

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	POLICY
A. Board Authority	
1. General Statement.....	9000
2. Limits of Authority	9010
B. Board Members	
1. Legal Description.....	9100
2. Number of Members, Terms of Office	9110
3. Officers	9120
a. President.....	9121
b. Vice-President.....	9122
c. Treasurer	9123
d. Secretary	9124
e. Attorney.....	9125
f. Auditor.....	9126
g. Individual Members.....	9127
h. Removal From Office	9140
C. Bylaws, Policies and Regulations	
1. Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Policies.....	9200
2. Adoption and Amendment of Bylaws.....	9210
3. Approval and Amendment of Administrative Regulations	9220
D. Meetings	
1. Regular Meetings	9300
2. Special Meetings.....	9301
3. Advance Delivery of Meeting Materials.....	9310
4. Order of Business.....	9320
5. Parliamentary Procedure.....	9330
6. Minutes	9340
7. Voting	9341
8. Methods of Operation/Quorum.....	9350
9. Board/School District Records	9360
10. Open Sessions	9370(a)
11. Closed Sessions.....	9370(b)

Bylaws of the Board - Meetings

Methods of Operation/Quorum

The Board of Education shall transact business only when it is in session, has a quorum present, and minutes are kept. A majority of all members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-554

Date of Adoption: November 13, 2018

Bylaws of the Board - MeetingsBoard/School District RecordsExceptions and Locations

The Board of Education and the Superintendent may withhold from the public those records in their custody enumerated by law. Records which are open to inspection shall be available in the office of the Superintendent.

Open Meetings Act Posting and Public Access to Board Records

The Board of Education accepts its responsibility to conduct its meetings in public and in compliance with law. The Superintendent shall post at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. At the beginning of each meeting the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information by announcement of the Board President or Chairperson or via notice given in the Agenda. The Superintendent and the Board secretary shall make available for examination and copying by members of the public at least one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed at an open meeting except where the law specifically states that a matter is exempted either temporarily or permanently from such disclosure.

Therefore, the Board of Education directs the Superintendent and the Board secretary, acting jointly and cooperatively, to make easily available copies of the Board of Education policy manual and the minutes of meetings of the Board of Education and its committees (except as exempt by law). Minutes shall be made available within ten (10) days of the meeting reported; policies shall be incorporated into the manual within thirty (30) days of adoption.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 84-1408 to 84-1414
Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-712

Date of Adoption: November 13, 2018

Bylaws of the Board - MeetingsOpen Sessions

Subject to the provisions of the public meeting law of the State of Nebraska and the policies of the District, the public shall have the right to attend and the right to speak at meetings of the Board except any part thereof held in closed session, and all or any part of a meeting of the Board except that held in closed session may be recorded by any person in attendance by means of a tape recorder or any other means of sonic reproduction or in writing.

The Board may make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending its meetings and regarding their privilege to speak. The Board is not required to allow citizens to speak at each meeting, nor may it forbid public participation at all meetings.

Any person or group may attend the regular or special meeting of the Board of Education. Undue interruption or other interference with the orderly conduct of business cannot be allowed. Defamatory or abusive remarks are always out of order. A speaker's privilege of address may be terminated if he persists in improper remarks.

At a public meeting of the Board no person shall orally initiate charges or complaints against an individual employee of the District or challenge instructional materials used in the District. All such complaints, charges or challenges shall be presented to the Superintendent or Board in writing and signed by the complainant. All such charges, if presented to the Board directly, shall be referred to the Superintendent for investigation and report.

The Board is not obligated to act on any request unless the same has been submitted in writing to the Superintendent or to the president of the Board sufficiently in advance to allow the same to have been incorporated into the agenda for the meeting.

Date of Adoption: November 13, 2018

Bylaws of the Board - MeetingsClosed Sessions

The Board of Education may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. Closed sessions may be held for, but shall not be limited to, such reasons as: (a) strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate purchases, or litigation; (b) discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices; (c) investigative proceedings regarding allegations or misconduct; or (d) evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting; provided, however a closed meeting shall never be held for the purpose of discussing the appointment or election of a new member to the Board of Education.

The vote to hold a closed session shall be taken in open session. The subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to close. The entire motion, the vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, and the time when the closed session commenced and concluded shall be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close passes, then the presiding officer immediately prior to the closed session shall restate on the record the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session. The Board shall restrict its consideration of matters during the closed portions to only those purposes set forth in the motion to close as the reason for the closed session. The meeting shall be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken.

Any member of the Board shall have the right to challenge the continuation of a closed session if the member determines that the session has exceeded the reasons stated in the original motion to hold a closed session. Such challenge shall be overruled only by a majority vote of the members of the public body. Such challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.

The term "closed session" as used in the policies, regulations and Bylaws of the District shall include within its meaning any "executive session" or "executive meeting" authorized or prescribed by said policies, regulations and Bylaws, all of said terms being interchangeable.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 84-1407 to 84-1414

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