

BOARD MEMBERS  
TRAINING AND ORIENTATION

BBD  
(LEGAL)

REQUIRED TRAINING	<p>Each Trustee must complete any training required by the State Board of Education. The minutes of the last regular meeting of the Board held during a calendar year must reflect whether each Trustee has met or is delinquent in meeting the training required to be completed as of the date of the meeting. <i>Education Code 11.159</i></p> <p>Continuing education for Board members includes orientation sessions, an annual team building session with the Board and the Superintendent, and specified hours of continuing education based on identified needs.</p>
LOCAL ORIENTATION	<p>All Board members shall receive a local District orientation and an orientation to the Texas Education Code.</p>
NEW MEMBERS	<p>New Board members shall participate in a local orientation session within 60 days before or after their election or appointment. The purpose of this orientation is to familiarize new Board members with local Board policies and procedures and District goals and priorities.</p> <p>All newly elected Board members shall receive the orientation to the Texas Education Code within the first year of service. The orientation shall be delivered by regional education services centers and shall be three hours in length.</p>
SITTING MEMBERS	<p>All sitting Board members shall receive a basic orientation to the Texas Education Code and relevant legal obligations. The orientation will have special but not exclusive emphasis on statutory provisions related to Texas school district governance. The orientation shall be delivered by regional education services centers and shall be three hours in length. Topics shall include, but not be limited to, Texas Education Code, Chapter 26 (Parental Rights and Responsibilities), and Texas Education Code, Section 28.004 (Local School Health Education Advisory Council and Health Education Instruction). [See BDF, EHAA, and FNG]</p>
LEGISLATIVE UPDATES	<p>After each session of the Texas Legislature, each Board member shall receive an updated session from a regional education service center or any registered provider to the basic orientation to the Texas Education Code. The update session shall be of sufficient length to familiarize Board members with major changes in the Education Code and other relevant legal developments related to school governance. A Board member who has attended a basic orientation session given by a service center that incorporates the most recent legislative changes is not required to attend an additional legislative update.</p>
TEAM BUILDING	<p>The entire Board, including all Board members, shall annually participate with the Superintendent in a team building session facili-</p>

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tated by the regional education service center or any registered provider. The team building session shall be of a length deemed appropriate by the Board, but generally at least three hours. The purpose of the team building session is to enhance the effectiveness of the Board-Superintendent team and to assess the continuing education needs of the Board-Superintendent team. The assessment of needs shall be based on the framework for governance leadership and shall be used to plan continuing education activities for the governance leadership team for the upcoming year.

CONTINUING  
EDUCATION

In addition to the orientation and team building training, all Board members shall receive additional continuing education on an annual basis, in fulfillment of assessed needs and based on the framework for governance leadership. [See BBD(EXHIBIT)] The continuing education sessions may be provided by the regional education service centers or other registered providers.

To the extent possible, the entire Board shall participate in continuing education programs together.

FIRST YEAR

In their first year of service, Board members shall receive at least ten hours of continuing education in fulfillment of assessed needs. Board members may fulfill up to five of the required ten hours of continuing education through online instruction, provided that the training is designed and offered by a registered provider, incorporates interactive activities that assess learning and provide feedback to the learner, and offers an opportunity for interaction with the instructor.

SUBSEQUENT  
YEARS

Following the first year of service, Board members shall receive at least five hours of continuing education annually in fulfillment of assessed needs. Board members may fulfill the five hours of continuing education through online instruction, provided that the training is designed and offered by a registered provider, incorporates interactive activities that assess learning and provide feedback to the learner, and offers an opportunity for interaction with the instructor.

PRESIDENTS

The Board President shall receive continuing education related to leadership duties of the Board President as some portion of the annual requirement.

LOCAL TRAINING

At least 50 percent of the annual continuing education shall be designed and delivered by persons not employed or affiliated with the Board member's local school District. No more than one hour of the required continuing education that is delivered by the local District may use self-instructional materials.

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*19 TAC 61.1*

SPECIFIC OPEN  
MEETINGS TRAINING

Within 90 days after taking the oath of office, each Board member shall complete a course of training regarding the responsibilities of the Board and its members under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. The office of the attorney general may provide the training and may also approve other acceptable sources of training.

Board members sworn in before January 1, 2006, must complete the training required by Government Code 551.005 before January 1, 2007.

*Gov't Code 551.005*

SPECIFIC OPEN  
RECORDS TRAINING

Within 90 days after taking the oath of office or assuming duties as a public official, each Board member and public information coordinator shall complete a course of training regarding the responsibilities of the District and District officers and employees under Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code. The office of the attorney general may provide the training and may also approve other acceptable sources of training.

A Board member may designate a public information coordinator to satisfy the training requirements of Government Code 552.012 for the Board member if the public information coordinator is primarily responsible for administering the responsibilities of the Board member or District under Government Code Chapter 552.

Board members and public information coordinators who have been sworn in or assumed duties before January 1, 2006, must complete the training required by Government Code 552.012 before January 1, 2007.

*Gov't Code 552.012*

ANNUAL COMPLIANCE  
ANNOUNCEMENT

Annually, at the meeting at which the call for election of Board members is normally scheduled, the President shall announce the name of each Board member who has completed the required continuing education, who has exceeded the required hours of continuing education, and who is deficient in the required continuing education. The President shall cause the minutes to reflect the information and shall make this information available to the local media.

TRAINING DURING  
MEETINGS

No continuing education shall take place during a Board meeting unless that meeting is called for the delivery of Board training. Continuing education may take place prior to or after a legally called Board meeting in accordance with the Government Code.

*19 TAC 61.1*

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CONVENTIONS AND  
WORKSHOPS

Board members may attend regional, state, or national conventions or workshops without such gatherings being construed as “meetings” under the Open Meetings Act. However, no formal action shall be taken at such conventions or workshops concerning District business, and any discussion of public business shall be merely incidental to the convention or workshop. *Gov’t Code 551.001(4)*

COMMENDATION

Annually, the State Board shall commend those Board-Superintendent teams that receive at least eight hours of the continuing education in the local orientation and team-building sessions as an entire Board-Superintendent team. *19 TAC 61.1*