

Ashland School District 5

Code: **BBAA**
Adopted: 5/23/02
Readopted: 5/08/17
Orig. Code(s): BBAA

Individual Board Member's Authority and Responsibilities

The Board is organized as a unit. Official action is taken only when members are sitting as a Board in regular or special session, and such action must be made a matter of record.

Board members recognize that they have no authority when they are not in attendance at a Board meeting.

Individual Board members do not have the authority to take action and make commitments or promises unilaterally. The consent to any particular measure obtained of individual members when not in session is not an act of the Board and is not binding on the district. If a contract is made without authority of the Board, the individual making such contract shall be personally liable.

The preceding statements are not intended to isolate or prevent individual Board members from listening and/or responding to constituents or to prevent Board members from bringing topics to the attention of the whole Board at official meetings.

Further, the individual Board member shall:

1. Have the same duties as the whole Board as stated earlier;
2. Attend meetings regularly, with the exceptions noted in Board policy BBE - Vacancies on the Board;
3. Commence attending Board meetings after taking the oath of office;
4. Perform other functions as designated by the Board or chair.

Individual Board members may make requests of the superintendent for reports or surveys prepared by the administrative staff. A copy of such request shall be sent to each member of the Board. Upon completion of such report or survey, the superintendent may submit copies to each member of the Board. Requests for written reports or surveys which require the employment of additional personnel or other expense shall be submitted to the Board for its consideration.

Any Board member may request a legal opinion. Such request, however, shall be made through the Board chair to the superintendent. If the legal opinion sought involves the superintendent's employment or performance, the request should be made to the Board chair. Legal counsel is responsible to the Board.

Individual Board members may place items on the agenda for Board meetings by submitting a written request to the superintendent before the published notice of the meeting.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.045](#)

[ORS 332.055](#)

[ORS 332.057](#)

[ORS 332.075](#)

38 OR. ATTY. GEN. OP. 1995 (1978)

S. Benton Educ. Ass'n v. Monroe Union High Sch. Dist., 83 Or. App. 425 (1987).

Cross Reference(s):

BHD - Board Member Compensation and Expense Reimbursement