

**Bylaw 9200: Limits Of Board Member Authority**

**Status:** ADOPTED

**Original Adopted Date:** 09/20/2001 | **Last Revised Date:** 06/17/2004 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 06/17/2004

The Governing Board recognizes that the Board is the unit of authority over the district and that a Board member has no individual authority. Board members shall hold the education of students above any partisan principle, group interest, or personal interest.

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Unless agreed to by the Board as a whole, individual members of the Board shall not exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the schools or command the services of any school employee. Individual Board members shall submit requests for information to the Superintendent. Board members shall refer Board-related correspondence to the Superintendent for forwarding to the Board or for placement on the Board's agenda, as appropriate.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

(cf. 4112.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

A Board member whose child is attending a district school should be aware of his/her role as a Board members when interacting with district employees. Because his/her position as a Board member may inhibit the performance of school personnel, the Board member should inform the Superintendent or designee before volunteering in his/her child's classroom.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

Individual members of the Board, by virtue of holding office, shall not exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the schools or command the services of any school employee. Individual Board members shall submit requests for research or administrative studies to the entire Board for consideration. At his/her discretion, the Superintendent may refer the request to the entire Board for consideration. If approved, the Superintendent or designee shall perform any necessary research associated with the request and report to the Board at a future meeting.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

No members of the Board shall become an employee of the district while serving on the Board.

Board members who visit schools of their own volition have no more authority than any other citizen. Board members have authority only in regularly called meetings of the Board or when delegated specific tasks by Board action.

#### Obligations of Board Members

Members of the Board must endeavor to attend all Board meetings, study all agenda materials before the meeting,

participate in the discussion of items which come before the Board, vote on motions and resolutions, and abstain only for compelling reasons.

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

Board members should understand their role and the programs offered by the district and should be prepared and willing to devote a sufficient amount of time to the study of the problems of education in the district, the state, and the nation in order to interpret them to the people of the district.

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

(cf. 9271 - Code of Ethics)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

Board members and persons elected to the Board who have not yet assumed office are responsible for complying with the requirements of the state's open meeting laws.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of the Brown Act to each Board member and to anyone who is elected to the Board and who has not yet assumed office.

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

#### **State References**

Ed. Code 200-262.4

#### **Description**

[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 \(power of governing board\)](#)

Ed. Code 35292

[Visits to schools \(Board members\)](#)

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](#)

Gov. Code 54952.1

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

Gov. Code 54952.7

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

#### **Management Resources References**

CSBA Publication

#### **Description**

[Professional Governance Standards](#)

Website

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

Website

[CSBA](#)

#### **Cross References**

1160

#### **Description**

[Political Processes](#)

1240

[Volunteer Assistance](#)

1240

[Volunteer Assistance](#)

1312.1

[Complaints Concerning District Employees](#)

1312.1

[Complaints Concerning District Employees](#)

1312.1-E PDF(1)	<a href="#">Complaints Concerning District Employees - Cde Legal Advisory Lo: 4-93 Procedures For Parents Or Guardians Of Students To Identify And Report Child Abuse Committed At A School Site By A School District Employee Or Other Person</a>
1312.2	<a href="#">Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials</a>
1312.2	<a href="#">Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials</a>
1312.2-E PDF(1)	<a href="#">Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials</a>
1312.3	<a href="#">Uniform Complaint Procedures</a>
1312.3	<a href="#">Uniform Complaint Procedures</a>
1312.4	<a href="#">Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures</a>
1312.4-E PDF(1)	<a href="#">Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures</a>
1340	<a href="#">Access To District Records</a>
1340	<a href="#">Access To District Records</a>
5020	<a href="#">Parent Rights And Responsibilities</a>
5020	<a href="#">Parent Rights And Responsibilities</a>
6020	<a href="#">Parent Involvement</a>
6020	<a href="#">Parent Involvement</a>
6159.1	<a href="#">Procedural Safeguards And Complaints For Special Education</a>
6159.1	<a href="#">Procedural Safeguards And Complaints For Special Education</a>
9000	<a href="#">Role Of The Board</a>
9005	<a href="#">Governance Standards</a>
9005	<a href="#">Governance Standards</a>
9010	<a href="#">Public Statements</a>
9011	<a href="#">Disclosure Of Confidential/Privileged Information</a>
9124	<a href="#">Attorney</a>
9140	<a href="#">Board Representatives</a>
9230	<a href="#">Orientation</a>
9270	<a href="#">Conflict Of Interest</a>
9270-E PDF(1)	<a href="#">Conflict Of Interest</a>
9322	<a href="#">Agenda/Meeting Materials</a>
9323	<a href="#">Meeting Conduct</a>
9323.2	<a href="#">Actions By The Board</a>
9323.2-E PDF(1)	<a href="#">Actions By The Board</a>