

**BOARD MEMBER
COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES**

Policy Code: 2130

COMPENSATION

In order to bring compensation in alignment with other governmental agencies, beginning the 2015-16 school year Martin County Board of Education will be compensated 55% of the compensation for Martin County Board of County Commissioners. Future increases will be based upon county commissioners pay increase.

Accordingly, members of the Martin County Board of Education shall be compensated once monthly according to the following schedule for services rendered:

1. The Chair: Equivalent to 55% of monthly compensation for Chair of Martin County Commissioners
2. Each other Board Member: Equivalent to 55% of monthly compensation of members of Martin County Commissioners
3. In addition, for attending two (2) or more board meetings per month, whether a regular, special or emergency meeting or board work session, compensation for such attendance shall be as follows:
 - a. Chair: Equivalent to 30% of monthly compensation for Chair of Martin County Commissioners
 - b. Each other Board Member: Equivalent to 30% of monthly compensation of members of Martin County Commissioners

REIMBURSEMENT

For training purposes, each member will be allotted 1/7th of a budgeted amount per fiscal year per member. Allotted monies not used by a member may be used by other members seeking to attend additional conferences or workshops; however, the total amount of the yearly budgeted funds may be increased or reduced as the local budget dictate.

The out of pocket reimbursable expenses incurred will be paid for mileage, lodging and meals. Requests for reimbursement will be submitted within thirty (30) days of incurring the expense.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-38; 153A-92

Cross References: Martin County Board of Commissioners' action on the Martin County School Board Member Compensation and Expenses Policy on 11/12/2014 (attached)

Revised: November 3, 2014; May 1, 2017

Martin County School Board Pay

Martin County Schools Superintendent Ron Melchiorre could not attend the County Commissioners' meeting because of a scheduling conflict. On behalf of the School Superintendent, County Manager Bone explained that the Martin County Board of Education has been updating several policies over the last few months, including a policy concerning School Board Member Compensation and Expenses. The School Board passed its compensation policy on its third reading on November 3, 2014.

As per NC General Statute 115C-38, the Board of Commissioners may, under the procedures of G.S. 153A-92, "fix the compensation and expense allowances paid members of the board of education..."

Therefore, the Martin County Board of Commissioners was being asked to approve the revised compensation schedule, as approved by the Martin County Board of Education. Currently, Martin County School Board Members earn \$350 per month, and the Board Chair earns \$400 per month.

The Board of Education was asking for approval of a compensation formula based on 55% of the salary of a County Commissioner and the Chairman of the County Commissioners. Such an adjustment would increase the base pay rate of School Board Members to \$365.52 per month and the base pay rate of the School Board Chair to \$412.70 per month, an increase of \$15.52 and \$12.70 respectively.

The proposed policy also would include a new compensation supplement if the School Board Member attended two or more meetings or work sessions per month. In this situation, the School Board Member would receive an additional 30% compensation (\$199.37 for School Board Members and \$225.11 for the Chair) for that month.

Vice Chairman Smith suggested being the School Board had not had a raise in many years and to bring their salaries in line with other school boards, the School Board should have asked that the compensation be increased to the equivalent to 85% of the County Commissioners' salary or \$564.89 for School Board Members and \$637.81 for the School Board Chair per month.

After some discussion, Commissioner Lilley made the MOTION to approve the Martin County School Board Member Compensation and Expenses Policy request, as presented, with a SECOND by Commissioner Bond. The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

I, Marion B. Thompson, Clerk to the Martin County Board of Commissioners, certify that the above agenda item was approved by the Board at a regular meeting held on November 12, 2014.

Marion B. Thompson
Marion B. Thompson, Clerk to the Board

7/21/2015
Date

