POLICY: BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Regular and special meetings of the Board of Education are open to the public and representatives of the media. By resolution at the public meeting, the Board shall exclude the public from those parts of a meeting which deal with matters held confidential in accordance with law.

The Board welcomes participation of interested organizations and individuals and will schedule time as appropriate for the public to speak. The Board President will announce any time limit proposed for speakers.

Comments and questions during audience participation may deal with any topic related to the Board’s conduct of the schools. Comments at special meetings must be related to the call of the meeting. Advance announcement of all regular, scheduled special, and specifically called meetings of the Board is made through newspapers and posted in the Board’s meeting room and the Township Hall.

The Board will not permit negative identification of district pupils at public or Board of Education meetings, particularly when the pupil is subject to disciplinary action or is educationally handicapped. Positive identification in the form of awards, honors, and special recognition is encouraged.

The Board of Education, whenever possible, shall use Board of Education meetings throughout the year to present information and invite public discussion. The items to be presented at such meetings must include:

1. Discussion of state rules and local procedures for implementation of district goals, objectives, and standards.
2. Presentation of audit report.
3. Presentation of budget.
4. Report on student progress, including testing program results.
5. Annual plans for special education, bilingual/ESL, and basic skills programs.
6. Graduation and dropout statistics as well as other demographic data.
7. Mandated in-service programs.

Legal References:

N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. Open Public Meetings Act
N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-7 School administrators report on students awarded or denied diplomas
N.J.S.A. 18A:10-6 Board meetings public; frequency; hours of commencement; adjournment, etc., for lack of quorum
N.J.S.A. 18A:12.21 School Ethics Act
N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10 Fixing day, etc., for public hearing
N.J.S.A. 18A:22-13 Public hearing; objectives; heard, etc.
N.J.A.C. 6:3-1.3 Requirements for the Code of Ethics for school board members and charter school board of trustee members
N.J.A.C. 6:3-1.6 Reporting and staffing of school districts
N.J.A.C. 6:8-2.1 Quality assurance annual report
N.J.A.C. 6:8-2.2 School-level planning
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.2(e) High school diplomas
N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.1 et seq. Special Education
N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1 et seq. School safety plans
N.J.A.C. 6A:26 Educational Facilities
N.J.A.C. 6A:30-1.1 et seq. Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-3.2 Requirements for the Code of Ethics for district board of education members and charter school board of trustee members
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-12.1 Reporting requirements
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-12.2 School-level planning
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-13.1 School attendance
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-13.2 Dropouts
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-14.1 Review of mandated programs and services

Cross References:

1100 Communicating with the public
2240 Research, evaluation and planning
3100 Budget planning, preparation and adoption
3570 District records and reports
3571.4 Audit
5131.5 Vandalism/violence
5145.5 Photographs of pupils
6142.2 English as a second language; bilingual/bicultural
6142.6 Basic skills
6171.1 Remedial instruction
6171.3 At-risk and Title 1
6171.4 Special education
9322 Public and executive sessions
9323/9324 Agenda preparation/advance delivery of meeting material
9326 Minutes

Adopted: June 30, 1997
Revised: August 20, 2007