

**MEMBERS**

**Limits of Board Members Authority**

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 student above any partisan principle, group interest, or personal interests.

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.

Individual Board members do not have the authority to resolve complaints. Any Board member approached directly by a person with a complaint should refer the complainant to the Superintendent or designee so that the problem may receive proper consideration and be handled through the appropriate district process.

Individual Board members shall submit requests for information to the Superintendent. If the information requested is available in written form and is easily retrievable, it will be provided to the individual Board member making the request and to all Board members. If the information requested will require considerable administrative time to prepare, Board approval of the investment of administrative time will be required prior to the information request being granted.

A Board member whose child is attending a district school should be aware of his/her role as a Board member when interacting with district employees about his/her child.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of the state's open meeting laws (Brown Act) to each Board member and to anyone who is elected to the Board but has not yet assumed office.

Board members and persons elected to the Board who have not yet assumed office are responsible for complying with the requirements of the Brown Act. (*Government Code 54952.1*)

**Obligations of Members**

Members of the Board must endeavor to attend all meetings, study all materials presented with the agenda prior to attending the meeting, participate in the discussion of any items which come before the Board, and vote on all motions and resolutions, abstaining only for compelling reasons.

The Board member should not subordinate the education of children and youth to any partisan principle, group interest, or the member's own personal interest.

The Board member 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.

**MEMBERS (continued)**

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

*200-262.4 Prohibition of Discrimination*

*7054 Use of District Property*

*35010 Control of District; prescription and enforcement of rules*

*35100-35351 Governing Boards*

*35160-35184 Powers and Duties*

*35291 Rules*

*35292 Visits to School (Board Members)*

*51101 Rights of Parents/Guardians*

GOVERNMENT CODE

*54950-54962 The Ralph M. Brown Act*

*54952.1 Member of a Legislative Body of a Local Agency*

*54952.7 Copies of Chapter to Member of Legislative Body*