# **Board Bylaws**

# Compensation

Each member of the Governing Board may receive compensation of \$25.00 per meeting. The Governing Board agree \$25.00 per member, per meeting, will be applied to, but not limited to, Back to School BBQ, Board Meeting Meals, Congratulations, and Condolences (Education Code 35120)

Whenever a quorum of Board members serves as another legislative body which will meet simultaneously or in serial order to a Board meeting, the Board clerk or a member of the Board shall verbally announce the amount of any additional compensation or stipend that each member will be entitled to receive as a result of convening the simultaneous or serial meeting. (Government Code 54952.3)

### **Reimbursement of Expenses**

Board members shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred when performing authorized services for the district. Expenses for travel, telephone, business meals, or other authorized purposes shall be in accordance with policies established for district personnel and at the same rate of reimbursement.

```
(cf. 1160 - Political Processes)(cf. 3100 - Budget)(cf. 3350 - Travel Expenses)(cf. 3513.1 - Cellular Phone Reimbursement)
```

Board members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred when performing services directed by the Board. (Education Code 35044)

```
(cf. 9240 - Board Training)
```

Authorized purposes may include, but are not limited to, attendance at educational seminars or conferences designed to improve Board members' skills and knowledge; participation in regional, state, or national organizations whose activities affect the district's interests; attendance at district or community events; and meetings with state or federal officials on issues of community concern.

Personal expenses shall be the responsibility of individual Board members. Personal expenses include, but are not limited to, the personal portion of any trip, tips or gratuities, alcohol, entertainment, laundry, expenses of any family member who is accompanying the Board member on district-related business, personal use of an automobile, and personal losses and traffic violation fees incurred while on district business.

Any questions regarding the propriety of a particular type of expense should be resolved by the Superintendent or designee before the expense is incurred.

Board members may use district-issued credit cards while on official district business and consistent with the limits established for district personnel. Personal expenses shall not be charged on a district-issued credit card, even if the Board member intends to subsequently reimburse the district for the personal charges.

#### Health and Welfare Benefits for Current Board Members

Board members may participate in the health and welfare benefits program provided for district employees.

(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)

Health and welfare benefits for Board members shall be no greater than that received by the district's nonsafety employees with the most generous schedule of benefits. (Government Code 53208.5)

Board members who elect to participate shall pay the full cost of premiums.

Health and welfare benefits provided to Board members shall be extended at the same level to their spouse/registered domestic partner and to their eligible dependent children as specified in law and the health plan.

### Health and Welfare Benefits for Former Board Members

Former Board members may participate in the health and welfare benefits program provided for district employees under the conditions specified below.

Health and welfare benefits for former Board members shall be no greater than those received by district nonsafety employees with the most generous schedule of benefits. (Government Code 53208.5)

## Benefits paid by former Board member

Any former Board member leaving the Board after at least one term of office may participate in the health and welfare benefits program at his/her own expense if coverage is in effect at the time of retirement. (Government Code 53201)

Health and welfare benefits provided to a former Board member shall be extended, at his/her expense and at the same level, to his/her spouse/registered domestic partner and eligible dependent children as specified in law and the health plan.

The District shall pay health insurance premiums for retired Board members who served in office after January 1, 1981, and who have served a total of 12 years or more. These payments shall be made to the same extent that they were being made before January 1, 1994, and under the same terms. The Board may grant the same or a lesser benefit upon retirement to current Board members, provided that they served 12 years or more on the Board, and provided that their first term began before January 1, 1995. This benefit shall not be granted to Board members whose first term of office began on or after January 1, 1995.

## Legal Reference:

**EDUCATION CODE** 

33050-33053 General waiver authority

33362-33363 Reimbursement of expenses for attendance at workshops

35012 Board members; number, election and term

35044 Payment of traveling expenses of representatives of board

35120 Compensation for services as member of governing board

35172 Promotional activities

44038 Cash deposits for transportation purchased on credit

FAMILY CODE

297-297.5 Rights, protections and benefits under law; registered domestic partners

**GOVERNMENT CODE** 

8314 Use of public resources

20322 Elective officers; election to become member

20420-20445 Membership in Public Employees' Retirement System; definition of safety employees

53200-53209 Group insurance

54952.3 Simultaneous or serial meetings; announcement of compensation

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

1373 Health services plan, coverage for dependent children

INSURANCE CODE

10277-10278 Group and individual health insurance, coverage for dependent children

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 26

403 Tax-sheltered annuities

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

18011 Right to maintain existing health coverage

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 26

1.403(b)-2 Tax-sheltered annuities, definition of employee

**COURT DECISIONS** 

Thorning v. Hollister School District, (1992) 11 Cal. App. 4th 1598

Board of Education of the Palo Alto Unified School District v. Superior Court of Santa Clara

County, (1979) 93 Cal. App. 3d 578

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

91 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 37 (2008)

83 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 124 (2000)

Management Resources:

INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

Sample Expense and Use of Public Resources Policy Statement, January 2006

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE PUBLICATIONS

Tax-Sheltered Annuity Plans (403(b) Plans) for Employees of Public Schools and Certain Tax-

Exempt Organizations, Publication 571, rev. February 2013

WEB SITES

CSBA: http://www.csba.org

Institute for Local Government: http://www.ca-ilg.org

Internal Revenue Service: http://www.irs.gov

Public Employees' Retirement System: http://www.calpers.ca.gov