

BOARD TRAINING

The Governing Board believes that the Board's ability to effectively and responsibly govern the district is essential to promoting student achievement, building positive community relations, and protecting the public interest in district schools. Board members shall be provided sufficient opportunities for professional development that helps them understand their responsibilities, stay abreast of new developments in education, and develop boardsmanship skills.

The Board and/or the Superintendent or designee shall provide an orientation to newly elected or appointed Board members which includes comprehensive information regarding Board roles, policies, and procedures and the district's vision and goals, operations, and current challenges. Throughout their first term, Board members shall continue to participate in additional educational opportunities designed to assist them in understanding the principles of effective governance, including, but not limited to, information on school finance and budgets, student achievement and assessment, labor relations, community relations, program evaluation, open meeting laws (the Brown Act), conflict of interest laws, and other topics necessary to govern effectively and in compliance with law.

All Board members are encouraged to continuously participate in advanced training offered by the California School Boards Association in order to reinforce boardsmanship skills and build knowledge related to key education issues. Such activities may include online courses, webinars, webcasts, and in-person attendance at workshops and conferences. In addition, workshops and consultations may be held within the district on issues that involve the entire governance team.

Funds for board training shall be budgeted annually for the Board and each Board member. In selecting appropriate activities, the Board and/or individual Board members shall consider activities that are aligned with the district's vision and goals and the needs of the Board or individual member to obtain specific knowledge and skills. The Board shall annually develop a board training calendar in order to schedule and track board training activities and to schedule opportunities for Board members to report on the activities in which they participated. Board members may attend up to two conferences each year, with the CSBA Annual Education Conference and related training opportunities not included in this limit. If additional training is required for a Board member in connection with an assigned committee or delegate role, such training will not count towards the annual conference limit.

Board members may attend a conference or similar public gathering with other Board members and/or with the Superintendent or designee in order to develop common knowledge and understanding of an issue or engage in team-building exercises. In such cases, a majority of the Board members shall not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled program, business of a specified nature that is within the district's jurisdiction, so as not to violate the Brown Act open meeting laws pursuant to Government Code 54952.2.

BOARD TRAINING (continued)

Board members shall report to the Board, orally or in writing, on the board training activities they attend, for the purpose of sharing the acquired knowledge or skills with the full Board and enlarging the benefit of the activity to the Board and district.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

Gov. Code 54950-54963
Gov. Code 54952.2

Description

The Ralph M. Brown Act
Meeting; defined

Management Resources References

CSBA Publication
Website
Website
Website
Website

Description

Professional Governance Standards for School Boards
[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)
[California County Boards of Education](#)
[National School Boards Association](#)
[CSBA](#)

Cross References

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Description

Vision
Philosophy
Goals for the School District
Media Relations
Superintendent Governance Standards
Evaluation of the Superintendent
Budget
Concepts and Roles
Role of the Board
Governance Standards
Organization
President
Student Board Members
Governing Board Elections
Orientation
Remuneration, Reimbursement and other Benefits
Remuneration, Reimbursement and other Benefits
Board Self-Evaluation

Bylaw
adopted: May 10, 1994
Revised: March 7, 2023
Revised: September 3, 2024

EL RANCHO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Pico Rivera, California