

2300 BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS - MEETINGS

2350 Electronic Participation at Board Meetings

It is possible, under law for a Board Member to participate in Board Meetings without being physically present through the use of a telephone speakerphone, video conferencing, or other electronic device that permits the absent and present Board Members to hear and respond to each other. Nevertheless, the Board believes that an absent member participating by electronic means ~~is~~ **can be** hindered in his or her interaction by the inability to review documents, observe presentations made to the Board and similar difficulties. For these reasons the Board desires to limit the participation by Board Members ~~at Board Meetings~~ via electronic means.

~~No participation at regular meetings of the Board will be permitted inasmuch as these meetings are scheduled in advance and Board Members' physical attendance can be reasonably expected. The Board authorizes its members' participation by electronic means at special meetings when a Member's absence is necessary. The Board regards a necessary absence as one due to travel required by the Member's employer, family emergency, or travel plans made in advance which cannot be reasonably rearranged.~~

The Board authorizes its members' participation by electronic means as follows:

- 1. At no more than two regular meetings per calendar year and only if a Member's absence is necessary.**
- 2. During no more than two nights per calendar year on which Committee meetings are held and only if a Member's absence is necessary.**
- 3. At any special meeting, but only if a Member's absence is necessary.**
- 4. During any executive session that is not held on the date of an advertised meeting, but only if a Member's absence is necessary.**

For purposes of this Policy:

- 1. The Board regards a necessary absence as one due to a Member's mandated work obligations or travel required by the Member's employer, family emergency, or travel plans made in advance which cannot be reasonably rearranged.**

1 2. The annual organizational meeting and the regular meeting that
2 immediately follows shall be treated collectively as one regular meeting.
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4 3. If a Member is permitted to participate in any meeting
5 electronically, the Member shall also be permitted to participate in any
6 executive session that occurs on the same day as the meeting. If a
7 Member is not permitted to participate in any meeting electronically,
8 the Member shall also not be permitted to participate in any executive
9 session that occurs on the same day as the meeting.
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11 A member who desires to participate ~~in a special meeting~~ by electronic means shall notify
12 the **Board President or and** Superintendent at the time that the Member receives notice
13 of the ~~special meeting~~ **or executive session**, or at least three (3) days in advance of the
14 ~~special meeting~~ **or executive session. Upon receipt of said notification, the Board**
15 **President shall determine whether electronic participation is permitted and advise**
16 **the Member of the determination.**
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18 In the event that the absent Member is unable to hear the comments of and speak to, **or**
19 **be heard by and spoken to by**, all of those present ~~at the special meeting~~, including
20 members of the public, or in the event that electronic communications facilities are not
21 reasonably available at the location of the ~~special meeting~~ **or executive session**,
22 participation by electronic means shall not be authorized and the absent Member shall not
23 be permitted to participate in that ~~special meeting~~ **or executive session.**
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25 A Member participating by electronic means will be counted present ~~for the meeting~~ **for**
26 **purposes of a quorum**, and may participate in all discussions, deliberations and votes of
27 the Board as if physically present ~~at the meeting~~.
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29	Adoption Date	-	September 13, 1999
30	Revision Date	-	February 13, 2017
31	Review Date	-	
32	Legal Reference	-	65 Pa.C.S.A. §701, et. seq.; <u>Babac v. Pennsylvania Milk</u>
33			<u>Marketing Board</u>, 613 A.2d 551 (Pa. 1992)
34	Cross Reference	-	Policy 2305, 2320, 2325, 2330, 2335, 2340

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