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INTRODUCTION

Philosophy of Leadership Key Work of School Boards

In addition to its Mission Statement and Board Goals, as well as responsibilities defined by law, the Board subscribes to the Key Work of School Boards. This framework for planning and action, developed by the National School Board Association, is based on the system's concept that no action or progress is accomplished in isolation. The eight essential areas for Board focus and action are as follows:

Vision – establishing a clear vision of student achievement as a top priority of the Board, staff and community.

Standards – setting clear standards for student performance.

Assessment – establishing regular and valid assessments to measure district and student progress.

Accountability – establishing a process that holds the school system accountable for student success.

Alignment – aligning of all district resources to focus on student performance.

Climate – creating a positive climate throughout the school district to promote student success.

Collaborative Relationships – building collaborative relationships with the community to promote and develop a consensus and understanding of the priority of student achievement.

Continuous Improvement – committing all individuals within the school district to the idea of continuous improvement in the pursuit of student achievement and success.

Representation, and Culture of Respect Core Values for Board Members

The Board will:

1. Deliberate in many voices, but govern in one.
2. Cultivate a sense of group responsibility; understanding that it is the Board, not the staff or administration, which is responsible for excellence in governance.
3. Be an integral part of the school district's leadership, striving to lead the district through a clear mission statement, an articulated vision for the district, shared and commonly understood goals, broad and clearly written policies, and a continual monitoring of the school and student performance.

4. Be willing to hold itself to high standards of excellence in governance and professional responsibility, including a willingness to hold individual Board members and the Board itself accountable for its actions.
5. Continually monitor its own process, performance and progress.
6. Vigorously and intelligently advocate for the school district and its students on the local, state and national level.
7. Commit, both individually and collectively, to being well-informed and educated on local, state and national educational issues, initiatives and practices.
8. Regularly communicate with all stakeholders about school district performance, direction, initiatives, issues and ideas.
9. Formally and informally recognize and celebrate school, staff and student success.
10. Insist on the pursuit of excellence on the part of all with a role in the school district – staff, students and board members.
11. Always strive to act in the interest of what is best for all students, believing that all students can learn and succeed at a high level.
12. Serve as a model of positive professional and ethical conduct.

PRIMARY BOARD MEMBER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Advocacy

Board and Superintendent

- Selection
- ~~Evaluation~~
- Relationship

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Superintendent Hiring

Superintendent responsibilities (see KPBSD p.4)

[BP 2122 Superintendent of School: Job Description](#)

[AR 2122 Superintendent of School: Job Description](#)

Superintendent Evaluation

As the superintendent of schools is the only school district employee directly supervised by the Board of Education, the Board is responsible for evaluating the superintendent's performance, as well as making decisions concerning his/her contract of employment, such as compensation and extending the term of the contract. Following the conclusion of the school year, the Board shall conduct an evaluation of the superintendent's performance, utilizing a process and standards of performance that has been agreed upon in advance with the superintendent of schools. [The evaluation process is reviewed annually.](#)

[BP 2123 Evaluation of Superintendent](#)

[AR 2123-Evaluation of Superintendent](#)

~~The Superintendent has _____ major responsibilities upon which he will be evaluated. Those responsibilities are (not sure if this fits)~~

1. ~~Makes reasonable progress toward achieving the student performance goals in the strategic plan~~
2. ~~Operates in a manner consistent with the Board's stated operational expectations:~~
 - a. ~~Planning~~
 - b. ~~Instructional Leadership~~
 - c. ~~Safety and Organizational Management for Learning~~
 - d. ~~Communication and Community Relations~~
 - e. ~~Professionalism~~

Board Responsibilities (~~KPBSD p. 3 and 4~~ for additional consideration)

~~The Board values a harmonious and positive relationship with the Superintendent characterized by excellent communication, mutual respect, personal ethics, and professional integrity and guidance.~~

The responsibility of the School Board is to:

- Develop, adopt and revise Board Policy which governs the operations of the District.
- Recruit, interview, appoint and evaluate the superintendent.
- Establish goals, plan for their accomplishment, and evaluate their success.
- Approve an annual budget and any revisions to it.
- Serve as the citizen's oversight to the school district.
- Hear and decide appeals from staff or students.

~~Shared Superintendent/Board Relationship Responsibilities~~

1. ~~Commits to act in best interests of the District, as defined by the District's governance documents, to include the Strategic Plan~~
2. ~~Builds close but independent relationships~~
3. ~~Establishes precise expectations~~
4. ~~Establishes roles and responsibilities~~
5. ~~Demonstrates leadership qualities, such as honesty, competence, intelligence, and progressive thinking.~~

The School Board commits to the following:

1. ~~Individual, monthly meetings with the Superintendent.~~
- 2.1. Evaluation of the performance of the Superintendent.
- 3.2. Collaborate with the Superintendent to arrive at reasonable and measurable goals by June of each year.
- 4.3. Focus on strategic leadership rather than the administrative details.
4. Observe a clear distinction between Board and superintendent responsibilities by avoiding managing the district
5. ~~and by pProvideing guidance and giving direction through majority decisions of the full Board rather than through individual decisions. (see berlin p 4)~~

Shared Superintendent/Board Relationship Responsibilities

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The Board values a harmonious and positive relationship with the Superintendent characterized by excellent communication, mutual respect, personal ethics, and professional integrity and guidance.

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Board Bylaws

Board Self-Evaluation

~~In an effort to constantly improve and Because the Board~~ understands the value of self-reflection and feedback, a Board self-evaluation ~~will be made available~~process will begin annually ~~in~~ mid-April ~~and, be~~ completed by mid-May. ~~, and discussed at~~ During the Board Annual Planning Session in early June, ~~the Board will have an opportunity to use this self-evaluation information to focus on its internal operations, its goals, its professional conduct and its ability to distinguish between governance and management.~~

~~An essential part of the self evaluation process is a focus on board governance. The Board will have an opportunity to focus on its internal operations, its goals, its professional conduct and the Board's ability to distinguish between governance and management.~~

The Board shall be evaluated as a whole and not as individuals. All members shall be expected to complete the self-evaluation and participate in the process.

[BB 9400 Board Self-Evaluation](#)

Committee Service

The Board understands that not all of its work can be accomplished at regularly scheduled meetings of the entire Board; and that in order to dedicate the necessary time, expertise and focus on individual issues, it is necessary to utilize committees of the Board. The School Board may establish committees as deemed necessary.

~~Each board committee is composed no more than Board members appointed by the Board president, with each member serving on one committee. When an issue(s) calls for the addition of a committee(s) the Board will committees, appointed by the Board president. [BB 9130](#)~~

Communication ~~(add community remote participation)~~

◆ News Media: The Board president is considered the official spokesperson for the Board. Board members may be asked for an interview by the news media and may respond or refer questions to the Board president or superintendent. When submitting letters to the editor, unless authorized by the Board, identify yourself as a private individual.

- Email: Each Board member shall read email frequently (daily if possible) and check messages posted on the School Board Folder.
- Parents/Community: Board Members are encouraged to attend school and community functions as a visitor but are not officially speaking for the Board.

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- Legislative Lobbying: When testifying before the legislature or when visiting with a member of the state or U.S legislature, identify yourself as an individual, not as a Board member, unless specifically authorized by the Board.

• ~~Direction~~

Community, Student and Staff Recognition

- Community Connections
- Constituent Services
- ~~Graduation Ceremony Participation~~
- ~~_____~~
- ~~_____~~
- ~~_____~~
- ~~Requests and Visits~~

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Confidentiality

~~As part of the Board's work, members often handle confidential information, (e.g., sensitive board packet documents, executive session information). Board members shall not divulge or release confidential information.~~

~~Given the legal and sensitive nature of Executive Sessions, Board members understand that the law requires that all such meetings are strictly confidential. (Add to this?)~~ [BB 9011 Confidential Information](#)

Conflict of Interest

Board members are expected to ~~declare identify~~ ~~whenever~~ they have a personal or professional interest in an issue that might compromise or call their judgment into question. ~~Members who think they have a conflict shall inform the board president. The president will consult the legal department, if necessary, and determine whether or not a conflict exists.~~

~~Add language that this is broader than voting only.~~ In all of their actions and statements, Board members are asked to be beyond reproach.

[BB 9270 Conflict of Interest](#)

~~Elected Official~~Newly Elected Members

- ~~Oath of Office: The Board administrative secretary is authorized to administer the Oath of Office to newly elected Board members at the school board meeting after the election results are certified. BB 9224~~
- ~~Qualifications: Individuals must be registered voters in the Kenai Peninsula (districts) in order to serve on the Board of Education. Beyond the minimum statutory requirements for Board service, it is expected that Board of Education members will share a commitment to providing an exceptional educational experience for each student, and a willingness to work and study to become well versed in public education and in KPB schools.~~
- ~~Orientation/Onboarding: As part of its commitment to having highly-trained individuals as part of a professional governing board, the Board will provide orientation opportunities for new members and candidates. Once the list of candidates is finalized, the Board president and the superintendent of schools will offer candidates an opportunity to learn about service on the Board of Education by providing a candidate orientation. As part of the orientation,~~

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candidates will be provided a package of materials including the Board member handbook, the Board of Education budget document, a copy of the most recent Board self-evaluation, and other appropriate materials. ADD short list of other opportunities.

- Resignation:

- Filling a vacancy: A vacancy may be filled by a vote of the majority of the members of the Board. If the Board intends to fill a vacancy on the Board, it will publicize the vacancy and interview candidates. New members are appointed by a majority vote of the Board members present. The appointment by the Board of an individual to fill a Board vacancy will only be until the next general election, when the appointed member's seat will be on the ballot.

- Elections: Every 3 years, campaign directives

- Exit interview: Board members who leave the Board, either through resignation or election, will be asked to complete an exit interview questionnaire. It is hoped that through honest and thoughtful reflections, departing Board members can provide valuable information and ideas for Board self-evaluation and improvement efforts.

- ~~Oath of Office: The Board administrative secretary is authorized to administer the Oath of Office to newly elected Board members at the school board meeting after the election results are certified. BB 9224~~

- ~~Resignation:~~

- ~~Filling a vacancy: A vacancy may be filled by a vote of the majority of the members of the Board. If the Board intends to fill a vacancy on the Board, it will publicize the vacancy and interview candidates. New members are appointed by a majority vote of the Board members present. The appointment by the Board of an individual to fill a Board vacancy will only be until the next general election, when the appointed member's seat will be on the ballot.~~

- Hearings:

Code of Ethics:

- Board members shall be independent, impartial, and responsible in the governance of the District and shall conduct themselves in an ethical manner that does not present the appearance of a conflict of interest.

[BB 9271 Code of Ethics](#)

Finance Process

Governance

Governance Culture is the positive or negative atmosphere created by the way people in an organization treat each other. The Board will strive to have both implicit and explicit annual written agreements about how members will behave with each other and with other members of the organization. These behavioral ground rules, often called norms, enable Boards to build and maintain a positive culture or shift a negative one.

There are three dimensions to the effective governance of any organization:

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- The actions of an individual;
- A group coming together to govern; and
- The performance of governance responsibilities by the group.

The Board strives to institutionalize a focus on continuous improvement leading to student achievement and student success through its development of policy, ongoing evaluation, and commitment to individual and Board professional growth.

[BB 9000 Role of Board and Members](#)

Legal Counsel

Personnel

- Hiring/Contract Approval Process/Tenure
- Collective Bargaining

Planning

The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District ~~develops a long-term strategic plan every five years which details priorities and includes high expectations that are a result of data-driven information. Guided by the strategic plan, the school board annually~~ sets innovative, rigorous, and challenging goals for our students, teachers, and staff.

~~The board adopts annual agenda guidelines prior to the beginning of each school year to include quarterly work sessions. The quarterly work sessions will be held to review progress of the district and planning for future meetings.~~

E 0100(a) Strategic Plan

~~The fiscal year and the school year run concurrently from July 1 through June 30.~~

Board Goals

~~Every year during the June Planning session, that board develops its goals for the upcoming year. Board goals will be developed prior to the beginning of each school school.~~

Strategic Planning

~~The Strategic Plan details priorities and includes high expectations that are a result of data-driven information. An Action Plan is developed on current and future best teaching and learning methods. Add more detail as needed.~~

Add paragraph regarding the district’s various plans, i.e. Tech Plan, Voc Ed, and note where members can get more information. Some plans require board approval.

Problem Solving

Responding to Community/Staff Concerns or Complaints

The Board represents all borough residents. Community members need to feel they are listened to and heard. Consequently, the Board wants to be consistent in the way it responds to community concerns. When approached by a parent, community

member or staff with questions or concerns, the Board is encouraged to use active listening skills.

A good example is the 6R's:

- **Receive** - Listen carefully to what the person has to say.
- **Repeat** - Paraphrase or ask a question (s) to clarify for understanding.
- **Request** - Ask the person, "have you spoken to school personnel/school administration/district personnel prior to contacting a Board Member?"
- **Review** - Review the conversation and go over the real options available to the person to remedy the situation.
- **Redirect** - Remember lines of authority and chains of command and redirect the individual to connect with appropriate person/department.
- **Report** - Maintain open lines of communication between the Board and Superintendent and notify the Superintendent of the conversation as soon as possible. The Superintendent can verify or clarify the situation and follow-through as necessary.

Cite reference?

When a Board member receives an email from a community member expressing concern about District matters, the Board member will forward the email to the Board President and Superintendent. It is at the discretion of the Board member to acknowledge the community member, e.g., "Thank you for your message." Or "I will direct this issue to the proper authority/department." [BP 1312.1](#)

Professional Learning

The Board supports the continuous education and development of its members by recognizing that knowledge gained through professional learning experiences at appropriate Board conferences, workshops, conventions, and professional development opportunities enhances a Board member's effectiveness.

Professional Learning experiences may include, but are not limited to, AASB Annual Conference, AASB Fall and Winter Academies, AASB Fly-In, and NSBA Annual Conference. *Add language from L. Hohl regarding funding/budget constraints and prioritizing.* Upon completion of a professional learning activity, Board members are encouraged to submit a written synopsis for the Board general information packet.

Representation/Other participation in elected positions/organizations

Role with Kenai Peninsula Borough

BOARD BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS

Attendance/Excused Absences, remote participation

Meeting Calendar

The fiscal year and the school year run concurrently from July 1 through June 30.

The Board President and Superintendent develop a master calendar of regular business meetings and quarterly work sessions for the ensuing fiscal year. The calendar is approved by the Board, usually in April. The quarterly work sessions are

generally held to review progress on the strategic plan and annual board goals. Other topics are considered as needed.

Agenda Availability and Meeting Information

An agenda for each regular School Board meeting shall be prepared under the direction of the Board President in consultation with the Superintendent. School Board members wanting to have an item included on the agenda should contact the Board President with the request so the item can be discussed during Board Discussion under “Future Agenda Items to Consider” to see if further attention is desired by the Board. (here or in planning?)
The agenda and all supporting documents and information shall be made available to the School Board and the public and posted to the web at least ___ business days in advance of the meeting.

Agenda Planning

The superintendent of schools, in conjunction with the Board president, develops an agenda for each Board meeting. Meeting agendas, along with necessary documents and materials, are distributed to Board members prior to the meeting. (three business days)

Annual Agenda Guideline

Each year, the Board president and superintendent develop an annual guideline for required board business...

Bringing Up New Agenda Items

When a request is made to put an item on a future agenda, (after Board discussion and Board agreement or consideration has taken place) a Board member should (see note above to see if info should be placed here or above).

If the Board has a favorable reaction to a proposal, the Board President will consult administration to see when time is available at a future Board meeting.

**There should be no surprises to the Superintendent or other Board members.

The ultimate goal may be to create a team where profound respect for and belief in each other’s wisdom and perspective is imbedded: then when someone really cares about an issue, the others are quickly open to considering it without a lengthy consensus-building process becoming necessary.

Follow-up on Future Agenda Items

The Board realizes that undertaking new initiatives listed as future agenda items may place too heavy a burden on staff time. New efforts may detract from the focus on the District’s current priorities. Acknowledging this, the Board still sees “Future agenda items” as a way to have the District explore new ideas and improved approaches. When the Superintendent and Board President meet to review upcoming Board agendas, they will work together to prioritize future agenda items

Board Administrative Secretary

Board Contact Information

Board Organizational Meeting/Annual Expectations

The **November Board** meeting following the election is the Board's Annual Organizational Meeting. At this meeting, the newly-elected Board members will sit with the Board for the first time and the Board will elect officers. (more?)

Indemnification **Have Legal help with this.**

- Alaska - AS 14.12.115. Indemnification
A school board shall insure or indemnify and protect the board, any member of the board, or any agent, employee, teacher, student teacher, officer, or member of the supervisory or administrative staff of the school district against financial loss and expense, including reasonable legal fees and costs arising out of any claim, demand, suit, or judgment by reason of alleged negligence, alleged violation of civil rights, or alleged wrongful act resulting in death or bodily injury to any person or accidental damage to or destruction of property, inside or outside the school premises, if the board member, agent, employee, teacher, student teacher, officer, or member of the supervisory or administrative staff, at the time of the occurrence, was acting under the direction of the school board within the course or scope of the duties of the board member, agent, employee, teacher, student teacher, officer, or member of the supervisory or administrative staff.
- Stoddard- Indemnification of School Board Members
The members of the School Board and its employees and agents act as agents of the School District. None of these individuals should be placed in a position of personal liability for the performance of the responsibilities vested in them by the voters of the School District and the state and federal governments. In order to protect the individual members of the School Board, its employees and other agents, and the educational interest of the community, the School Board will purchase, from public school funds, in the absence of governmental immunity or in coordination with governmental immunity, adequate insurance to indemnify School Board members and agents of the School District for their official actions in the service of the School District. NOTE: Acting alone rather than as a member of the School Board can result in personal liability or damage. Statutory References: RSA 31:104, Powers and Duties of Towns: Liability of Municipal Executives RSA 31:105, Powers and Duties of Towns: Indemnification for Damages RSA 31:106, Powers and Duties of Towns: Indemnification: Civil Rights Act RSA 31:107, Powers and Duties of Towns: Purchase of Insurance RSA 50-B:2, Liability for Negligence

Meetings

The Board of Education meets at least once a month, and meetings last approximately one to three hours. Work sessions and board committee meetings are usually held prior to each regular meeting ~~and, typically middayrun~~ until the Board dinner break. ~~When possible, the Board encourages using the dinner break to invite local elected officials and tribal representatives, and other District partners guests to join the Board for informal conversations over a light dinner. Board members offers guest suggestions to the president. The president extends the invitations.~~ Additionally, the Board ~~has the current practice of holds~~ quarterly work sessions and planning sessions and work sessions, usually on the morning following a regular meeting. beginning around 9am the following morning which can extend into the afternoon. When the Board is considering the budget or high priority needs, additional meetings and work

sessions may be necessary. A joint ~~budget review meeting(s)~~budget work session with the Borough Assembly is usually held prior to Board approval and development of the budget. Special District activities or meetings may require the attendance of Board members, e.g.i.e. Administrator meetings, Key Communicator events.
[BB 9320 Meetings](#)

Preparation

Typical ~~Regular Board~~ Meeting Day Schedule (times are approximate)

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Committee Meetings
2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Work Sessions
4:00 – 4:30 p.m. Board Discussion
5:00 – 5:40 p.m. Dinner Break
6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Business Meeting

Work Sessions

Work sessions are conducted for review of a subject in greater depth than is possible during a regular meeting. All Board members are expected to attend. No voting ~~or public comment~~ takes place but direction can be given, but
The public is welcome to listen attend. Public comment is allowed only by permission from the chair.

Regular Meetings

The Board holds at least 12 meetings per year. Meetings are primarily held in Soldotna with one meeting each spring in Seward and one meeting each fall in Homer.

Special Meetings

The Special meetings are convened for action on matters that cannot wait until the next regular meeting. Only the specific topics on the special meeting agenda can be discussed.

Executive Session (closed meetings)

An executive session is not a stand-alone, or secret meeting; it is a part of a public meeting in which the public may be temporarily excluded for certain purposes. The executive sessions are convened only for discussion of personnel, or fiscal or other matters that by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential. The permissible reasons for holding an executive session are limited and, when in doubt, the Board may choose to consult with counsel.~~Voting~~ Board action does not take place during these sessions.

When appropriate, other district staff or legal counsel will be invited into an executive session. (check w/ legal)

[BB 9321](#) Executive Session, [BB 9011](#) Confidential Issues
[AS 44.62.310 Government Meetings Public aka Open Meetings Act](#)

Meeting Audio/Video

Audio/video recordings of business meetings are available as a matter of public record. The recordings are streamed live and posted on the District BoardDocs portal.

The following guidelines will help ensure that meeting recordings can be understood by all listeners.

Board President

- Confirm the type of meeting (Board of Education regular meeting, special meeting or emergency special meeting), as well as meeting date, time, and location
- Acknowledge excused Board members as roll is called by the Board administrative secretary
- Acknowledge any member attending via distance
- Acknowledge Board members by name as they are given permission to speak. Assure Board members attending via distance are given opportunities to speak
- Acknowledge by name the maker of the motion or amendment and the second
- Repeat each motion before the vote is taken
- Report individual votes and whether the motion passed or failed
- Acknowledge when a Board member leaves the meeting before adjournment (“Mr. Smith has been excused from the meeting.”) or arrives after meeting has commenced (Ms. Smith was delayed and has joined the meeting.)

All Board Members

- Silence electronic devices – e.g. cell phone, computers
- Speak directly into the microphone
- Assume that video and microphones are live at all times as side conversations can be picked up by neighboring microphones and become part of the recording
- ~~Assume video is live at all times.~~
- Start speaking after turning on the microphone and stop speaking before turning it off
- Speak only when recognized by the Board president
- Speak slowly when reading to the audience from printed material.

Meeting Protocols and Acceptable Board Communications, Preparation

To insure Board meetings are conducted with maximum effectiveness and efficiency, members agree to

- create a positive culture and atmosphere during Board meetings and other forums;
- always put the best interest of students first;
- come to meetings prepared;
- be open to the ideas of others, remembering that everyone’s opinion counts;
- identify issues of concern before the meeting, whenever possible;
- stay focused on the Board’s long and short term goals;
- speak only when recognized by the Chair;
- be proactive in communicating in order to avoid surprises;
- value equal participation of all members; and
- practice respectful body language.

Minutes

The minutes are recorded and prepared by the Board’s administrative secretary to include:

~~Minutes shall be kept for every business meeting. Minutes are considered unofficial until approved by the Board.~~

~~The minutes shall include:~~

- The District name, member attendance, date, time meeting began, location, type of meeting (special, regular, emergency special), and time of adjournment;
- All motions and amendments made by any Board member unless withdrawn, even if the action dies for lack of a second;
- All action taken;
- The name and the subject for all public speakers and presenters; and
- A brief summary of all reports e.g. Superintendent's Report, Board Comments-
- Any appropriate report from an executive session.

Minutes are considered unofficial until approved by the Board and signed by the presiding officer and the Board clerk.

Minutes are posted in BoardDocs and an official, hard copy is archived and retained permanently.

[BB 9320 Board Minutes](#)

Officers of the Board

President

The president shall

1. Preside over Board meetings using Robert's Rules of Order.
2. Serve as Board's official spokesperson, in conjunction with the Superintendent.
3. Sign official letters, minutes and other required documents on behalf of the Board.
4. Consult with Superintendent in the preparation of the Board agenda
5. Appoint Board members to serve on various committees.
6. Ensure that evaluations of the Superintendent take place by the end of the fiscal year, compile the collective responses of Board members, and facilitate conversation between the Board and Superintendent about the results.
7. Work with the Board members and Superintendent to write mutual measureable goals for the upcoming year.
8. Work with the Superintendent to ensure that Board members have necessary materials and information.

The president shall have the same rights as other members of the Board, including the right to move, second, discuss and vote on all questions before the Board. Pass gavel...

Other ideas to consider??

Ensure that the business of the Board is conducted in a timely, orderly and succinct fashion.

Anticipate and address Board and individual member needs in order to achieve consensus and/or sound decision making.

Focus on open and fair discussion among Board members, enabling each to have an opportunity to express his/her ideas and opinions of a stated topic.
Speak at district-wide Board sponsored events acknowledging the presence of Board colleagues and elected officials in attendance. Or...

Recognize Board members/special guests in attendance at community events.

Vice President

The Vice-President shall

1. Perform the duties and have the obligations of the President when the President is absent from a regular Board meeting
2. Attend meetings with or at the request of the President
3. Assist the President as needed
4. ??? Other

Clerk

The Clerk shall

1. Perform the duties and have the obligations of the President when both the President and Vice President are absent from a regular Board meeting
2. Serves as one of three signatures on warrants authorized by the School Board,
3. Signs **all legal documents** on behalf of the district, ??
- 4.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall **(KPBSD)**

Open Meetings Act

AS 44.62.310 Government Meetings, **Have legal review** also known as the Open Meetings Act (OMA) requires that all meetings of the Board be open to the public except certain matters that may be discussed in executive session. The OMA is intended to ensure that decisions made and actions taken are public knowledge and represent the will of the public that the Board serves.

In essence, the OMA protects the public's right to know. To this end, the OMA requires that:

- all deliberations and action taken by the Board must be done in public view, with limited exceptions;
- the public must be provided prior knowledge of all steps occurring in the decision making process, with limited exceptions; and that
- individual actions of board members are made known.

In order for these requirements to have full effect, meetings must occur as provided in the notice; and, with few exceptions, **the public must be allowed to involve itself in the meeting**. The public must also have access to materials being considered during the meeting.

The OMA should be narrowly construed to effectuate these policies and avoid unnecessary exemptions.

A meeting of a decision or policy-making body occurs when more than three members or a majority of the members, whichever is less, engage collectively in discussion of a subject that the body is authorized to act and set policy on and is therefore subject to the Open Meetings Act. Under this definition, it doesn't matter where the meeting occurs, if it was prearranged, or who arranged it and could include unplanned casual or social contact.

A meeting of an advisory only body, i.e. committees, is a prearranged gathering to consider a matter on which the entity is authorized to advise and assist the decision making body and is subject to the provisions of the act. The act doesn't specify a number, so two or more members, if the gathering is prearranged for the purpose of conducting any business of the entity, could constitute a meeting. *Note: if two or more is the minimum to constitute a meeting of an advisory only body, what about district level committees with two or more board members participating?*

Note: The preceding information was essentially sourced from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development website.

Serial meetings (a series of gatherings of Board members, over the course of which, a quorum exists) whether in person or by means of electronic communication, to deliberate toward a decision or take action are prohibited by the OMA.

Quorum

Five members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. Unless otherwise specified by Board policy, a majority of board members voting on a particular item is sufficient for approval. ?? [BB 9323](#)

The School Board chair shall call the meeting to order at the appointed time and place, if a quorum is present, to transact business according to the agenda. At any meeting of the School Board, a majority of the members [\(A majority of the number of filled positions on the Board constitutes a quorum.\)](#) shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of convening a meeting.

[BB 9232 Meeting Conduct](#)

Parliamentary Procedure

Parliamentary procedure facilitates the transaction of business and promotes cooperation and harmony. State statutes and regulations may direct some parliamentary procedures, i.e. [AS 29.20.020 Meetings Public](#) requires that all regular and special meetings must include a reasonable time for the public to be heard. BB 9323 reflects Board adoption of parliamentary procedures through board bylaws. BB 9323 includes the choice to adopt Roberts Rules of Order as the parliamentary authority used to guide board meetings except as provided otherwise either in board policy or law. Robert's Rules of Order is the most commonly adopted parliamentary authority among societies in the United States.

Requests for Information **Board Member Requests**

It is important for Board members to be informed about the school district and the performance of our students. The Superintendent and staff administrators regularly provide Board members with data and information via presentations at Board meetings. Board members who seek additional information are encouraged to work through the standing Board committees to obtain this information. If the information sought by individual Board members is not readily available through the work of the committees, Board members are to coordinate their information requests with the Board President to ensure that the information requests submitted to the Superintendent and staff do not overwhelm them so as to distract them from their primary responsibilities

Level I – INFORMATION REQUEST from a PARENT OR OTHER CITIZEN Board members should seek to connect community members with school or division staff who can assist with the parent’s specific issue(s). ~~Here or ?~~

Level II – INFORMATION REQUEST for ROUTINE, READILY-AVAILABLE INFORMATION

Requests: Examples of routine, readily-available information include items that require no or little additional preparation such as a:

1. Report that has already been generated;
2. PowerPoint that was prepared for a meeting;
3. Current School Board policy;
4. Talking points that have already been prepared; and,
5. Verbal update on an issue or concern that takes no additional research and that can be provided in a short amount of time with no follow-up required.

Process: Requests may be made directly to the appropriate Director or ____?

Level III – REQUESTS REQUIRING RESEARCH

Requests for non-routine, complex information, research or analysis
Process

Level IV – POLICY RESEARCH/RECOMMENDATION

Requests: Analysis of current/future policy or issue requiring School Board attention.

Process: Referred to the School Board for review and appropriate direction to the Superintendent.

Sunshine Fund

The Board maintains this fund to acknowledge member retirements and other occasions. Each board members contributes annually to the fund when requested to do so by the treasurer. The Board administrative assistant maintains an accounting report. Members volunteer to assist in the purchase and delivery of the acknowledgements.

Travel and Compensation (To be incl w professional learning or separate?)

Expenses incurred in connection with authorized Board professional learning experience (and/or authorized activities) shall be reimbursed upon receipt of a signed and approved KPBSD expense reimbursement claim form. Reimbursement claims should be submitted no later than 30 days after incurring the expenses.

Voting

Board members have a duty to make an informed decision in the best interest of district students by voting on issues before them. Board votes must be in public at a properly noticed meeting of the Board and recorded in writing. A motion cannot not be moved and seconded by the same member. All members are required to vote unless the president approves an abstention. The chair announces the vote for the record.

Notes:

Requirement to vote & ballots restricted to board organization (officers)

www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/LocalGovernmentOnline/LocalGovernmentElectedOfficials/OpenMeetingsAct.aspx

BB 9270.1&2 may conflict with current practice so we might want to suggest this BB be reviewed.

The board has already noted BB 9320 requiring voice vote may also need review.

Votes can be cast by “unanimous consent”, “no objection”, roll call, via BoardDocs electronically or by ballot. Roberts Rules of Order will be followed unless Board Bylaws or Policy direct otherwise.

Call for Unanimous Consent - In cases where there seems to be no opposition to routine business items the president will accept a request for unanimous consent. Any member who desires casting individual votes or discussion may respond with an objection.

No Objection The president, when assuming a motion on which no controversy is expected, can phrase the question as: If there is no objection, we will take a ten-minute recess; Is there objection? (pause) Hearing none, we are in recess.

Roll Call (required whenever a member is participating by distance by the Alaska Open Meetings Act) The Board member participating by distance shall vote online via BoardDocs or the administrative secretary shall call individual board members by name and record their vote as YES, NO or ABSTAIN. The Student Representative to the Board shall be called first to cast an advisory vote and the Board president shall be called last. An effort at randomness is encouraged when calling upon remaining members by name.

Note: <http://robertsrules.forumflash.com/topic/30663-calling-for-acclamation/?tab=comments#comment-177919>

Ballot (only allowed for election of Board officers by the Alaska Open Meetings Act)
The Board president shall direct the administrative secretary to

APPENDIX

[Board Policy \(link\)](#)

[Effective Leadership Evaluation \(link\)](#)

[Strategic Plan \(link\)](#)

References (Acronyms, Parliamentary Procedure)

Resources