

Bylaw 9200: Limits Of Board Member Authority

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 04/12/2017 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 06/18/2026

The Governing Board recognizes that the Board is the unit of authority over the district and expects individual Board members to conduct themselves in accordance with Board Bylaw 9000 - Role of the Board and Board Bylaw 9005 - Governance Standards.

Unless agreed to by the Board as a whole, an individual Board member possesses no authority to direct staff, represent the Board or the district, or exercise administrative responsibility with respect to the schools.

Additionally, individual Board members do not have the authority to investigate, resolve, or otherwise actively engage with community members with respect to complaints, personnel or student matters, or legal issues. Any Board member who receives a communication regarding such a topic shall forward the communication to or otherwise inform the Superintendent or Board president, as appropriate, who shall respond or otherwise follow-up, as needed. The Board member shall not respond substantively to the communication beyond acknowledging receipt and explaining the limits of the Board member's authority. It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent or Board president to inform the Board or place the topic on a future Board agenda.

Individual Board members are permitted to engage with community members, including responding to general inquiries or expressions of opinion. Such engagement shall be consistent with Board policies and bylaws such as Board Bylaw 9010 - Public Statements and Board Bylaw 9012 - Board Member Electronic Communications, and may not purport to represent the position of the Board.

Requests for information by an individual Board member shall be submitted to the Superintendent.

A Board member may observe and/or volunteer in a school or classroom, including in the school or classroom in which the Board member's child is enrolled, in accordance with Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 1240— Volunteer Assistance and Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities. Prior to observing or volunteering, a Board member shall inform the Superintendent. Additionally, a Board member who is present on district property or at district programs or activities is expected to be aware of the role and limits on authority as a Board member.

A Board member who chooses to observe or volunteer shall do so in a manner that does not disrupt school operations. Any questions or concerns regarding operational or personnel matters shall be directed to the Superintendent or designee. Any questions or concerns specific to the Board member's child may be directed to appropriate site staff. If a question or concern is both specific to the Board member's child and involves operational or personnel matters, the Board member shall collaborate with the Superintendent or designee to determine whether the Board member shall direct the question or concern to site staff or whether the responsibility to investigate or resolve the question or concern, if necessary, lies with the Superintendent or designee.

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 Governing Board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
Ed. Code 200-262.4	Prohibition of discrimination
Ed. Code 35010	Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules
Ed. Code 35100-35351	Governing boards
Ed. Code 35160-35178.4	Powers and duties
Ed. Code 35291	Rules prescribed by governing board
Ed. Code 35292	Board member visits to schools
Ed. Code 51101	Rights of parents/guardians
Ed. Code 7054	Use of district property; campaign purposes
Gov. Code 54950-54963	The Ralph M. Brown Act

State

Gov. Code 54952.1

Gov. Code 54952.7

Description

[Member of a legislative body of a local agency](#)

[Copies of chapter to members of legislative body](#)

Management Resources

CSBA Publication

Website

Website

Description

[Professional Governance Standards](#)

[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)

[CSBA](#)

Cross References

1160

[Political Processes](#)

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[Volunteer Assistance](#)

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[Volunteer Assistance](#)

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[Complaints Concerning District Employees](#)

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[Complaints Concerning District Employees](#)

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[Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials](#)

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[Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures](#)

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[Access To District Records](#)

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[Parent Rights And Responsibilities](#)

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[Procedural Safeguards And Complaints For Special Education](#)

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[Role Of The Board](#)

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