

BB 9200 (a) BOARD MEMBERS (Second Read)

Limits of Board Members Authority

The School Board has broad but clearly limited powers. The exercise of its authority is restricted to the functions required or permitted by law, and then only when it acts in a legally constituted meeting. Board Members have authority only in ~~regularly called~~ *appropriately publicly noticed* meetings of the Board, or when delegated specific tasks by Board action.

The Board is the unit of authority. The Board Member is a part of the governing body which represents and acts for the community as a whole. Apart from the normal function as part of the unit, the Board Member has no individual authority. No individual Member of the Board, by virtue of holding office, shall exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the schools; nor, as an individual, command the services of any school employee. Individually, the Board Member may not commit the District to any policy, act, or expenditure.

School visits by Board Members are encouraged. Principals should receive a courtesy call in advance of a visit. Board Members, as with all visitors, must check in with the school office. Board Members who visit schools of their own volition have no more authority than any other citizen.

(cf. 1250 - Visits to the Schools)

Board Member Requests for Information

Board Members should make informed decisions on matters before them for a vote. The Superintendent or Designee is responsible for providing the Board with relevant materials to inform the Board on those matters on which it is to act. If Board Members desire further information, a request for information shall be directed to the Superintendent, pursuant to the following guidelines:

1. Requests for simple facts. Any Board Member may make a request for simple facts to the Superintendent who will forward the request to the appropriate staff member. All responses to requests for simple facts will be provided to the requesting Board Member and copied to the Board President.
2. Requests for reports, research, administrative studies, detailed information, or for information relating to a problem or a potential problem in the District. Some information requests require significant administrative time and explanation to provide the requested response. Individual Board Members shall submit such requests to the full Board for consideration. Upon majority request of the Board, the request shall then be forwarded to the Superintendent for response.
3. Complaints regarding personnel. Board Members may have their own complaints regarding District personnel or may hear such complaints from the community. These concerns should be privately communicated to the Superintendent.
4. *When Board Members receive complaints or requests for action from staff, students, or members of the public, the Board Members will direct the staff, students, or members of the public to the appropriate complaint policy. Such information will be conveyed to the Superintendent by the Board Member.*
5. *Requests for legal advice or opinions by a Board Member that will incur a cost for the District must be approved by a majority vote of the Board before the request is made to legal counsel. Legal counsel is responsible to the Board. Legal advice or opinions will be channeled through the Superintendent.*

(cf. 6162.8 - Research)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

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.

BB 9200 (b) BOARD MEMBERS

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 challenges of education and emerging educational trends in the District, the state, and the nation in order to communicate and discuss them with the ~~people~~ residents of the District.

(cf. 9230 - Meetings)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.14.140 *Restrictions on employment*

AASB Revised: 2/08

AASB Revised: 9/23

CSD ADOPTED: 2/9/2005

CSD REVISED: 10/10/2007

CSD REVISED: 12/9/2008

CSD REVIEWED: 1/13/2021

CSD REVISED: 6/8/2022

CSD REVISED: xxxxxxxx