

MODESTO CITY SCHOOLS

Board Bylaw

BB 9240

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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/professional development offered by the California School Boards Association, or other professional organizations whose primary purpose is to provide training in strategies that support equitable outcomes for all students. All professional development/advanced training must reinforce building boardsmanship skills and/or the building of knowledge related to key education issues, and be aligned to the District vision and strategic goals. 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. Funding will include costs for all board members to participate in the annual CSBA conference, CSBA Masters in Governance, and one additional

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conference, subject to Board approval. 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 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 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.

Legal References:

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act

54952.2 Meeting

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATION

Professional Governance Standards for School Boards

WEB SITES

CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services: <https://legalservices.csba.org/>

California County Boards of Education: <http://www.theccbe.org>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

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

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Cross References:

0000 – Vision (N/A)
0100 - Philosophy
0200 – Goals for the School District (N/A)
1112 – Media Relations
2111 – Superintendent Governance Standards (N/A)
2140 – Evaluation of the Superintendent (N/A)
3100 – Budget (N/A)
6000 – Concepts and Roles
9000 – Role of the Board
9005 – Governance Standards
9100 – Organization
9121 – President
9150 – Student Board Members
9220 – Governing Board Elections (N/A)
9220 – Resolution Establishing Trustee Areas
9230 – Orientation (N/A)
9250 – Remuneration, Reimbursement, and Other Benefits
9320 – Meetings and Notices
9400 – Board Self-Evaluation (N/A)

ADOPTED: September 9, 2019
REVISED: April 1, 2023