

Bylaws of the Board

Limits of Board Member's Authority

The Board of Education recognizes that the Board is the unit of authority over the District and that a Board member has no individual authority. Board members shall hold the education of students above any partisan principle, group interest, or personal interest.

Unless agreed to by the Board as a whole, individual members of the Board shall not exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the schools or command the services of any school employee. Individual Board members shall submit requests for information to the Superintendent. Board members shall refer Board-related correspondence to the Superintendent for forwarding to the Board or for placement on the Board's agenda, as appropriate.

Individual Board members do not have the authority to resolve complaints. Any Board member approached directly by a person with a complaint should refer the complainant to the Superintendent or designee so that the problem may receive proper consideration and be handled through the appropriate District process.

Individually, the Board member may not commit the District to any policy, act or expenditure. The Board member cannot do business with the District, nor should the Board member have an interest in any contract with the school District. The Board member represents and acts for the community as a whole.

A Board member whose child is attending a District school should be aware of his/her role as a Board member when interacting with District employees about his/her child. Because his/her position as a Board member may inhibit the performance of school personnel, the Board member should inform the Superintendent or designee before volunteering in his/her child's classroom.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of the Brown Act to each Board member. Board members and Board members-elect who have not yet assumed office are responsible for complying with the requirements of the Brown Act. (Government Code 54952.1)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination
- 7054 Use of District property
- 35010 Control of District; prescription and enforcement of rules
- 35100-31351 Governing boards
- 35160-35184 Powers and duties
- 35291 Rules
- 35292 Visits to schools (board members)
- 51101 Rights of parents/guardians

GOVERNMENT CODE

- 54950-54962 The Ralph M. Brown Act,
- 54952.1 Member of a legislative body of a local agency
- 54952.7 Copies of chapter to members of legislative body