

Board Member Development

The complexity of school board membership demands opportunities for development, study and training of its members. The Board places a high priority on the importance of a planned and continuing program of in-service education for its members.

In order for Board members to develop leadership capabilities, become informed about current issues in education and improve their skills as members of a policy making body, Board members will participate in opportunities for development that may include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. In-service activities planned by the Board and in-service planned by the administration for staff members, as appropriate;
2. Participation in conferences, workshops and conventions held by state and national school board associations and other educational organizations. New Board members are particularly encouraged to attend training sessions sponsored by the Oregon School Boards Association and other groups;
3. Subscriptions to publications which address the concerns of Board members;
4. New member orientation provided by the Board and staff to assist the new member to become fully informed about the Board's functions, policies, procedures and problems. In the interim between appointment and assuming office, the new member may be invited to attend meetings and functions of the Board, but will not be a voting member until assuming office. New members not yet seated will receive all reports and communications normally sent to Board members, including agenda packets and the policy manual.

Recognizing the need for continuing training and development of its members, the Board encourages participation of all members at appropriate conferences, conventions and workshops. In order to control both the investment of time and funds necessary to implement this policy, the Board establishes these principles and procedures for its guidance:

1. The superintendent will inform Board members, in a timely manner, of impending conferences, conventions and workshops. The Board will decide which meetings appear to be most likely to produce the greatest benefit to the Board and the district;
2. Funds for participation at such meetings will be budgeted. When funds are limited, the Board will designate which of its members would be most appropriate to participate at a given meeting;
3. If authorized to attend and reimbursement is approved by the Board, members will be reimbursed, upon request, for reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred;

4. When a conference, convention or workshop is not attended by the full Board, those who do participate will be requested to share information, recommendations and materials acquired at the meeting by means of written or oral reports.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.018\(3\)](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

Cross Reference(s):

BH/BHA - Orientation of New Board Members

BHD - Board Member Compensation and Expense Reimbursement