ORIENTATION

Board Candidate Orientation
The Governing Board desires to provide Board candidates with information that will enable them to understand the responsibilities and expectations of Board membership. The Superintendent or designee shall provide all candidates with general information about school programs, district operations, and Board responsibilities and the county election official’s contact information.

(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)
(cf. 9220 - Governing Board Elections)
(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

The Board encourages all candidates to attend public Board meetings during the period of their candidacy. Candidates shall have the same access as members of the public to district staff and information.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)
(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

New Board Member Orientation
The Board shall convene a meeting to provide an orientation and information to incoming Board members to assist them in understanding the Board's functions, policies, procedures, protocols, and agreed-upon standards of conduct. Incoming Board members shall receive the district's policy manual and other materials related to the district and Board member responsibilities.

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)
(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

Upon their election, incoming Board members shall be provided a copy of the Brown Act and informed that, pursuant to Government Code 54952.1, they must conform to the Act's requirements as if they had already assumed office.

The Superintendent may provide incoming Board members with additional background and information regarding the district's vision and goals, operations, and current challenges in areas that include, but are not be limited to, student achievement, curriculum, finance, facilities, policy, human resources, and collective bargaining.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)
(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

Incoming members are encouraged to attend Board meetings and review agenda materials available to the public in order to become familiar with current issues facing the district. Incoming members also may, at district expense and with approval of the Board, attend workshops and conferences relevant to their individual needs or to the needs of the Board as a whole or the district.
Legal Reference:

**EDUCATION CODE**

33360 Department of Education and statewide association of school district boards; annual workshops
33362-33363 Reimbursement of expenses; board member or member-elect

**ELECTIONS CODE**

13307 Candidate's statement
20440 Code of Fair Campaign Practices

**GOVERNMENT CODE**

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:
54952.1 Member of a legislative body
54952.7 Copies of Brown Act to board members

Management Resources:

**CSBA PUBLICATIONS**

School Board Leadership, 2007
Guide to Effective Meetings, 2007
Professional Governance Standards, 2000
Maximizing School Board Leadership, 1996

**NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS**

Becoming a Better Board Member: A Guide to Effective School Board Service, 2006

**WEB SITES**

CSBA: http://www.csba.org
National School Boards Association: http://www.nsba.org

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