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## BOARD CANDIDATE/MEMBER ORIENTATION

### Board Candidate Orientation

Orientation will be provided for Board of Education candidates so that, insofar as possible, a new member will be prepared to discuss and cast informed votes on matters before the Board from the time that he/she is sworn into office.

During the period of their candidacy, all candidates will be urged to attend public meetings of the Board. All public information about the school system will be made available to them.

Additionally, the Board directs the Superintendent to cooperate impartially with all candidates in providing them with information about school governance, Board operations and school programs. This cooperation may include:

1. Notification of public meetings of the Board, with agenda and related materials provided.
2. Meeting with candidate(s) to provide background information on the school system and School Board service and/or arranging such other candidate orientation sessions as he/she finds desirable.
3. Making arrangements for the candidates to review the current policies of the Board, administrative regulations and other publications of the school system.

The Board and staff will seek to be impartial as they cooperate in the orientation of Board candidates. It expects the candidates to recognize that until and unless elected to the Board, their official status is that of other members of the public, and thus they are not entitled to privileged information discussed in closed session.

### New Board Member Orientation

The Board of Education and the administrative staff shall assist each new member-elect to understand as quickly after election as possible the Board's functions, policies and procedures, and the general operation of the school system. The following methods shall be used as a base for orientation, with such other materials and experiences upon which the president, secretary and member-elect may agree:

1. The incoming member will be given selected materials on the function of the Board and the school system.
2. The incoming member will be invited to attend Board meetings which occur between election and the date the member takes office.
3. The incoming member will be invited to meet with the Superintendent or designee, Board president and other administrative personnel to discuss services they perform for the Board.
4. The incoming member will be provided access to the district's policy manual, including administrative procedures.
5. The incoming member may attend, at district expense, workshops for newly elected members conducted by the State and/or the California School Boards Association.
6. The incoming member will be invited to visit school facilities.



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**Board Bylaw: #9230**

**Section: Bylaws of the Board**  
**Page 2 of 2**

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*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

33360 Department of Education and statewide association of school district boards; annual workshops

33362 Reimbursement of expenses; member of school district board

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