

Bylaw 9240: Board Training

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 12/01/1987 | **Last Revised Date:** 05/11/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 05/11/2022

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 participate in mandatory ethics training, as outlined below, and are encouraged to participate in ongoing ~~be provided sufficient~~ opportunities for professional development sufficient to help ~~that helps~~ them understand their responsibilities, stay abreast of new developments in education, and improve ~~develop boardsmanship~~ governance skills.

Unless a Board member's term expires prior to January 1, 2026, each Board member shall complete ethics training in accordance with Government Code 53234-53235.2 by January 1, 2026 and at least once every two years thereafter. (Government Code 53235).

Once completed, the Board member shall inform the Board president and Superintendent, who shall ensure that records are retained for each Board member's participation in the required ethics training.

The Board president and/or the Superintendent or designee shall provide an orientation to newly elected or appointed Board members consistent with Board Bylaw 9230 - Orientation. ~~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~~

The Board president shall work with the Superintendent or designer to include funds for professional development and associate reasonable travel expenses for the Board as a whole and for each Board member in the district's proposed annual budget.

Consistent with the availability of funds in the district's adopted annual budget, the Board president or designer may ~~shall~~ annually develop, and bring to the Board for adoption at a Board meeting, a Board professional development calendar designed to assist the Board as a whole 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.~~

Consistent with the availability of funds in the district's adopted annual budget, individual Board members may identify and participate in additional professional development opportunities, and shall timely inform the Board president and the Superintendent upon doing so. Additionally, the Superintendent or designer shall establish timelines and procedures for how an individual Board member shall request that the district pay for such professional development opportunities, whether in advance or by reimbursement.

Board members are encouraged to consider participating in the professional development opportunities offered by CSBA such as the Institute for New and First-Term Board Members, Masters in Governance Program, Annual Education Conference and Trade Show, Legal symposium for Experienced Board Members, Board Presidents Workshop, Brown Act Workshop, Policy Update Webinars, and Ethics Trainings.

Individual Board members are encouraged to share the knowledge or skills acquired from individual professional development opportunities with the full Board, thereby benefiting the Board and district.

Consistent with Board Bylaw 9320 - Meetings and Notices, Board members may attend a professional development opportunity as part of 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 as the Annual Education Conference and Trade Show hosted by CSBA, so long as cases, a majority of the Board members do 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.
