

Bylaws of the Board

BB 9200

MEMBERS**Limits of Board Members Authority**

The Governing Board is the unit of authority over the district. It has broad but clearly limited powers. The exercise of its authority is restricted to the functions required or permitted by law, and then only when it acts in a legally constituted meeting.

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

Board members have no individual authority. Individually-Board members may not commit the district to any policy, act or expenditure. Board members, individually or collectively, cannot do business with the district served, nor should Board members have an interest in any contract with the school district. Board members must excuse themselves for any vote where a conflict, including business or personal matters might be considered a Brown Act violation. Board members represent and act for the community as a whole and do not represent any fractional segment of the community.

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Individual members of the Board, by virtue of holding office, shall not exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the schools or direct the services of any school employee. Board members, individually and as a whole, shall direct requests for information to the Superintendent or Board President. At his/her discretion, the Superintendent may refer the request to the entire Board for consideration. If approved, the Superintendent or designee shall perform any necessary research associated with the request and report to the Board at a future meeting.

(cf. 9005 – Governance Standards)

(cf. 1340 – Access to District Records)

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

Because his/her position as a Board member may inhibit the performance of school personnel, a Board member shall inform the Superintendent before volunteering in his/her own child's classroom.

Obligations of Board Members

Board members shall hold the education of students above any partisan principle, group interest, or personal interest.

Board members should understand their role and the programs offered by the district. They should study all agenda materials before the meeting, participate in the discussion of items that come before the

Board, vote on motions and resolutions, and abstain only for compelling reasons.

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

(cf. 9271 - Code of Ethics)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

BB 9200 (b)

MEMBERS (continued)

Board members shall refer Board-related correspondence to the Superintendent or designee for forwarding to the Board or for placement on the Board's agenda, as appropriate.

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

Board members and persons elected to the Board are responsible for complying with the requirements of the state's open meeting laws.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of the Brown Act to each Board member and to anyone who is elected to the Board and who has not yet assumed office.

Board members and persons elected to the Board who have not yet assumed office are responsible for complying with the requirements of the state's open meeting laws. (Government Code 54952.1)

(cf. 9270 – Conflict of Interest)

(cf. 9323 – Meeting Conduct)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 7054 *Use of district property*
- 35010 *Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules*
- 35100-35351 *Governing boards - esp.*
- 35160-35184 *Powers and duties*
- 35230-35240 *Corrupt practices*
- 35291 *Rules*
- 35292 *Visits to schools (Board members)*

GOVERNMENT CODE

- 54952.1 *Member of a legislative body of a local agency*
- 54952.7 *Copies of chapter to members of legislative body*
- 54959 *Penalty for unlawful meetings*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardmanship, 1996

WEB SITES

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

Bylaw
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Bylaw
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CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Culver City, California