

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

The Board of Education recognizes the rights of Board members to freely express their views and encourages open discussion of issues during the Board meeting. The Board believes that effective Board members have a responsibility to express themselves, whether in agreement or disagreement with the Board majority, in ways that promote the Board's ability to govern the Office of Education.

When speaking to community groups, the media, or other members of the public, individual Board members should recognize that their statements may be perceived as reflecting the views and positions of the Board. Board members have a responsibility to identify personal viewpoints as such and not as the viewpoint of the Board.

All public statements authorized to be made on behalf of the Board shall be made by the Board president or, if appropriate, by the County Superintendent or other designated representative.

Board spokespersons shall not disclose confidential information or information received in closed session except when authorized by a majority of the Board.

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE*1040 Duties of County Boards of Education*GOVERNMENT CODE*6250-6270 California Public Records Act**54960 Actions to stop or prevent violation of meeting provisions**54963 Confidential information in closed session*