

SCHOOL BOARD

2:120 Board Member Development

The School Board desires that its individual members learn, understand, and practice effective governance principles. The Board is responsible for member orientation and development. Board members have an equal opportunity to attend state and national meetings designed to familiarize members with public school issues, governance, and legislation.

The Board President and/or Superintendent shall provide all Board members with information regarding pertinent educational materials, publications, and notices of training or development.

Mandatory Board Member Training

Each Board member is responsible for his or her own compliance with the mandatory training laws that are described below:

1. Each Board member elected or appointed to fill a vacancy of at least one year's duration must complete at least four hours of professional development leadership training in education and labor law, financial oversight and accountability, fiduciary responsibilities, and trauma-informed practices for students and staff within the first year of his or her first term.
2. Each Board member must complete training on the Open Meetings Act no later than 90 days after taking the oath of office for the first time. After completing the training, each Board member must file a copy of the certificate of completion with the Board. Training on the Open Meetings Act is only required once.
3. Each Board member must complete a training program on evaluations under the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA) before participating in a vote on a tenured teacher's dismissal using the optional alternative evaluation dismissal process. This dismissal process is available after the District's PERA implementation date.

The Superintendent or designee shall post on the District website the names of all Board members who have completed the professional development leadership training described in number 1, above.

Professional Development; Adverse Consequences of School Exclusion; Student Behavior

The Board President or Superintendent, or their designees, will make reasonable efforts to provide ongoing professional development to Board members about the adverse consequences of school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective classroom management strategies, culturally responsive discipline, appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement, and developmentally appropriate disciplinary methods that promote positive and healthy school climates, i.e., *Senate Bill 100 training topics*.

Board Self-Evaluation

The Board will conduct periodic self-evaluations with the goal of continuous improvement.

New Board Member Orientation

The following steps are taken to orient newly elected or appointed School Board members:

1. The Board President or Superintendent or their designees shall give each new School Board member a copy of the School Board Policy Manual, the School Board's regular meeting minutes for the past year, and other helpful information including material describing the District and

explaining the School Board's roles and responsibilities.

2. The Board President or designee shall schedule one or more special Board meetings, or schedule time during regular meetings, for new Board members to become acquainted and to review Board processes and procedures.
3. The Board President may request a veteran Board member to mentor a new member.
4. New members are encouraged to attend workshops for new members conducted by the Illinois Association of School Boards.

Candidates

The Superintendent or designee shall invite all current candidates for the office of School Board member to attend (1) School Board meetings, except that this invitation shall not extend to any closed meetings, and (2) pre-election workshops for candidates.

LEGAL REF.:

5 ILCS 120/1.05 and 120/2, Open Meetings Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-16a and 5/24-16.5.

CROSS REF.: 2:80 (Board Member Ethics), 2:125 (Board Member Compensation; Expenses), 2:200 (Types of School Board Meetings)

Adopted: January 17, 2024

Blue Ridge CUSD 18
