SAN DIEGO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION **BYLAW NO. 9200**

CLASSIFICATION: Bylaws of the Board

ADOPTED: 3/8/95
REVISED: (DATE)
REVIEWED: (DATE)

SUBJECT: Limits of Board Member Authority

The County Board of Education (County Board) has broad but clearly limited powers. The exercise of its authority is restricted to the functions required or permitted by law, and then only when it acts in a legally constituted meeting.

The County Board is the unit of authority. Apart from the normal function as part of the unit, a County Board member has no individual authority. Individually, a County Board member may not commit the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) to any policy, act, or expenditure. A County Board member cannot do business with the SDCOE, nor shall a County Board member have an interest in any contract with the SDCOE in general. Although County Board members are elected from five Educational Districts, County Board members do not represent any factional segment of the county but are rather a part of the County Board, which represents and acts in the interests of the county as a whole.

No individual member of the County Board, by virtue of holding office, shall exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the SDCOE nor, as an individual, command the services of any employee of the County Superintendent of Schools except as such services may be available to the general public, with the exception of routine requests made to the staff person assigned to provide administrative/clerical support to the County Board.

Individual members of the County Board may request information related to their County Board responsibilities from the County Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee at any time. If the information that is requested will require considerable time and/or cost to prepare, the request shall come from the County Board itself, rather than an individual member.

No member of the County Board shall be asked to perform any routine or clerical duties that may be assigned to any employee, nor shall any County Board member become an employee of the County Superintendent of Schools or any school district in San Diego County while serving on the County Board.

A County Board member shall not serve as a volunteer aide for programs, schools, or offices of the County Superintendent, unless he/she is the parent/guardian of a student enrolled in the program or school.

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A County Board member whose child is attending a school within the jurisdiction of the County Superintendent of Schools should be aware of his/her role as a County Board member when interacting with SDCOE employees about his/her child. The County Board member should inform the County Superintendent before volunteering in his/her child's classroom.

Obligations of Board Members

Members of the County Board must endeavor to attend all meetings, study all materials presented with the agenda prior to attending the meeting, participate in the discussion of any items which come before the County Board, and vote on all motions and resolutions, abstaining only for compelling reasons.

County Board members should not subordinate the education of children and youth to any partisan principle, group interest, or their own personal interest.

County Board members should be prepared and willing to devote a sufficient amount of time to the study of the problems of education in the County Office of Education, districts in the County, the state, and the nation in order to interpret them to the people of the county.

Board Bylaw Nos.: 9005, 9270
Derivation:
Adopted 3/8/95. Amended 1/14/98. Amended and Renamed (DATE).

Legal Reference:
Education Code
1040-1042, 51101
Government Code
54950-54962, 54952.1, 54952.7

Management Resources:
***Professional Governance Standards for County Boards,* California School Boards Association, October 2014: www.csba.org**
***County Board Member Handbook: A Guide to Effective Governance*, California County Boards of Education, 2015: www.theccbe.org**