#### **BOARD AUTHORITY**

Except as otherwise authorized by the Board, a member of the Board can perform a valid act only when participating as a member of the body corporate in a meeting properly convened and conducted. [See BE(LEGAL) and BEC(LEGAL)]

# REQUESTS FOR RECORDS

Individual Board members shall not direct or require ESC employees to prepare reports derived from an analysis of information in existing ESC records or to create a new record compiled from information in existing ESC records. Directives to the Executive Director or other ESC staff regarding the preparation of reports shall be by Board action or by request of an individual Board member made in a Board meeting after discussion by the Board as a whole.

#### **BOARD AUTHORITY**

The Board has final authority to determine and interpret the policies that govern the ESC. Board action shall be taken only in meetings that comply with the Open Meetings Act. [See BE(LEGAL)]

### TRANSACTING BUSINESS

When a proposal is presented to the Board, the Board may hold a discussion and reach a decision. Although there may be dissenting votes, which are a matter of public record, each Board decision shall be an action by the whole Board binding upon each member.

# INDIVIDUAL AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTING THE BOARD

Board members as individuals shall not exercise authority over the ESC, its property, or its employees. Except for appropriate duties and functions of the Board President, an individual member may act on behalf of the Board only with the express authorization of the Board. Without such authorization, no individual member may commit the Board on any issue.

# INDIVIDUAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION

An individual Board member, acting in his or her official capacity, shall have the right to seek information pertaining to ESC fiscal affairs, business transactions, governance, and personnel matters, including information that properly may be withheld from members of the general public in accordance with the Public Information Chapter of the Government Code.

#### **LIMITATIONS**

If a Board member is not acting in his or her official capacity, the Board member has no greater right to ESC records than a member of the public.

An individual Board member shall not have access to confidential student records unless the member is acting in his or her official capacity and has a legitimate educational interest in the records.

A Board member who is denied access to a record under this provision may ask the Board to determine whether the record

should be provided or may file a request under the Public Information Act.

# REQUESTS FOR RECORDS

An individual Board member shall seek access to records or request copies of records from the Executive Director or other designated custodian of records. When a custodian of records other than the Executive Director provides access to records or copies of records to an individual Board member, the provider shall inform the Executive Director before of the records are provided unless the records pertain to the Executive Director.

In accordance with law, the ESCshall track and report any requests under this provision, including the cost of responding to one or more requests by any individual Board member for 200 or more pages of material in a 90-day period.

# REQUESTS FOR REPORTS

No individual Board member shall direct or require ESC employees to prepare reports derived from an analysis of information in existing ESC records or to create a new record compiled from information in existing ESC records. Directives to the Executive Director or other custodian of records regarding the preparation of reports shall be by Board action.

#### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

At the time a Board member is provided access to confidential records or to reports compiled from such records, the Executive Director or other ESC employee shall advise the Board member of the responsibility to comply with confidentiality requirements.

# REFERRING COMPLAINTS

If employees, parents, students, or other-members of the public bring concerns or complaints to an individual Board member, he or she shall refer them to the Executive Director or another appropriate administrator, who shall proceed according to the applicable complaint policy. [See (LOCAL) policies at DGBA, FNG, and GEF]

When the concern or complaint directly pertains to the Board's own actions or policy, for which there is no administrative remedy, the Board member may request that the issue be placed on the agenda.

DATE ISSUED: 12/2/1996

UPDATE 1 BBE(LOCAL)-ESCA