

BOARD TRAINING/MEMBERSHIPS

Board Members, like teachers and administrators, need in-service training. The public entrusts the Board with the governance of its schools. As part of their job, Board Members need to participate in professional development activities that help them understand their responsibilities, stay abreast of new developments in education, and learn new ways to cope effectively with the problems they confront. Such activities include online courses, webinars, webcasts, and in-person attendance at workshops and conferences, such as those offered by the California School Boards Association.

Board members are strongly encouraged to attend one or more Board development activities each year. 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 are strongly encouraged to participate in additional educational opportunities designed to assist them in understanding the principals 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.

Funds for Board training shall be budgeted annually for the Board and each Board member. In selecting appropriate activities and/or memberships, 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. Board members may select up to three memberships of their choosing as additional educational opportunities to understand their roles as members of the Governing Board, not to exceed a total of \$2,000 per member per year.

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.

Legal Reference (see next page):

Board Training/Memberships (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33360 Department of Education and statewide association of school district boards

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:

54952.2 Meeting

Bylaw

adopted: 09/24/1991

Revised: 03/14/2017

WEST COVINA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

West Covina, California