
Board of Education

ACTION

TITLE: Consider Replacement of Committee of the Whole Meetings with Work Sessions and Postpone the Appointment of Standing Committees

DATE: November 10, 2017

RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR: Doug Brubaker, Ph.D.
Superintendent

BACKGROUND/CONSIDERATIONS:

For a number of years, the Board has met as a Committee of the Whole roughly once per month, typically on a Monday one or more weeks prior to its regular meetings on the fourth Monday of the month. During Committee of the Whole meetings, the Board has discussed individual agenda items and made recommendations to the Board for further action at regular meetings. At regular meetings, agenda items that have come as recommendations from the Committee of the Whole have not required a second prior to taking a vote.

This operating procedure stems from a time when committees made up of three Board members, as described in policies BDBA and BDE, met to discuss agenda items that could later be submitted as agenda items for the committee of the whole. These policies were last updated in 2000.

With Board and officer elections complete, the Board has an opportunity to modify the structure of its meetings to promote transparency, align more closely with its operations, simplify its procedures, and facilitate the efficient flow of information. The administration is also working with district counsel to update policies based on ASBA model policies. The following changes are recommended as an initial step toward modernizing the Board's operations:

- Replace Committee Meetings with Work Sessions.
- Postpone appointment of standing committees outlined in Policies BDE and BDBA pending the outcome of the policy review process.
- Replace the "Committee of the Whole" section of the regular Board meeting agenda with a "Work Session" section within the Consent Agenda for items that have been discussed during the work session.

RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends approval of the changes described above. If the Board agrees with the recommendation, the motion would read:

Move to replace committee of the whole meetings with work sessions and to postpone appointment of the six standing committees outlined in Policies BDBA and BDE pending the outcome of the policy review process as described in the agenda.