

Twin Rivers USD

Board Bylaw

Board Committees

REVISED

BB 9130

Board Bylaws

~~The Board of Trustees may establish Board committees as necessary. The Board shall determine the duties of the committee at the time of its appointment. Unless specifically authorized by the Board to act on its behalf, Board committees shall act in an advisory capacity. When its duties have been completed, the committee shall be dissolved.~~

The Board of Trustees may establish a committee whenever it determines that such a committee would benefit the district by providing diverse viewpoints, specialized knowledge or expertise, or increased efficiency. Such committees may be subcommittees of the Board or committees that include members of the community, staff, or other stakeholder groups.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 2230 - Representative and Deliberative Groups)

(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)

Upon establishing a committee, the Board shall clearly define the committee's purpose, any timeline for completion of assigned responsibilities, any stakeholder groups or individuals to be represented on the committee, length of time that committee members are expected to serve, and expectations for reporting to the Board and/or the Superintendent or designee. Unless specifically authorized by the Board to act on its behalf, the committee shall act in an advisory capacity.

Except for subcommittees of the Board, committee members shall, as appropriate, be recommended by the Superintendent or designee and appointed by the Board president, subject to Board approval.

(cf. 9121 - President)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide committee members with information and assistance necessary for the fulfillment of the committee's charges, and may serve as a non-voting advisor to the committee at the discretion of the Board.

Whenever so charged, committees may actively seek input and participation by parents/guardians, staff, community, and students and may consult with local public boards and agencies.

Any committee not required by law may be dissolved when its duties or term has been completed or whenever the Board deems necessary.

Committee Meetings

Unless otherwise exempted by law, Board-created committees shall provide public notice of their meetings and conduct these meetings in accordance with state open meeting laws Government Code 54950-54963 (the Brown Act).

~~Meetings of advisory committees or standing committees for which an agenda is posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting pursuant to Government Code 54954.2, shall be considered, for purposes of the Brown Act, as regular meetings of the Board. (Government Code 54954)~~

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

However, Board advisory committees subcommittees composed solely of less than a quorum of the members of the Board are not subject to open meeting laws unless they are standing committees. **Standing committees of the Board, irrespective of membership, are those** that have a continuing subject matter jurisdiction or a meeting schedule established by **action of** the Board. (Government Code 54952)

Standing committees with a continuing subject matter jurisdiction include but are not limited to those responsible for providing advice on budgets, audits, **Board policy**, contracts and personnel matters at the Board's request.

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

(cf. 3430 - Investing)

(cf. 9310 - Board Policies)

When a majority of the members of the Board attend an open and noticed meeting of a standing committee, the Board members who are not members of the standing committee shall attend only as observers. (Government Code 54952.2) **As such, they may not ask questions or make statements at the meeting, and they must sit in the areas designated for members of the public. (81 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 156 (1998))**

~~The Superintendent or designee may serve as an advisor to any committee at the discretion of the Board.~~

~~Whenever so charged, committees may actively seek input and participation by parents/guardians, staff, community and students and may consult with local public boards and agencies.~~

Whenever any advisory or standing committee, including a committee not otherwise subject to the Brown Act, posts a meeting agenda at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting, that meeting shall be considered as a regular meeting of the Board for purposes of

the Brown Act and therefore must be held within district boundaries unless otherwise authorized by law. (Government Code 54954)

~~When a Board committee composed exclusively of Board members has provided for public comment on an item at a public meeting before or during the committee's consideration of the item, the Board is not obliged to provide for public comment on the item at a subsequent Board meeting. Public comment shall be afforded, however, if the Board determines that the item has been substantially changed since it was heard by the committee. (Government Code 54954.3)~~

Committees may meet in a closed session during a regular or special meeting only for those purposes specifically authorized by law for closed sessions held by the Board.

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

35024 Executive committee

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 The Brown Act, especially:

54952 Legislative body, definition

54952.2 Definition of meeting

54954 Time and place of regular meetings; special meetings; emergencies

54954.3 Opportunity for public to address legislative body

54957 Closed session purposes

COURT DECISIONS

Frazer v. Dixon Unified School District, (1993) 18 Cal.App.4th 781

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

81 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 156 (1998)

80 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 308 (1997)

79 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 69 (1996)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, 2009

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

Bylaw TWIN RIVERS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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