
What does the School Board do?

The school district is governed by the school board elected by the district's registered voters. The board is authorized to:

- Establish policies that direct the school district;
- Employ and evaluate the superintendent;
- Negotiate with employee groups to determine salaries and benefits;
- Approve the annual budget;
- Authorize elections on bond proposals and other issues;
- Determine the long-range direction of the district; and
- Communicate with the community.

Who can be a Board Member?

The board members are elected from the district to serve four-year terms.

To be eligible for election, a person must be a qualified voter and reside in the district for one year immediately preceding the election. Members of the board serve without pay. Terms of office begin and end with the district's fiscal year, July 1. Officers of the board are elected annually at the first regular meeting.

Other ways to participate in your School District

There are many ways you can become involved in your schools.

As a Volunteer

From working with students in the classroom to helping in the school business offices, there are a multitude of ways you can help. Please contact the school in which you would like to volunteer.

As a Member of a Special Committee

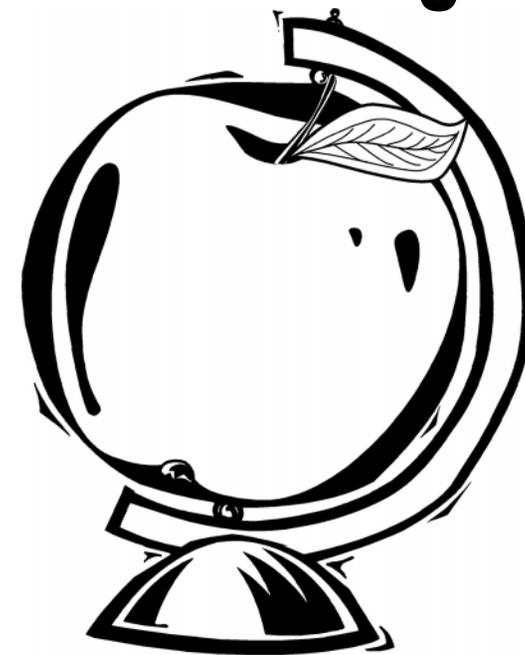
The board appoints special advisory committees to investigate areas of concern. If you would like to serve on a special committee, please leave your name with the Board Secretary.

As a Member of a Standing Committee

Community members serve on the district's curriculum committee and budget committee. Parents are urged to become involved in the schools' parent advisory committees and 21st Century Schools Council. Please contact the Superintendent's office for more information.

Prepared by the Oregon School Boards Association for use by school boards.

Welcome to a Meeting of



YOUR SCHOOL BOARD

We're pleased you took the time to join us!

As elected school board members, we are interested in your concerns and opinions.

Our hope is that this meeting will give you a better understanding of just how the school district operates. We encourage public participation in our meetings and welcome your comments. If you are interested in addressing the board, please review the procedure for public comment in this pamphlet. If you are here just to listen and learn, that's great! Just sit back and get a feel for "democracy in action."

School Board Meetings

The board meets monthly and those meetings are open to the public. The board's meetings dates are announced in advance.

Special meetings, also open to the public, are scheduled when needed. These sessions provide an opportunity for the school board to examine specific issues more thoroughly.

Executive meetings, in accordance with Oregon law, are closed to the public. Items the board may discuss in executive session include: personnel matters, collective bargaining strategies, property purchases, discussions with legal counsel, students' confidential records, and expulsion of students. News media representatives may attend executive sessions that deal with personnel matters, property purchases and discussion with legal counsel, but cannot report on these meetings. Any actions resulting from

discussion in executive session must be taken in a public session except for student expulsion.

What's on the agenda?

The board agenda is available before each board meeting and can be obtained at the school district office. Background information on agenda items is available at board meetings.

The agenda is divided into three major categories:

CONSENT AGENDA consists of routine items such as previous board minutes, routine personnel actions and routine financial transactions. Normally, there is little or no discussion on these items.

ACTION ITEMS are addressed individually by the board and may include reports from district administrators.

REPORTS are presented for the board's information and require no formal action.

In addition, audience discussion on non-agenda items is permitted at the beginning of the meeting. Audience members who wish to comment on agenda items will be called upon at the appropriate time.

How to be heard

The board encourages your comments! By hearing from the public, the board is able to make better-informed decisions.

If you want to speak during the meeting, please fill out an Agenda Card located on the table to the side of the room. Give the card to the Board Secretary.

Comments on items not on the agenda may be presented during "Audience Time" at the beginning of the meeting. If you wish to comment on an agenda item, the board chair will call on you at the appropriate time.

When speaking to the Board remember to:

1. Check with the board chair or superintendent to find out the procedure you need to follow.
2. When addressing the board, state your name and address at the start of your testimony. Identify the organization, if any, that you represent.
3. Keep your remarks brief. A good rule of thumb is to try to keep your testimony under three minutes. If you need more time, you may be granted additional time after others have spoken.
4. When submitting written testimony, prepare several copies to hand out to the board, administrators and news media representatives.

Board response

Audience time is not intended as a forum for public debate. Questions raised may require further investigation. Normally, the board will wait until its next meeting before responding to concerns raised.
