

DRAFT UPDATE

Meridian Community Unit School District #223

2:150

School Board

Committees

The School Board may establish committees to assist with the Board's governance function and, in some situations, to comply with State law requirements. These committees are known as Board committees and report directly to the Board. Committee members may include both Board members and non-Board members depending on the committee's purpose. The Board President makes all Board committee appointments subject to Board approval. Board committee meetings shall comply with the Open Meetings Act. A Board committee may not take final action on behalf of the Board – it may only make recommendations to the Board.

Special Board Committees

A special committee may be created for specific purposes or to investigate special issues. A special committee is automatically dissolved after presenting its final report to the Board or at the Board's discretion.

Standing Board Committees

A standing committee is created for an indefinite term although its members will fluctuate. Standing committees are:

1. Board Policy Committee. This committee researches policy issues, and provides information and recommendations to the Board.
2. Joint Library Committee.
3. Budget Review Committee.
4. Interest-Based Problem Solving Committee.
5. Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee. This committee assists in the development of student discipline policy and procedure-, and provides information and recommendations to the Board. Its members are parents/guardians and teachers, and may include persons whose expertise or experience is needed. The committee reviews such issues as administering medication in the schools, reciprocal reporting between the School District and local law enforcement agencies regarding criminal offenses committed by students, student discipline, disruptive classroom behavior, school bus safety procedures, and the dissemination of student conduct information.
6. Behavioral Interventions Committee. This committee develops and monitors procedures for using behavioral interventions in accordance with Board policy 7:230, *Misconduct by Students with Disabilities*-, and provides information and recommendations to the Board. At the Board President's discretion, the Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee shall perform the duties assigned to the Behavioral Interventions Committee. The Ogle County Educational Coop (OCEC) coordinates these activities for the District.
7. Student Advisory Committee. This committee provides input/insight from the students' point of view and provides student feedback. The Student Advisory Committee provides feedback to the School Board at regularly scheduled meetings as covered in policy 2:220. This committee may be used as a resource by all groups in the District including, but not limited to, teachers, administration, Superintendent, the School Board and other organizations and individuals.

Comment [AKL1]: Consult the board attorney concerning the status of two mandatory committees – the PERA (Performance Educational Reform Act) joint committee and the RIF (reduction in force) joint committee (105 ILCS 5/24A-4(b) and 5/24-12(c), respectively). These committees perform administrative/staff work and do not need to report directly to the board. Thus, most attorneys think they can be *superintendent* committees that do not trigger OMA (see f/n 10). OMA compliance will be needed for any joint committee: (1) that is treated as a *board* committee, (2) when three or more board members are present, or (3) when the board attorney advises that OMA applies, e.g., interprets either joint committee to be a distinct public body created by the legislature.

A board must appoint or approve a Concussion Oversight Team and charge it with establishing protocols for return-to-play and return-to-learn for students who have suffered a concussion or head injury (Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act, 105 ILCS 5/22-80(d), added by P.A. 99-245; **if approved by the House and signed by the Governor, SB219 will extend the effective date to the 2016-2017 school year**). As this is administrative/staff work rather than governance work, the best practice is to have the Concussion Oversight Team be an *administrative* committee, but consult the board attorney for guidance.

Issue 90, October 2015

Comment [AKL2]: Language is added to emphasize that the Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee and the Behavioral Interventions Committee report to the board.

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Nothing in this policy limits the authority of the Superintendent or designee to create and use committees that report to him or her or to other staff members.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.14 and 5/14-8.05.

CROSS REF.: 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 2:200 (Types of School Board Meetings), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities)

ADOPTED: [April 12, 2012](#)