

BOARD COMMITTEES

The Board of Education may establish Board committees as necessary. The Board shall clearly define the committee's purpose, any timeline for completion of assigned responsibilities, any stakeholder groups or individuals to be represented on the committee, length of time that committee members are expected to serve, and expectation for reporting to the Board and/or the Superintendent or designee.

Unless specifically authorized by the Board to act on its behalf, a Board committee shall act in an advisory capacity. When its duties have been completed, the committee shall be dissolved.

Unless otherwise exempted by law, Board-created committees shall provide public notice of their meetings and conduct meetings in accordance with Government Code 54950-54963 (the Brown Act.)

Board advisory committees composed solely of less than a quorum of the members of the Board are not subject to open meeting laws unless they are standing committees that have a continuing subject matter jurisdiction or a meeting schedule established by the Board.

Standing committees with a continuing subject matter jurisdiction include but are not limited to those responsible for providing advice on budgets, audits, contracts and other matters as appropriate.

When a majority of the members of the Board attend an open and noticed meeting of a standing committee, the Board members who are not members of the standing committee shall attend only as observers.

The County Superintendent or designee may serve as an advisor to any committee at the discretion of the Board.

Whenever so charged, committees may actively seek input and participation by parents/guardians, staff, community and students and may consult with local public boards and agencies.

When a Board committee composed exclusively of Board members has provided for public comment on an item at a public meeting before or during the committee's consideration of the item, the Board is not obliged to provide for public comment on the item at a subsequent Board meeting. Public comment shall be afforded, however, if the Board determines that the item has been substantially changed since it was heard by the committee.

Committees may meet in a closed session during a regular or special meeting only for those purposes specifically authorized by law for closed sessions held by the Board.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

1040 Duties of boards

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

35024 Executive Committee

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts, county boards of education, county superintendents

GOVERNMENT CODE

54952 Legislative body, definition

54952.2 Definition of meeting

54954 Time and place of regular meetings; special meetings; emergencies

54954.3 Opportunity for public to address legislative body

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

81 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 156 (1998)

80 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 308 (1997)

79 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 69 (1996)