

Board Member Development

The complexity of Board membership demands opportunities for development, study and training for Board members. The Board places a high priority on the importance of a planned and continuing program of professional development for its members.

In order 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 professional development that may include, but not be limited to, the following;

1. In-service activities planned by the Board and by the administration for staff members, as appropriate;
2. Participation in conferences, workshops, conventions and trainings held by state and national school board associations and other educational organizations;
3. Subscriptions to publications addressing Board member related topics;
4. New member orientation is provided by the Board and staff to assist new members in becoming fully informed about the Board's functions, policies, procedures and problems. In the interim between election or appointment and assuming office, the new member may be invited to attend all meetings and functions of the Board, including executive sessions, 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 policy manual.

New Board members are particularly encouraged to attend training sessions sponsored by the Oregon School Boards Association and other groups.

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 of upcoming conferences, conventions, workshops and trainings. The Board will decide which appear to produce the greatest benefit to the Board and the district.
2. Funds for participation at such professional development will be included in the district budget. When funds are limited, the Board will designate which of its members will participate at a given meeting or training.
3. If authorized by the Board to attend, Board members will be reimbursed, upon request, for reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred.

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

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.018\(3\)](#)
[ORS 332.107](#)

OR. ETHICS COMM'N, OR. GOV'T ETHICS LAW, A GUIDE FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS.

Cross Reference(s):

BHD - Board Member Compensation and Expense Reimbursement