*Policy*

# *ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS*

Code BEDM Issued 11/26

The board may allow its members to participate by electronic means of communication such as telephone or video teleconferencing in the board's public meetings, provided such participation is not disruptive to the proceedings. This allowance will be made only in exceptional circumstances (e.g. special medical and/or travel situations, military service, or job restraints). A board member participating via electronic means pursuant to this policy is considered present at the board meeting, is counted for quorum purposes, and may vote on any matter.

Board members participating electronically will be able to simultaneously hear and speak to the full board during the meeting and will be audible or otherwise discernable to the public in attendance at the meeting's location. No meeting will be conducted by electronic mail or any other form of communication that does not permit the public to hear all discussion.

Board members wishing to participate electronically under such exceptional circumstances must provide reasonable and appropriate notice to the board chair or superintendent, who will make the necessary arrangements, time permitting.

Electronic participation by telephone or video teleconferencing in the board's executive session is disfavored and will only be allowed by majority vote of the board at a particular meeting. Such vote will be recorded in the meeting minutes. Board members participating electronically will be able to simultaneously hear and speak to the full board during executive session. The board member attending and participating by electronic means will ensure confidentiality is maintained during executive session.

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

Adopted ^11/26