

SECTION: LOCAL BOARD PROCEDURES

TITLE: MEETINGS

ADOPTED: April 26, 2004

REVISED: April 28, 2014

EPHRATA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

<p>SC 407 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq</p> <p>SC 422</p> <p>SC 405, 426, 427, 428</p> <p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709</p> <p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">006. MEETINGS</p> <p>Section 1. <u>Parliamentary Authority</u></p> <p>All Board meetings shall be conducted in an orderly and business-like manner. Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, including group rules shall govern the Board in its deliberations in all cases in which it is not inconsistent with law, state regulations or Board procedures.</p> <p>Section 2. <u>Quorum</u></p> <p>A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Board. No business shall be transacted at a meeting without a quorum, but the Board members present at such a meeting may adjourn to another time.</p> <p>Section 3. <u>Presiding Officer</u></p> <p>The President shall preside at all Board meetings. In the absence, disability or disqualification of the President, the Vice-President shall act instead. If neither person is present, a Board member shall be elected President pro tempore by a plurality of those present to preside at that meeting only.</p> <p>Section 4. <u>Notice</u></p> <p>Notice of all public Board meetings, including committee meetings and work sessions, shall be given by publication of the date, place, and time of such meetings in the newspaper(s) of general circulation designated by the Board and posting of such notice at the administrative offices of the Board.</p> <p>a. Notice of regular meetings shall be given by publication and posting of a schedule showing the date, place and time of all regular meetings for the calendar year at least three (3) days prior to the time of the first regular meeting.</p>
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<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709</p>	<p>b. Notice of all special meetings shall be given by publication and posting of notice at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of the meeting, except that such notice shall be waived when a special meeting is called to deal with an actual emergency involving a clear and present danger to life or property.</p>
<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709</p>	<p>c. Notice of all rescheduled meetings shall be given by publication and posting of notice at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of the meeting.</p>
<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703</p>	<p>d. Notice of all recessed or reconvened meetings shall be given by posting a notice of the place, date and time of the meeting and sending copies of such notice to interested parties.</p>
<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 709</p>	<p>e. Notice of all public meetings shall be given to any newspaper(s) circulating in Lancaster County and any radio or television station which so requests. Notice of all public meetings shall be given to any individual who so requests and provides a stamped, addressed envelope for such notification.</p>
<p>SC 423</p>	<p>Notice of all regular Board meetings shall be given to Board members by mail prior to the time of the meeting.</p>
<p>SC 423 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 709</p>	<p>Notice of all rescheduled meetings and special meetings shall be given to Board members no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of the meeting.</p>
<p>SC 421 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq</p>	<p>Section 5. <u>Regular Meetings</u></p> <p>Regular Board meetings shall be public and shall be held at specified places at least once every two (2) months.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall be responsible for planning the agenda and gathering background material that pertains to items to be considered by the Board. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to deliver or cause to be delivered to all Board members recommendations and pertinent information two (2) days prior to a Board meeting in order to give Board members the opportunity to acquaint themselves with matters which very likely will be on the agenda of the forthcoming meeting. The President shall determine what changes or elimination of items are desirable and relate the same to the Superintendent, with the provision that Board members may request changes or elimination. Requests may be discussed in work sessions and in committee meetings.</p>

<p>SC 423, 426 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq</p>	<p>Section 6. <u>Special Meetings</u></p> <p>Special meetings may be called for special or general purposes and shall be public except when conducted as an executive session for purposes authorized by the Sunshine Act.</p>
<p>SC 426</p>	<p>The President may call a special meeting at any time and shall call a special meeting upon presentation of the written requests of three (3) Board members. Upon the President's failure or refusal to call a special meeting, such meeting may be called at any time by a majority of the Board members.</p>
<p>SC 423</p>	<p>No business shall be transacted at any special meeting except that named in the call sent to members for such special meeting.</p>
<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq Pol. 903</p>	<p>Section 7. <u>Public Participation</u></p> <p>District residents present at a Board meeting may address the Board in accordance with law and Board procedures and policy.</p>
<p>SC 324</p>	<p>Section 8. <u>Voting</u></p> <p>All motions shall require for adoption a majority vote of those Board members present and voting, except as provided by statute or Board procedures.</p> <p>All votes on motions and resolutions shall be by voice vote unless an oral roll call vote is requested by the President or another Board member.</p>
<p>SC 324</p>	<p>a. The following action requires the unanimous consent of all the remaining members of the Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appoint as attorney or solicitor of the Board a school director who has served for two (2) consecutive terms of four (4) years each after resigning his/her office. <p>b. The following actions require the recorded affirmative votes of two-thirds of the full number of Board members:</p>
<p>SC 609, 687</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transfer of budgeted funds during the first three (3) months of the fiscal year.
<p>SC 687</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Incur a temporary debt to meet an emergency or catastrophe.
<p>SC 324</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Elect to a teaching position a person who has served as a Board member and who has resigned.

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SC 707	4. Convey land or buildings to the municipality co-terminus with the school district in accordance with law.
SC 803	5. Adopt or change textbooks without the recommendation of the Superintendent.
SC 1129	6. Dismiss, after a hearing, a tenured professional employee.
SC 671	7. Fix the fiscal year to begin on the first day of January.
Pol. 003	8. Adopt, amend or repeal a Board procedure.
	c. The following actions require the recorded affirmative votes of a majority of the full number of Board members:
SC 508	1. Fixing the length of school term.
SC 508 Pol. 108	2. Adopting textbooks recommended by the Superintendent.
SC 508, 1071, 1076	3. Appointing the district Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent(s).
SC 508	4. Appointing teachers and principals.
SC 508 Pol. 604	5. Adopting the annual budget.
SC 508 Pol. 005, 606	6. Appointing tax collectors and other appointees.
SC 508 Pol. 605	7. Levying and assessing taxes.
SC 508	8. Purchasing, selling, or condemning land.
SC 508	9. Locating new buildings or changing the location of old ones.
SC 508 Pol. 107	10. Adopting planned instruction.
SC 508	11. Establishing additional schools or departments.
SC 508, 621	12. Designating depositories for school funds.
	13. Expending district funds.

SC 687 Pol. 612	14. Authorizing the transfer of any unencumbered balance, or portion thereof, from one appropriation to another, or from one spending agency to another during the last nine (9) months of the fiscal year.
SC 508 Pol. 610	15. Entering into contracts of any kind, including contracts for the purchase of fuel or any supplies where the amount involved exceeds \$100 (including items subject to bid requirements).
SC 508	16. Fixing salaries or compensation of officers, teachers, or other appointees of the Board.
SC 224	17. Combining or reorganizing into a larger school district.
SC 508	18. Entering into contracts with and making appropriations to the intermediate unit for the district's proportionate share of the cost of services provided or to be provided by the intermediate unit.
SC 508, 514, 1080	19. Dismissing, after a hearing, a nontenured employee.
SC 212	20. Adopting a corporate seal for the district.
SC 702	21. Determining the location and amount of any real estate required by the school district for school purposes.
SC 708	22. Vacating and abandoning property to which the Board has title.
SC 1503	23. Determining the holidays, other than those provided by statute, to be observed by special exercises and those on which the schools shall be closed for the whole day.
Pol. 004	24. Declaring that a vacancy exists on the Board by reason of the failure or neglect of a school director to qualify.
Pol. 003	25. Adopting, amending or repealing Board policy.
SC 518 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 706	<p>Section 9. <u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The Board shall cause to be made, and shall retain as a permanent record of the district, minutes of all open Board meetings. Said minutes shall be comprehensible and complete and shall show:</p> <p>a. Date, place, and time of the meeting.</p> <p>b. Names of Board members present.</p>

<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 705</p> <p>SC 407</p> <p>SC 433</p> <p>SC 407 Pol. 800, 801</p> <p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709 Pol. 006</p> <p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 707, 708</p>	<p>c. Presiding officer.</p> <p>d. Substance of all official actions.</p> <p>e. Actions taken.</p> <p>f. Recorded votes and a record by individual members of all roll call votes taken.</p> <p>g. Names of all residents who appeared officially and the subject of their testimony.</p> <p>The Board Secretary shall provide each Board member with a copy of the minutes of the last meeting no later than two (2) days before the next regular meeting.</p> <p>The minutes of Board meetings shall be approved at the next succeeding meeting and signed by the Board Secretary.</p> <p>Notations and any tape or audiovisual recordings shall not be the official record of a public Board meeting but may be available for public access, upon request, in accordance with Board policy. Any notations and/or audiovisual recordings of a Board meeting shall be retained and disposed of in accordance with the district's records retention schedule.</p> <p>Section 10. <u>Recess/Reconvene</u></p> <p>The Board may at any time recess or reconvene to a reconvened meeting at a specified date and place, upon the majority vote of those present. The reconvened meeting shall immediately take up its business at the point in the agenda where the motion to recess was acted upon. Notice of the reconvened meeting shall be given as provided in Board policy.</p> <p>Section 11. <u>Executive Session</u></p> <p>The Board may hold an executive session, which is not an open meeting, before; during; at the conclusion of a public meeting; or at some other time. The presiding officer shall announce the reason for holding the executive session; the announcement can be made at the public meeting prior to or after the executive session.</p> <p>The Board may discuss the following matters in executive session:</p> <p>a. Employment issues.</p> <p>b. Labor relations.</p>
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<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq Pol. 006</p> <p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709</p> <p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709 Pol. 006</p> <p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq</p>	<p>c. Purchase or lease of real estate.</p> <p>d. Consultation with an attorney or other professional advisor regarding potential litigation or identifiable complaints that may lead to litigation.</p> <p>e. Matters that must be conducted in private to protect a lawful privilege or confidentiality.</p> <p>Official actions based on discussions held in executive session shall be taken at a public meeting.</p> <p>Section 12. <u>Work Sessions</u></p> <p>The Board may meet as a Committee of the Whole in a public meeting to vote on or to discuss issues. Public notice of such meetings shall be made in accordance with Board procedures.</p> <p>A meeting of the Committee of the Whole, not regularly scheduled, may be called at any time by the President; the President shall call such a meeting when requested to do so by Board members. Public notice of the meeting shall be made in accordance with Board procedures.</p> <p>The Board Secretary shall provide notice of a meeting of the Committee of the Whole in accordance with Board procedures.</p> <p>Section 13. <u>Committee Meetings</u></p> <p>Standing committee meetings may be called at any time by the committee chairperson, with proper public notice, or when requested to do so by members of the committee.</p> <p>A majority of the total membership of a committee shall constitute a quorum.</p> <p>Unless held as an executive session, standing committee meetings shall be open to the public, other Board members, and the Superintendent.</p> <p>A majority of the committee or the chairperson may invite Board employees, consultants or other persons who have special knowledge of an area under discussion.</p>
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<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 707</p>	<p>Section 14. <u>Conferences</u></p> <p>Board members may meet for a training program, seminar or session arranged by state or federal agencies for the school district, organized and conducted for the sole purpose of providing information on matters directly related to their official responsibilities. The conference shall not constitute a meeting, as long as no deliberations or official action occurs.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 212, 224, 324, 405, 407, 408, 421, 422, 423, 426, 427, 428, 433, 508, 514, 518, 609, 621, 634, 665, 671, 687, 702, 707, 708, 803, 1071, 1075, 1076, 1077, 1080, 1111, 1129, 1503</p> <p>Sunshine Act – 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq.</p> <p>Board Policy – 003, 004, 005, 006, 107, 108, 604, 605, 606, 610, 612, 800, 801, 903</p>
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