

Santa Barbara Unified School District

Board Bylaw

BB 9322

Board Bylaws

AGENDA/MEETING MATERIALS

Agenda Content

Governing Board meeting agendas shall state the meeting time and place and shall briefly describe each business item to be transacted or discussed, including items to be discussed in closed session. (Government Code 54954.2)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

(cf. 9321- Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

The agenda shall provide members of the public the opportunity to address the Board on any agenda item before or during the Board's consideration of the item. The agenda shall also provide members of the public an opportunity to testify at regular meetings on matters which are not on the agenda but which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. (Education Code 35145.5; Government Code 54954.3)

(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)

Each meeting agenda shall list the address designated by the Superintendent or designee for public inspection of agenda documents that have been distributed to the Board less than 72 hours before the meeting. (Government Code 54957.5)

The agenda shall specify that an individual who requires disability-related accommodations or modifications, including auxiliary aids and services, in order to participate in the Board meeting should contact the Superintendent or designee. (Government Code 54954.2)

Agenda Preparation

The Board president and the Superintendent, as secretary to the Board, shall work together to develop the agenda for each regular and special meeting. Each agenda shall reflect the district's vision and goals and the Board's focus on student learning.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

(cf. 9121 - President)

(cf. 9122 - Secretary)

Any Board member or member of the public may request that a matter within the jurisdiction of the Board be placed on the agenda of a regular meeting. Such requests shall be made in writing to the Superintendent and must adequately specify the subject to be addressed in order to meet applicable legal requirements. In addition, any supplemental materials intended as part of the Board presentation shall normally be submitted in a timely manner for inclusion in the Board packets. These matters shall be heard at the next convenient regular Board meeting after the request is received, but not later than the third regular meeting. Upon receipt of a request to place a matter on the agenda, the Superintendent may provide for an alternative process to be followed prior to placing the matter on the agenda, such as in the case of a complaint against a staff member. Normally, members of the public who place matters on the

agenda will be allotted ten minutes to present their item, which may be modified at the direction of the Board president.

The Board president and Superintendent shall decide whether a request is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Items not within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board may not be placed on the agenda. In addition, the Board president and Superintendent shall determine if the item is merely a request for information or whether the issue is covered by an existing policy or administrative regulation before placing the item on the agenda.

The Board president and Superintendent shall decide whether an agenda item is appropriate for discussion in open or closed session, and whether the item should be an action item subject to Board vote, an information item that does not require immediate action, or a consent item that is routine in nature and for which no discussion is anticipated.

Any Board action that involves borrowing \$100,000 or more shall be discussed, considered, and deliberated upon as a separate item of business on the meeting agenda. (Government Code 53635.7)

(cf. 9323.2 - Actions by the Board)

All public communications with the Board are subject to requirements of relevant Board policies and administrative regulations.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

Consent Items

In order to promote efficient meetings, the Board may act upon more than one item by a single vote through the use of a consent agenda. Consent items shall be items of a routine nature or items for which no Board discussion is anticipated and for which the Superintendent recommends approval.

In accordance with law, the public has a right to comment on any consent item. At the request of any member of the Board, any item on the consent agenda shall be removed and given individual consideration for action as a regular agenda item.

Agenda Dissemination to Board Members

At least three days before each regular meeting, a copy of the agenda and agenda packet shall be forwarded to each Board member, including the Superintendent or designee's report; minutes to be approved; copies of communications; reports from committees, staff, citizens, and others; and other available documents pertinent to the meeting.

When special meetings are called, the Superintendent or designee shall make every effort to distribute the agenda and supporting materials to Board members as soon as possible before the meeting.

Board members shall review agenda materials before each meeting. Individual members may confer directly with the Superintendent or designee to request additional information on agenda items.

Agenda Dissemination to Members of the Public

The Superintendent or designee shall mail a copy of the agenda or a copy of all the documents constituting the agenda packet to any person who requests the items. The materials shall be mailed at the time the agenda is posted or upon distribution of the agenda to a majority of the Board, whichever occurs first. (Government Code 54954.1)

If a document is distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to a meeting, the Superintendent or designee shall make the document available for public inspection at the time the document is distributed to a majority of the Board provided that the document is a public record under the Public Records Act and relates to an agenda item for an open session of a regular Board meeting. The Superintendent or designee may also post the document on the district's web site in a position and manner that makes it clear that the document relates to an agenda item for an upcoming meeting. (Government Code 54957.5)

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)
(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

Any documents prepared by the district or the Board and distributed during a public meeting shall be made available for public inspection at the meeting. Any documents prepared by another person shall be made available for public inspection after the meeting. These requirements shall not apply to a document that is exempt from public disclosure under the Public Records Act. (Government Code 54957.5)

Upon request, the Superintendent or designee shall make the agenda, agenda packet, and/or any writings distributed at the meeting available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. (Government Code 54954.1)

Any request for mailed copies of agendas or agenda packets shall be in writing and shall be valid for the calendar year in which it is filed. Written requests must be renewed following January 1 of each year. (Government Code 54954.1)

Persons requesting mailing of the agenda or agenda packet shall pay an annual fee, as determined by the Superintendent or designee, not to exceed the cost of providing the service.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 35144 Special meetings
- 35145 Public meetings
- 35145.5 Right of public to place matters on agenda

GOVERNMENT CODE

- 6250-6270 Public Records Act
- 53635.7 Separate item of business
- 54954.1 Mailed agenda of meeting
- 54954.2 Agenda posting requirements; board actions
- 54954.3 Opportunity for public to address legislative body
- 54954.5 Closed session item descriptions
- 54956.5 Emergency meetings
- 54957.5 Public records

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

12101-12213

Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

- 35.160 Effective communications
- 36.303 Auxiliary aids and services

COURT DECISIONS

Caldwell v. Roseville Joint Union HSD, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 66318

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

- The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2007
- Guide to Effective Meetings, rev. 2007
- Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardmanship, 1996

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

- The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Legislative Bodies, California Attorney General's Office, rev. 2003
- CALIFORNIA CITY ATTORNEY PUBLICATIONS

Open and Public III: A User's Guide to the Ralph M. Brown Act, 2000

WEB SITES

CSBA, Agenda Online: <http://www.csba.org/Services/Services/GovernanceTechnology/AgendaOnline.aspx>

California Attorney General's Office: <http://www.caag.state.ca.us>

SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Barbara, CA May 23, 2006; July 13, 2010