board
h.	Appointment; salary; removal of Business Managers N.J.S.A. 18A:17-25	Majority of full Board
i.	Unit control organizational structure; Executive Superintendent N.J.S.A. 18A:17A-1	Majority of full Board
j.	Disposition of property N.J.S.A. 18A:20-5	Majority of full Board
k.	Exchange of lands N.J.S.A. 18A:20-8	Majority of full Board

	Issue	Required Vote
l.	Type II districts with Board of School Estimate; determination; certification and raising of appropriations; notice of appeal N.J.S.A. 18A:22-26	Majority of full Board
m.	Type II districts with Boards of School Estimate; estimate by Board of Education; certification of estimate N.J.S.A. 18A:22-27	Two thirds of full membership of Board
n.	Determination of amounts by Board of School Estimate N.J.S.A. 18A:22-31	Board of School Estimate majority of full Board
o.	Type II districts without Board of School Estimate; determination and certification of appropriation N.J.S.A. 18A:22-32	Majority of full Board
p.	Type II districts without Board of School Estimate; submission of capital projects N.J.S.A. 18A:22-39	Majority of full Board
q.	School bonds, when deemed to be authorized Type II. N.J.S.A 18A:24-10	Majority of full Board
r.	Private sale if no bids at public sale N.J.S.A. 18A:24-45	Two thirds of full membership of Board
s.	Transfer of teaching staff member N.J.S.A. 18A:25-1	Majority of full Board
t.	Suspension of Assistant Superintendents, Principals and teaching staff members N.J.S.A. 18A:25-6	Majority of membership

	Issue	Required Vote
u.	Appointment of teaching staff members; vote required N.J.S.A. 18A:27-1	Majority of full Board
v.	Board of Education, procedure for certain personnel actions; recommendation of Chief School Administrator N.J.S.A. 18A:27-4.1	Majority of full Board
w.	Renewal of personnel N.J.S.A. 18A:27-4.1	Majority of full Board
x.	Withholding increments; causes notice of appeals N.J.S.A. 18A:29-14	Majority of full Board
y.	District to furnish suitable facilities; adoption of courses of study N.J.S.A. 18A:33-1	Majority of full Board
z.	Textbooks; selection; furnished free with supplies; appropriations N.J.S.A. 18A:34-1	Majority of full Board
aa.	Single county educational audiovisual aids center in county N.J.S.A. 18A:51-11	Majority of full membership

N.J.S.A. 10:4-14

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0166 EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

The Board of Education may meet in a private session only to discuss and act on issues exempted by law from the requirement that all Board meetings be public and only after the adoption at a public meeting of a resolution stating the general nature of the subject or subjects to be discussed and, as precisely as possible, the time when and circumstances under which the discussion conducted in private session can be disclosed to the public.

The Board may exclude the public only from that portion of a meeting at which the Board discusses:

1. Any matter that has been rendered confidential by express provision of Federal or State law or rule of court;

2. Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the Government of the United States;

3. Any material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of a student's privacy, including but not limited to records, data, reports, or recommendations relative to the student's personal and family circumstances, treatment, progress or condition, unless the adult student or the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) requests in writing that the same be disclosed publicly;

4. Any Collective Bargaining Agreement, or the terms and conditions that are proposed for inclusion in any Collective Bargaining Agreement, including the negotiation of the agreement with school district employees or representatives of employees;

5. Any matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds or the investment of public funds, where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;

6. Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public when their disclosure could impair such protection and any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

7. Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation other than as stated in #4 in which the Board is or may become a party and any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his/her ethical duties as a lawyer;

8. Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the Board, unless the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting, except that, regardless of the employee's request, the consideration and actions of the Board as to any tenure charge shall be conducted in private session;

9. Any deliberations occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of the responding party's certification as a result of an act or omission for which the responding party bears responsibility.

N.J.S.A. 10:4-12; 10:4-13
N.J.S.A. 18A:6-11

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0167 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

In order to permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board shall set aside a portion of every Board meeting, the length of the portion to be determined by the Board, for public comment on any school or school district issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the school district.

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules:

1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, municipality of residence, group affiliation, and nature of his/her remarks if applicable;

2. At the discretion of the Board President and if confirmed by a majority vote of the entire Board of Education, public remarks may be limited to a specific amount of time.

3. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard;

4. All statements, questions, or inquiries shall be directed to the presiding officer and any questions or inquiries directed by a participant to another Board member shall be redirected to the presiding officer who shall determine if such statement, question, or inquiry shall be addressed by the presiding officer on behalf of the Board or by the individual Board member;

5. The presiding officer may:

    a. Interrupt, warn, and/or terminate a participant's statement, question, or inquiry when it is too lengthy;

    b. Interrupt and/or warn a participant when the statement, question, or inquiry is abusive, obscene, or may be defamatory;

    c. Request any person to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;

d. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person prevents or disrupts a meeting with an act that obstructs or interferes with a meeting;

e. Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting; and

f. Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or to maintain an orderly operation of the Board meeting.

N.J.S.A. 2C:33-8
N.J.S.A. 10:4-12

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0168 RECORDING BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education directs the creation and maintenance of an official record of the formal proceedings of the Board and will permit the unofficial recording of Board meetings in accordance with this Bylaw.

Minutes

The Board shall keep reasonably comprehensible minutes of all its meetings showing the time and place, the members present, the subject considered, the actions taken, the vote of each member, information sufficient to explain the actions taken, and any other information required to be shown in the minutes by law.

Minutes of public meetings shall be public records signed by the Board Secretary and filed in the Board Secretary's office in a minute book as the permanent record of the acts of this Board.

Minutes of executive meetings shall be filed in the Board Secretary's office in a place separate from the minute book until the time, if any, when the proceedings may be made public. At that time, the minutes shall be public records and shall be filed in the regular minute book.

The Board Secretary shall provide each Board member with a copy of the minutes prior to Board approval.

Electronic Recording

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall make an audio tape recording of each Board meeting as an administrative aid in the preparation of minutes. The recording shall be retained forty-five days or until either summary or verbatim transcripts have been approved as minutes, whichever is longer, after which time they may be erased only if permission is granted by the New Jersey Department of State, Division of Archives and Record Management. All such recordings will be erased or destroyed in compliance with laws and rules for the destruction of public records.

The recording may not be able to be destroyed if a subject matter, vote, or Board action on the recording is the subject of litigation. The district will notify the New Jersey Division of Archives and Records Management when requesting permission that a recording be destroyed if the recording includes subject matter in litigation or the district will not request permission to destroy such recording if the subject matter is in litigation.

Recording by the Public

A member of the public may record the proceedings of a public meeting of the Board provided the audio or video recording process complies with reasonable guidelines as outlined in this Bylaw. These guidelines are adopted to ensure the recording of the public meeting does not interrupt the proceedings, inhibit the conduct of the meeting, or distract Board members or other observers present at the meeting.

The Board will permit the use of audio or video recording devices by members of the public to record public meetings.

Prior notice to audio or video record a public meeting is not required provided the person operates the recording device while sitting in the area designated by the Board for public seating. The recording of a meeting from this area shall not obstruct or distract any member of the public from observing and listening to the proceedings of the meeting. If the recording is obstructing the view or is distracting to members of the public, the presiding officer or designee will require the person recording the meeting to relocate to another area of the meeting room.

In the event a member of the public wants or needs to audio or video record a public meeting from an area other than the area designated for public seating, the person shall provide notice of such request to the Board Secretary in advance of the meeting. The Board Secretary or designee shall review the recording guidelines outlined in this Bylaw with the person requesting to record the meeting.

Any member of the public wanting to use a recording device from an area other than the area designated for public seating must be located and operated from inconspicuous locations in the meeting room as determined by the presiding officer or designee. Prior to the meeting, the presiding officer or designee will determine the location of each recording device so each video recording device can record the meeting with an unobstructed view and each audio recording device can record a meeting so the speakers and meeting proceedings can be properly recorded. The location of any recording device operated from an area other than the area designated for public seating will be in an area of the meeting room that is not distracting or obtrusive to Board members, members of the public, or the orderly operation of the meeting. Any recording device used outside the area designated for public seating shall be located within a similar distance from the Board as the public seating area. The presiding officer or designee shall determine when the number of recording devices used outside the area designated for public seating interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering recording device be removed or relocated.

Additional lighting shall not be used unless approved by the presiding officer or designee prior to the meeting. All recording devices and any related equipment must be battery operated or operational without the use of district electricity as the district will not permit such equipment to be connected to the school district's electrical service.

The presiding officer or designee shall determine if a recording device interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering device be relocated.

N.J.S.A. 10:4-14

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0169 BOARD MEMBER USE OF ELECTRONIC MAIL/INTERNET

The Board of Education is a public body as defined in the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., and the Board and its members are required to comply with the provisions of this Act. It is the right of the public to be present at meetings of public bodies and to witness in full all phases of the deliberations, policy formulation, and decision-making. Board members acknowledge certain discussions between Board members, other than during a Board meeting, may be subject to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

The Board of Education is also subject to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. The Open Public Records Act requires public agencies/School Boards to make certain governmental records subject to public access. Board members may, by written and/or electronic mail (e-mail), communicate with each other and with certain school staff regarding the school district's public business. All such electronic comments shall be through the school district's email system. "Public business" means and includes all matters that relate in any way, directly or indirectly, to the performance of the public body's functions or the conduct of its business. Board members acknowledge these written communications may be classified as a governmental record and may be subject to public access pursuant to the Open Public Records Act.

In order to ensure the Board and/or individual Board members comply with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act and the Open Public Records Act, the following guidance is provided regarding certain discussions and written communications regarding the public business:

1. Written letters, e-mails, and supporting documents regarding school district matters written by Board members to other Board members or written by Board members to school staff, unless the subject matter is specifically exempt under the Open Public Records Law, are governmental records and are subject to public access. Based on the potential for improper/inappropriate disclosure and/or breach of confidentiality that may compromise the Board or Board member, these communications should not involve confidential matters, especially any matter the Board may discuss in executive/private session outside the presence of the public pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

2. Written letters, internet (chat) discussions, e-mails, and supporting documents regarding the school district's public business written by Board members to other Board members shall not replace deliberations that would prevent the public from witnessing in full detail all phases of the Board's deliberations, policy formulation, and decision-making process in accordance with the intent of the Open Public Meetings Act.

3. Internet (chat) discussions between Board members regarding the school district's public business shall not include multiple Board members with the potential that a quorum of the Board may be involved, or become involved, in such discussion.

In the event a Board member(s) fails to comply with the guidance of this Policy, the matter shall be referred to the Board President, who will meet and/or discuss the matter and this Policy with the Board member(s). The Board President may request the Board Attorney participate in this meeting and/or discussion.

N.J.S.A. 10:6-4 et seq.
N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0169.02 BOARD MEMBER USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKS

In accordance with the School Ethics Act - N.J.S.A. 18A:12-21 et seq., Board of Education members must avoid conduct which is in violation of the public trust or which creates a justifiable impression among the public that such trust is being violated. To avoid conduct that may be in violation or perceived to be in violation of the School Ethics Act, the Board of Education adopts this Policy to provide guidance to Board members in their use of social networks.

For the purposes of this Policy, "social network(s)" shall include, but not be limited to: Internet blogs, electronic bulletin boards, emails, social networking websites, text messages, or any other online platform where people may post or communicate interests, opinions, or any other information that may be viewed by others with or without permission from the person making such post or re-publishing such post. "Social networks" also means an Internet-based service that allows individuals to: construct a public or semi-public profile within a bounded system created by the service; create a list of other users with whom they share a connection within the system; and view and navigate their list of connections and those made by others within the system.

For the purposes of this Policy, "use of a social network" shall include, but not be limited to: posting to a social network, reposting another person's post to a social network, messaging, or any other publication of material on a social network.

Nothing in this Policy prevents a Board of Education member from using a social network. However, a Board member must avoid conduct on a social network that would violate the School Ethics Act – N.J.S.A. 18A:12-21 et seq., which includes the Code of Ethics for Board Members. Board members should be advised communications, publications, photographs, and any other information posted by the Board member or reposted by the Board member on a social network could violate the School Ethics Act and be cause for sanctions in accordance with the law.

While this Policy respects the right of Board members to use social networks, Board members shall recognize they are held to a higher standard than the general public with regard to standards of conduct and ethics. A Board member's use of social networks shall not damage the reputation of the school district, employees, students, or their families. Board members who use social networks shall ensure their conduct is appropriate for a Board of Education member. Board members should exercise care in setting appropriate boundaries between their personal and public online behavior, understanding what is private in the digital world often has the possibility of becoming public, even without their knowledge or consent.

Board members should carefully review the privacy settings on social networks they use and exercise care and good judgment when posting content and information. When using social networks, Board members are advised to:

1. Not post anything that would violate any of the district's policies for Board members;

2. Uphold the district's value of respect for any individual(s) and avoid making defamatory statements about the Board of Education, the school district, employees, students, or their families;

3. Not disclose any confidential information about the school district or confidential information obtained as a result of being a Board member, about any individual(s) or organization, including students and/or their families;

4. Not use or refer to their Board of Education title or position when soliciting for a business organization that he or she or any immediate family member has an interest in, as well as posting or referencing any confidential information regarding the Board of Education or the school district obtained through their Board membership, unless authorized by law;

5. Refrain from having communications through social networks with other Board members regarding any Board of Education business to avoid any potential violation of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act;

6. Not respond to any postings regarding Board of Education or school district business or respond to any question or inquiry posted to the Board member or posted on any social network regarding Board of Education or school district business and shall refer any such questions or inquiries to the Superintendent to address, as appropriate; or

7. Not post any information on a social network determined by the New Jersey School Ethics Commission to be a violation of the New Jersey School Ethics Act.

A Board member shall comply with all Board policies regarding acceptable use of computers and computer networks whenever a Board member is using a Board of Education electronic device.

If the Board or Superintendent believes a Board member's activity on any social network may violate the Board's policies or the New Jersey School Ethics Act, the Board or Superintendent may request the Board member cease such activity.

This Policy has been developed and adopted by this Board to provide guidance and direction to a Board member to avoid actual and/or a perceived appearance of inappropriate conduct or conduct prohibited by the School Ethics Act while using social networks.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-21 et seq.
N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0171 DUTIES OF BOARD PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

President

A President shall be elected by a roll call majority vote of the full Board at the annual organization meeting.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board and shall perform other duties as directed by statute, State Department of Education regulations, and the Board of Education. In carrying out these responsibilities, the President shall:

- Sign the instruments, acts, and orders necessary to carry out State requirements and the will of the Board of Education;
- Consult with the Superintendent on the Board's agendas;
- Appoint Board committees and chairpersons;
- Call such meetings of the Board as he/she may deem necessary upon at least two days' notice in accordance with law;
- Be an ex officio member of all Board committees;
- Confer with the Superintendent on crucial matters that may occur between Board meetings;
- Approve all bills for expenses or charges incurred with the authority of the Board including expenses of individual Board members.

As presiding officer at all meetings of the Board, the President shall:

- Call the meeting to order at the appointed time;
- Be responsible for the orderly conduct of all Board meetings;
- Announce the business to come before the Board in its proper order;
- Enforce the Board's policies relating to the order of business and the conduct of meetings;
- Recognize persons who desire to speak and protect the speaker who has the floor from disturbance or interference;

- Explain what the effect of a motion would be if it is not clear to every member;
- Restrict discussion to the question when a motion is before the Board;
- Answer all parliamentary inquiries, referring questions of law to the Board Attorney.

The President shall have the right, as other Board members have, to offer resolutions, discuss questions and vote.

Vice President

A Vice President shall be elected by a roll call majority vote of the full Board at the organizational meeting.

In case of the absence or disability of the President, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President. In case of absence or disability of both the President and Vice President, the Board shall choose a President pro-tempore, who shall perform all the duties of the President.

In case of the resignation or removal of the President, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President until such time as the Board conducts a special election to name a new President. This election should take place at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

The Vice President's name shall appear on all signature cards.

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0172 DUTIES OF TREASURER OF SCHOOL MONIES

The Treasurer of School Monies of each school district shall be the Treasurer of the monies of the municipality unless the Board of Education shall designate the tax collector of the municipality as such Treasurer provided. However, if both the Treasurer of the municipality and the tax collector of the municipality submit written notifications to the Board that they do not want to serve as Treasurer of School Monies, the Board shall appoint any other suitable person except a member or employee of the Board, with a term of office fixed by the Board as such Treasurer.

The municipality has no control over the monies belonging to the school district and in the hands of the Treasurer.

The Board of Education shall provide a surety bond in the amount prescribed in N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.5 for the Treasurer. The auditor shall verify the adequacy of the Treasurer's surety bond which is required by N.J.S.A. 18A:17-32, and shall include appropriate comment, and a recommendation, if needed, in the annual school report.

The Treasurer shall receive from the Board of Education such compensation as the Board shall determine.

The money or funds of the Board in the custody of its Treasurer of School Monies shall be expended by such Treasurer by, and only by, warrants, each made payable to the order of the person entitled to receive the amount thereof and specifying the object for which it is issued, signed by the President and Secretary of the Board, and the Treasurer of School Monies:

1. After audit of the account or demand to be paid, by the secretary after approval by the Board, or

2. In accordance with payrolls duly certified as provided by this title,

3. For debt service.

Payment of the compensation of teachers and other employees may be made on the basis of payrolls certified by the President and Secretary of the Board, stating the names and amounts to be paid to each, and delivered to the Treasurer of School Monies.

The Treasurer shall keep records of sums received and paid on books provided for that purpose.

The Treasurer shall render to the Board monthly, and at such other times as shall be requested by the Board, reports giving a detailed account of all receipts, the amounts of all warrants signed by him/her since the date of his/her last report, the accounts against which, and the purposes for which, the warrants were drawn and the balance to the credit of each account. At the close of the school year and not later than August 1st of each year he/she shall render an annual report showing the amounts received and disbursed by him/her for school purposes during said year. A duplicate whereof shall be filed with the Executive County Superintendent in the manner and form prescribed by the Commissioner.

Adopted: 25 October 2018

See POLICY ALERT No. 235

0173 DUTIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT

The Board of Education shall cause an audit of the annual financial statements to be made pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1 et seq., and shall engage, to conduct the annual audit, only a licensed public school accountant who has an external peer/quality report performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards (Yellow Book) by the Comptroller General of the United States (U.S. Government Printing Office, Stop SSOP, Washington, DC 20402-0001). The Board shall ensure that the external peer/quality report is completed within the time established the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States unless the accountant or firm can show good cause as to why there is a delay.

The Board shall require the submission of the most recent external peer/quality report and letter of comment to the Board for review and evaluation prior to each appointment of a licensed public school accountant to conduct the annual audit in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)2.

The Board shall acknowledge the receipt, review, and evaluation of the external peer/quality report in the public session and Board minutes in which the Board authorizes the engagement of the accountant or firm to perform the audit in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)2.i.

The Board shall require the submission of an updated external peer/quality report of the engaged licensed public school accountant, within thirty days after the issuance date of the external peer/quality report if such report is issued prior to the date of the audit opinion for the most recent fiscal year in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)2.ii.

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In accordance with NJOMB Circular Letter 15-08, Single Audit Policy for Recipients of Federal Grants, State Grants, and State Aid, including any amendments or revisions thereto, the Board shall ensure the public school accountant provides a copy of the most recent external peer/quality report to the New Jersey Department of Education, within thirty days after the initial engagement of a licensed public school accountant or firm and within thirty days after the issuance of a subsequent peer/quality report in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)2.iii.

The Board shall engage a public school accountant during the audit engagement period for non-auditing, management, or other consulting services only if the services comply with the independence standards as established in Government Auditing Standards (Yellow Book) by the Comptroller General of the United States in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)3.

The Commissioner of Education may prohibit, for good cause, the Board from engaging a particular licensed public school accountant, or may direct the use of a process for the appointment of a licensed public school accountant pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)4.

The public school accountant shall ~~will~~ complete the annual audit as required by the New Jersey Department of Education and N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1. Each annual audit shall include an audit of the books, accounts and moneys, and a verification of all cash and bank balances, of the Board and of any officer or employee thereof and of moneys derived from athletic events or the activities of any organization of public school students conducted under the auspices of the Board, from the date of the last annual audit to the date of the audit in question. Such audit shall also include a determination of the extent to which the district has used contracts entered into by the State Division of Purchase and Property pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:25-16.1 et seq. in the purchase of materials, supplies, or equipment for the district in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:23-2. The report of each annual audit shall be completed in accordance with the time requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1 and shall be filed by the public school accountant in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:23.3.

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The Board Secretary shall prepare or have prepared a synopsis or summary of the annual audit and recommendations, prior to the holding of the meeting of the Board to take action thereon; a copy of which synopsis or summary shall be available for distribution to interested parties at the meeting in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:23-4. Within thirty days following the receipt of the report of the annual audit the Board shall, at a regularly scheduled public meeting, cause the recommendations of the auditor to be read and to be discussed and the discussion duly noted on the Board meeting minutes in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:23-5.

N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1 et seq.
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2

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Revised: September 18, 2025

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See POLICY ALERT No. 235

0174 LEGAL SERVICES

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2, the Board of Education adopts this Policy and its strategies to minimize the cost of legal services.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent of Schools,

[select designated contact person(s) below]

_X_ Superintendent of Schools' designee

_X_ School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

__ Board President

__ other_____

__ other_____

as designated contact person(s) to request services or advice from contracted legal counsel.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)2, the Board shall designates an administrative staff member to review all legal bills and confer with designated contact person(s) to ensure the prudent use of legal services and the tracking of the use of those services.

In the event the school district's legal costs exceed one hundred thirty percent of the Statewide average per student amount, the procedures established in 1., 2., 3., and 4. below shall be implemented and, if not implemented, the district shall provide evidence the procedures established in 1., 2., 3., and 4. below would not result in a reduction of costs:

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1. The designated contact person(s) shall ensure that contracted legal counsel is not contacted unnecessarily for management decisions or readily available information contained in district materials such as Board policies, administrative regulations, or guidance available through professional source materials.

2. All requests for legal advice shall be made to the designated contact person(s) in writing and shall be maintained on file in the district offices. The designated contact person(s) shall determine whether the request warrants legal advice or if legal advice is necessary.

3. The designated contact person(s) shall maintain a log of all legal counsel contact including the name of the legal counsel contacted, date of the contact, issue discussed, and length of contact.

4. All written requests for legal advice and logs of legal counsel contacts shall be forwarded to the designated contact person(s) who shall be responsible to review all legal bills and compare all legal bills to the contact logs and to investigate and resolve any variances.

Any professional services contract(s) for legal services shall prohibit advance payments. Services to be provided shall be described in detail in the contract and invoices for payment shall itemize the legal services provided for the billing period. Payments to legal counsel(s) shall only be for legal services actually provided in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)4.

School districts and county vocational school districts shall not contract with legal counsel or use in-house legal counsel to pursue any affirmative claim or cause of action on behalf of district administrators and/or any individual Board member(s) for any claim or cause of action in which the damages to be awarded would benefit an individual rather than the school district as a whole in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(b).

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BYLAW GUIDE

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)1., the Board will annually establish prior to budget preparation, a maximum dollar limit for legal services. In the event it becomes necessary to exceed the established maximum dollar limit for legal services, the Superintendent shall recommend to the Board an increase in the maximum dollar amount. Any increase in the maximum dollar amount shall require formal Board action.

Contracts for legal services will be issued by the Board in a deliberative and efficient manner that ensures the district receives the highest quality services at a fair and competitive price or through a shared service arrangement. This may include, but is not limited to, issuance of such contracts through a Request for Proposals (RFP) based on cost and other specified factors or other comparable processes in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)5. Contracts for legal services shall be limited to non-recurring or specialized work for which the district does not possess adequate in-house resources or in-house expertise to conduct in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)6.

N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2

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0175 CONTRACTS WITH INDEPENDENT CONSULTANTS

In order to pursue its educational mission and to protect the public's financial investment in the schools, the Board may, from time to time, engage the services of qualified professional consultants to provide new insights and ideas for dealing with especially difficult problems and/or to provide special services that the staff is unable to provide.

The Board will not contract for vague services such as undefined "management studies," and all proposals will be submitted to the school solicitor for review before a contract for consulting services is signed. The Superintendent will establish procedures necessary for an efficient working relationship between the consultant and the Board and/or staff members.

Professional services contracts shall be issued in a deliberative and efficient manner such as through a Request For Proposal (RFP) based on cost and other specified factors or another comparable process that ensures the district receives the highest quality services at a fair and competitive price or through a shared service arrangement.

Professional services contracts shall be limited to non-recurring or specialized work for which the district does not possess adequate in-house resources or in-house expertise to conduct.

District employees and individual Board members are prohibited from contracting with consultants without the written approval of the Board of Education.

The Board shall fix compensation for consultant services.

Adopted: 25 October 2018

0176 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND CONTRACT APPROVAL/RATIFICATION

The Board recognizes a Board member and/or a member of his/her immediate family may be a member of, or salary is determined by, a labor bargaining unit, professional association and/or union that has an affiliation with a bargaining unit, professional organization and/or union within the school district. The Board member does not automatically violate N.J.S.A. 18A:24 by voting to approve and/or ratify this contract solely on the basis of his/her status or that of an immediate family member with respect to membership or representation by a different local affiliate of the same Statewide association with whom the agreement is made provided the Board member's involvement with such local affiliate has not or appears to have not compromised the member's objectivity or independence of judgment.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24, the Board member shall not participate in the collective bargaining process and/or serve on the negotiations committee representing the Board with this unit, association, and/or union. The Board member may be apprised of the terms of a tentative memorandum of agreement with this unit, association, and/or union in closed and/or open session only after a tentative memorandum of agreement has been reached. The Board member may vote during the public meeting to approve and/or ratify a contract with this bargaining unit, professional association and/or union.

The Board member shall not participate in any aspect of negotiations and/or vote to approve/ratify a tentative memorandum of agreement/contract ratification if the Board member has an immediate family who is a member of the bargaining unit, professional association and/or union within the school district. Under this circumstance, the Board member may only vote in the event the school Board attorney advises the Board the Doctrine of Necessity must be invoked in accordance with Policy No. 0163.

In addition, the School Ethics Commission Decision A16-00 states a Board member may not participate in any aspect of negotiations and/or vote to approve/ratify a tentative memorandum of agreement/contract ratification if the Board member has a "relative" who is a member of the bargaining unit, professional association and/or union within the school district. Under this circumstance, the Board member may only vote in the event the school Board attorney advises the Board the Doctrine of Necessity must be invoked in accordance with Policy No. 0163.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-21 et. seq.
New Jersey School Ethics Commission Advisory Opinion A02-00 and A16-00
Commissioner of Education Decision - In the Matter of Bruce White, Ewing Township Board of Education, Mercer County - June 1, 2000
New Jersey State Board of Education Decision - In the Matter of Frank Pannucci, Board of Education of Brick Township, Ocean County - March 3, 2000

Adopted: 25 October 2018

See POLICY ALERT No. 235

0177 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2, the Board of Education adopts this Policy and its strategies to minimize the cost of professional services.

The Board shall establish a maximum dollar limit, annually prior to budget preparation, for each type of professional service, with appropriate notification to the Board if it becomes necessary to exceed the maximum. Upon such notification, the Board may adopt a dollar increase in the maximum amount through formal Board action in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)1.

Contracts for professional services will be issued by the Board in a deliberative and efficient manner that ensures the district receives the highest quality services at a fair and competitive price or through a shared service arrangement. This may include, but is not limited to, issuance of such contracts through a Request for Proposals (RFP) based on cost and other specified factors or other comparable processes. and professional services contracts are limited to non-recurring or specialized work for which the district does not possess adequate in-house resources or in-house expertise to conduct in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)5. and 6.

Nothing in this Policy or N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2 shall preclude the Board from complying with the requirements of any statute, administrative code, or regulation for the award of professional services contracts.

N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2

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