

BOARD MEMBER EDUCATION

It is the policy of the District that Board members become and remain knowledgeable about their roles and the issues with which they deal. The Board Chair and the Superintendent are responsible for assuring that information on leadership development opportunities is available to all members.

Each Board member shall regularly receive training on Board member roles and responsibilities, conflict of interest, school board governance, open meetings laws, school finance, state aid and budget, school programs, State Department of Education functions, legislative activities, laws related to public employees, Board policies, teaching materials, facilities, school services, needs of community, interested public service organizations, techniques of good public relations, and education issues in general.

New members shall participate in the new board member orientation which covers all of the topics addressed in the preceding paragraph to familiarize themselves with all aspects of Board operation.

The Board President and Superintendent will hold at least two conferences with the new Board member, one which will be held with the Board member-elect and the second within thirty (30) days of the Board member taking their oath of office. The conferences shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Discussion of the Board's work, objectives, and purposes;
2. Discussion on the legislative function of the Board and the administrative functions of the Superintendent;
3. Information provided to the new Board member related to School Board policies, District curriculum and content standards, bussing and meal services, facilities, school finances and funding, collective bargaining, and other pertinent matters;
4. Tour of the school facilities.

All Board members shall regularly participate in meetings and activities of area, state and national school boards associations, other educational groups, and review materials received from these organizations.

Board members will be reimbursed for travel and other expenses related to participation in training activities offered by Associated School Boards of South Dakota and other organizations. Funds will be budgeted for school board members training.

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