

Governance Standards

01 The Governing Board believes that its primary responsibility is to act
02 in the best interests of every student in the District. The Board also
03 has major commitments to parents/guardians, all members of the
04 community, employees, the state of California, laws pertaining to
05 public education, and established policies of the District. To
06 maximize Board effectiveness and public confidence in District
07 governance, Board members are expected to govern responsibly
08 and hold themselves to the highest standards of ethical conduct.

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10 The Board expects its members to work with each other and the
11 Superintendent to ensure that a high-quality education is provided
12 to each student. Each individual Board member shall:

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14 1. Keep learning and achievement for all students as the primary
15 focus;
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17 2. Value, support and advocate for public education;
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19 3. Recognize and respect differences of perspective and style on
20 the Board and among staff, students, parents and the community;
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22 4. Act with dignity, and understand the implications of demeanor
23 and behavior;
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25 5. Keep confidential matters confidential;
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27 6. Participate in professional development and commit the time
28 and energy necessary to be an informed and effective leader;
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30 7. Understand the distinctions between Board and staff roles, and
31 refrain from performing management functions that are the
32 responsibility of the Superintendent and staff; and
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34 8. Understand that authority rests with the Board as a whole and
35 not with individuals.

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37 Board members also shall assume collective responsibility for
38 building unity and creating a positive organizational culture. To
39 operate effectively, the Board shall have a unity of purpose and:
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- 41 1. Keep the District focused on learning and achievement for all
42 students;
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- 44 2. Communicate a common vision;
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- 46 3. Operate openly, with trust and integrity;
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- 48 4. Govern in a dignified and professional manner, treating
49 everyone with civility and respect;
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- 51 5. Govern within Board-adopted policies and procedures;
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- 53 6. Take collective responsibility for the Board's performance;
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- 55 7. Periodically evaluate its own effectiveness: and
- 56
- 57 8. Ensure opportunities for the diverse range of views in the
58 community to inform Board deliberations.

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61 Legal Reference:

62 EDUCATION CODE

63 35010 Power of governing board to adopt rules for its own
64 governance

65 35160 Board authority to act in any manner not conflicting with law

66 35164 Actions by majority vote

67 GOVERNMENT CODE

68 1090 Financial interest in contract

69 1098 Disclosure of confidential information

70 1125-1129 Incompatible activities

71 54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act

72 87300-87313 Conflict of interest code

73

74 Management Resources:

75 CSBA PUBLICATIONS

76 CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000

77 Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardsmanship, 1996

78 WEB SITES

79 CSBA: [http:// www.csba.org](http://www.csba.org)

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81 ~~(7/84-9/89) 3/01~~

Article 9
Board Bylaws
BB 9005

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