

**ROLE OF THE BOARD**

The Board of Trustees has been elected by the community to provide leadership and citizen oversight of the district. The Board shall ensure that the district is responsive to the values, beliefs, and priorities of the community.

The Board shall work with the Superintendent to fulfill its major responsibilities, which include:

1. Setting the direction for the district through a process that involves the community, parents/guardians, students, and staff and is focused on student learning and achievement

*(cf. 0000 - Vision)*

*(cf. 0100 - Philosophy)*

*(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)*

2. Establishing an effective and efficient organizational structure for the district by:

- a. Employing the Superintendent and setting policy for hiring of other personnel

*(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)*

*(cf. 2120 - Superintendent Recruitment and Selection)*

*(cf. 2121 - Superintendent's Contract)*

*(cf. 4000 - Concepts and Roles)*

*(cf. 4111 - Recruitment and Selection)*

*(cf. 4211 - Recruitment and Selection)*

*(cf. 4311 - Recruitment and Selection)*

- b. Overseeing the development and adoption of policies

*(cf. 9310 - Board Policies)*

- c. Establishing academic expectations and adopting the curriculum and instructional materials

*(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*

*(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)*

*(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)*

*(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)*

*(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)*

- d. Establishing budget priorities and adopting the budget

*(cf. 3000 - Concepts and Roles)*

*(cf. 3100 - Budget)*

*(cf. 3312 - Contracts)*

**ROLE OF THE BOARD** (continued)

- e. Providing safe, adequate facilities that support the district's instructional program

*(cf. 3517 - Facilities Inspection)*  
*(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)*  
*(cf. 7150 - Site Selection and Development)*  
*(cf. 7210 - Facilities Financing)*

- f. Setting parameters for negotiations with employee organizations and ratifying collective bargaining agreements

*(cf. 4141/4241 - Collective Bargaining Agreement)*  
*(cf. 4143/4243 - Negotiations/Consultation)*

- 3. Providing support to the Superintendent and staff as they carry out the Board's direction by:

- a. Establishing and adhering to standards of responsible governance

*(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)*  
*(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)*  
*(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)*  
*(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)*

- b. Making decisions and providing resources that support district priorities and goals

- c. Upholding Board policies

- d. Being knowledgeable about district programs and efforts in order to serve as effective spokespersons

*(cf. 9240 - Board Development)*  
*(cf. 9400 - Board Self-Evaluation)*

- 4. Ensuring accountability to the public for the performance of the district's schools by:

- a. Evaluating the Superintendent and setting policy for the evaluation of other personnel

*(cf. 2140- Evaluation of the Superintendent)*  
*(cf. 4115 - Evaluation/Supervision)*  
*(cf. 4215 - Evaluation/Supervision)*  
*(cf. 4315 - Evaluation/Supervision)*

- b. Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of policies

**ROLE OF THE BOARD** (continued)

- c. Serving as a judicial (hearing) and appeals body in accordance with law, Board policies, and negotiated agreements

*(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)*  
*(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)*  
*(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)*  
*(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)*  
*(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)*  
*(cf. 4117.3 - Personnel Reduction)*  
*(cf. 4117.4 - Dismissal)*  
*(cf. 4144/4244/4344 - Complaints)*  
*(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*  
*(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)*  
*(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)*  
*(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)*  
*(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)*  
*(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)*  
*(cf. 6159.1 - Procedural Safeguards and Complaints for Special Education)*  
*(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)*

- d. Monitoring student achievement and program effectiveness and requiring program changes as necessary

*(cf. 0500 - Accountability)*  
*(cf. 0520.2 - Title I Program Improvement Schools)*  
*(cf. 0520.3 - Title I Program Improvement Districts)*  
*(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)*  
*(cf. 6162.51 - Standardized Testing and Reporting Program)*  
*(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)*  
*(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)*

- e. Monitoring and adjusting district finances

*(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)*

- f. Monitoring the collective bargaining process

- 5. Providing community leadership and advocacy on behalf of students, the district's educational program, and public education in order to build support within the local community and at the state and national levels

*(cf. 0510 - School Accountability Report Card)*  
*(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*  
*(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)*  
*(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)*  
*(cf. 1160 - Political Processes)*

## **ROLE OF THE BOARD (continued)**

*(cf. 1400 - Relations between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)*  
*(cf. 1700 - Relations between Private Industry and the Schools)*  
*(cf. 9010 - Public Statements)*

The Board is authorized to establish and finance any program or activity that is not in conflict with, inconsistent with, or preempted by law. (Education Code 35160)

### *Legal Reference:*

#### EDUCATION CODE

*5304 Duties of governing board (re school district elections)*  
*12400-12405 Authority to participate in federal programs*  
*17565-17592 Board duties re property maintenance and control*  
*33319.5 Implementation of authority of local agencies*  
*35000 District name*  
*35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules*  
*35020-35046 Officers and agents*  
*35100-35351 Governing boards, especially:*  
*35160-35185 Powers and duties*  
*35291 Rules*

### *Management Resources:*

#### CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Maximizing School Board Governance*  
*Professional Governance Standards, November 2000*  
*School Board Leadership: The Role and Function of California's School Boards, 1996*  
NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS  
*The Key Work of School Boards, 2000*

#### WEB SITES

*CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>*  
*CSBA Governance Institute: <http://www.csba.org/gi>*  
*National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>*

**GOVERNANCE STANDARDS**

The Board of Trustees expects itself to act in the best interests of every student in the district within the legal confines established by law and the fiscal confines, established by the budget. The Board shall govern the district responsibly and uphold the highest standards of ethical conduct.

*(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)*

*(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)*

In order to set the direction for the district, provide a high quality education to each student, ensure proper accountability and oversight of the district and the Superintendent, and offer community leadership on behalf of the district and public education, the Board expects itself to have a unity of purpose and to:

1. Keep the district focused on learning and achievement for all students
2. Communicate a common vision
3. Operate openly, with trust and integrity
4. Govern in a dignified and professional manner, treating everyone with civility and respect
5. Govern within Board-adopted policies and procedures
6. Take collective responsibility for the Board's performance
7. Periodically evaluate its own effectiveness
8. Ensure opportunities for the diverse range of views in the community to inform Board deliberations

In fulfilling its role, the Board is responsible for:

1. Involving the community, parents/guardians, students, and staff in regularly developing or updating a common vision for the district focused on learning and achievement and responsive to the needs of all students
2. Adopting and updating policies consistent with law and the district's vision and goals
3. Maintaining accountability for student learning by adopting curricula and monitoring student progress
4. Hiring and supporting the Superintendent so that the vision, goals, and policies of the district can be implemented

**GOVERNANCE STANDARDS** (continued)

5. Conducting regular and timely evaluations of the Superintendent based on the vision, goals, and performance of the district, and ensuring that the Superintendent holds district personnel accountable
6. Adopting a fiscally responsible budget based on the district's vision and goals, and regularly monitoring the fiscal health of the district
7. Ensuring that a safe and appropriate educational environment is provided to all students
8. Establishing a framework for the district's collective bargaining process and adopting responsible agreements
9. Providing community leadership on educational issues and advocating on behalf of students and public education at the local, state, and federal levels

In addition, each individual Board member is expected to:

1. Keep learning and achievement for all students as the primary focus
2. Value, support, and advocate for public education
3. Recognize and respect differences of perspective and style on the Board and among staff, students, parents/guardians, and the community
4. Act with dignity, and understand the implications of demeanor and behavior
5. Keep confidential matters confidential
6. Participate in professional development and commit the time and energy necessary to be an informed and effective leader
7. Understand the distinctions between Board and staff roles, and refrain from performing management functions that are the responsibility of the Superintendent and staff
8. Understand that authority rests with the Board as a whole and not with individuals

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

**GOVERNANCE STANDARDS (continued)**

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

35010 *Power of governing board to adopt rules for its own governance*

35160 *Board authority to act in any manner not conflicting with law*

35164 *Actions by majority vote*

GOVERNMENT CODE

1090 *Financial interest in contract*

1098 *Disclosure of confidential information*

1125-1129 *Incompatible activities*

54950-54963 *The Ralph M. Brown Act*

87300-87313 *Conflict of interest code*

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000*

*Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardsmanship, 1996*

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: September, 2025

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

The Board of Trustees recognizes the responsibility of Board members in their role as community leaders to participate in public discourse on matters of civic or community interest, including those involving the district, and their right to freely express their personal views. However, to ensure communication of a consistent, unified message regarding district issues, Board members are expected to respect the authority of the Board to choose its representatives to communicate its positions and to abide by established protocols.

**Board Spokesperson**

All public statements authorized to be made on behalf of the Board shall be made by the Board president or, if appropriate, by the Superintendent or, with respect to a specific issue or topic, other representative as designated by the Board or Board president.

*(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)*

*(cf. 9121 - President)*

*(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)*

When speaking for the Board, a spokesperson shall exercise restraint and tact and communicate in a manner that promotes public confidence in the Board's leadership.

Board spokespersons shall not disclose confidential information or information received in closed session except when authorized by a majority of the Board or by law. (Government Code 54963)

*(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)*

*(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)*

**Statements by Individual Board Members**

When speaking to community groups, members of the public, or the media, individual Board members should recognize that their statements may be perceived as reflecting the views and positions of the Board. Board members have a responsibility to identify when a viewpoint is held by an individual Board member rather than the Board as a whole. For example, a Board member may include a disclaimer on the Board member's personal social media account that the Board member is expressing personal viewpoints and not those of the Board or the district.

*(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)*

*(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)*

Board members who opt to express their opinions on district matters, whether in-person or online, are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful, courteous, and professional manner and to model good behavior for district students and the community.

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*



**PUBLIC STATEMENTS (continued)**

*Legal References:*

EDUCATION CODE

*35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules*

GOVERNMENT CODE

*6250-6270 California Public Records Act*

*54960 Actions to stop or prevent violation of meeting provisions*

*54963 Confidential information in closed session*

*Management Resources:*

WEB SITES

*CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>*

*(9/90 6/94) 8/13*

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: December 4, 2013

revised: September 11, 2024

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL/PRIVILEGED INFORMATION**

The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of maintaining the confidentiality of information acquired as part of a Board member's official duties.

*(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)*

*(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)*

*(cf. 9010 - Public Statements)*

A Board member shall not disclose confidential information to any person, except as authorized by law, this Bylaw or other Board bylaws or policies, or the Board.

*Confidential information* means any information that is prohibited from disclosure by law, this Bylaw or other Board bylaws or policies, or by the Board at the time disclosed and is not a public record subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act (CPRA). Confidential information includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

1. Information acquired by being present in a closed session that is specifically related to the basis for the Board to meet lawfully in closed session (Government Code 54963)
2. Information acquired in anticipation of a closed session, or as follow-up to a closed session, that is specifically related to the basis for the Board to meet lawfully in closed session
3. Information contained in communications provided to Board members from the district's attorney
4. Information deemed confidential by the Board

Confidential information does not include information that is already publicly disclosed, provided that the initial disclosure did not violate law, this Bylaw, or other Board bylaws or policies.

*(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)*

*(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)*

*(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)*

It is a misdemeanor for any Board member to willfully and knowingly use or disclose for pecuniary gain any information acquired in the course of the Board member's official duties where all of the following conditions are met: (Government Code 1098)

1. The information is not a public record subject to disclosure under the CPRA
2. The information is prohibited from disclosure by law, this Bylaw, or other Board bylaw or policies
3. The information will have, or could reasonably be expected to have, a material financial effect on the Board member if used or disclosed

**DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL/PRIVILEGED INFORMATION** (continued)

If a Board member threatens to disclose or does disclose confidential information, the Board may pursue or enact one or more of the following actions as it deems appropriate: (Government Code 54963)

1. Injunctive relief to prevent disclosure
2. Referral to the grand jury
3. Censure or other disciplinary action, provided the Board member has received training or been informed of the requirements of this Bylaw

However, the Board shall not take any action against a Board member for disclosing confidential information, nor shall the disclosure be considered a violation of this Bylaw, when the Board member does any of the following: (Government Code 1098, 54963)

1. Makes a confidential inquiry or complaint to a district attorney or grand jury concerning a perceived violation of law, including disclosing facts necessary to establish the illegality or potential illegality of a Board action that has been the subject of deliberation during a closed session
2. Expresses an opinion concerning the propriety or legality of Board action in closed session, including disclosure of the nature and extent of the illegal or potentially illegal action
3. Discloses information to law enforcement officials or to the joint legislative audit committee when reporting on improper governmental activities in accordance with law

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

35010 Power of governing board to adopt rules for its own governance

35146 Closed session

EVIDENCE CODE

1040 Privilege for official information

GOVERNMENT CODE

1098 Public officials and employees re confidential information

3549.1 Meeting and negotiating in public educational employment

6250-6270 Inspection of public records

54950-54963 Brown Act, especially:

54956.8 Open meeting laws

54956.9 Closed meeting for pending litigation

54957 Closed session; "employee" defined; exclusion of witnesses

54957.1 Subsequent public report and rollcall vote; employee matters in closed session

54957.5 Public records

54957.6 Closed session; representatives with employee organization

54957.7 Reasons for closed session

54963 Confidential information in closed session

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

80 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 231 (1997)

**DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL/PRIVILEGED INFORMATION** (continued)

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Professional Governance Standards, November 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership, 1996

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Bylaw  
adopted: January 4, 2012  
revised: June 5, 2025

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

**BOARD MEMBER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

The Board of Trustees recognizes that electronic communication is an efficient and convenient way for Board members to communicate and expedite the exchange of information with each other, district staff, and members of the public. Board members shall exercise caution to ensure compliance with the Brown Act, the Public Records Act, and other applicable laws.

*(cf. [1100](#) - Communication with the Public)*

*(cf. [9000](#) - Role of the Board)*

*(cf. [9322](#) - Agenda/Meeting Materials)*

A majority of the Board shall not, outside of an authorized meeting, use a series of electronic communications of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. (Government Code [54952.2](#))

*(cf. [9320](#) - Meetings and Notices)*

Examples of permissible electronic communications concerning district business include, but are not limited to, dissemination of Board meeting agendas and agenda packets, reports of activities from the Superintendent, and reminders regarding meeting times, dates, and places.

Board members may engage in separate conversations or communications with members of the public on a social media platform to answer questions, provide information, or solicit information regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, as long as a majority of the Board does not use the platform to discuss among themselves any business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Additionally, Board members are prohibited from using digital icons, such as “likes” or “emojis,” that express reactions to communications made by other Board members regarding matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. (Government Code [54952.2](#))

Board members shall make every effort to ensure that their electronic communications conform to Board Bylaw 9010 – Public Statements and shall forward any complaints or requests for information to the Superintendent in accordance with applicable Board bylaws.

To the extent possible, electronic communications regarding any district-related business shall be transmitted through a district-provided device or account. When any such communication is transmitted through a Board member's personal device or account, the Board member shall copy the communication to a district electronic storage device for easy retrieval.

This Bylaw does not apply to Board member electronic communications not related to district business or not conducted by a Board member in the Board member’s official capacity.

**BOARD MEMBER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS** (continued)

(cf. [1340](#) - Access to District Records)

(cf. [3580](#) - District Records)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

[35140](#) Time and place of meetings

[35145](#) Public meetings

[35145.5](#) Agenda; public participation; regulations

[35147](#) Open meeting law exceptions and applications

GOVERNMENT CODE

[6250-6270](#) California Public Records Act

[11135](#) State programs and activities, discrimination

[54950-54963](#) The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:

[54952.2](#) Meeting, defined

[54953](#) Meetings to be open and public; attendance

[54954.2](#) Agenda posting requirements, board actions

COURT DECISIONS

*Garnier v. Poway Unified School District*, No. 17-cv-2215-W (JLB), 2019 WL 4736208 (S.D. Cal. September 26, 2019)

*Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University v. Trump*, 928 F.3d 226 (2019)

*City of San Jose v. Superior Court* (2017) 2 Cal.5th 60

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws*, rev. 2019

*Legal Alert: Tips for Governing Boards in Response to Public Records Act Ruling on Electronic Communications*, March 2017

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

*The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Legislative Bodies*, 2003

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

CSBA, GAMUT Meetings: <http://www.csba.org/ProductsAndServices/AllServices/GamutMeetingsPolicy>

California Attorney General's Office: <http://oag.ca.gov>

Bylaw **BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: June 27, 2017

revised: January 6, 2021

revised: September 11, 2024

Biggs, California

**ORGANIZATION**

Each year, the Board of Trustees shall hold an annual organizational meeting. In any year in which a regular election of district Board members is conducted, the organizational meeting shall be held within 15 days following the second Friday in December after the regular election. During all other years, the meeting may be held on any date in December, but no later than December 20th. (Education Code 35143)

During any year in which a regular election is conducted, the Board, at the regular meeting held immediately prior to the second Friday in December, shall select the day and time of the organizational meeting. For any other year, the day and time of the organizational meeting shall be selected at the last regular meeting held immediately before the annual meeting. On behalf of the Board, the Superintendent shall notify the County Superintendent of Schools of the day and time selected. Within 15 days prior to the date of the annual meeting, the Superintendent shall notify in writing all Board members and members-elect of the date and time selected for the meeting. (Education Code 35143)

At this meeting the Board shall:

1. Elect a president and a clerk and/or vice president from its members
2. Appoint the Superintendent as secretary to the Board
3. Authorize signatures
4. Approve a schedule of regular meetings for the year and a Board governance calendar stating the time when the Board will address important governance matters
5. Designate Board representatives to serve on committees or commissions of the district, other public agencies, or organizations with which the district partners or collaborates
6. Review and/or consider resources that define and clarify the Board's governance and leadership roles and responsibilities including, but not limited to, governance standards, meeting protocols, Board rules and bylaws, and other Board development materials

**Election of Officers**

The Board shall each year elect its entire slate of officers.

The election of Board officers shall be conducted during an open session of the annual organizational meeting.

**ORGANIZATION** (continued)

***State***

*Ed. Code 35143*

*Ed. Code 35145*

*Ed. Code 5017*

*Gov. Code 54953*

***Management Resources***

*Attorney General Opinion*

*Attorney General Opinion*

*Website*

***Description***

*Annual organizational meetings; date and notice*

*Public meetings*

*Term of office*

*Meetings to be open and public; attendance*

***Description***

*59 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 619 (1976)*

*68 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 65 (1985)*

[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: September 24, 2015

revised: October 12, 2022

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California



**TERMS OF OFFICE**

The Board of Trustees shall consist of five (5) members whose terms shall be staggered so that as nearly as practicable, one half of the members shall be elected in each year in which the Board's elections are regularly held. (Education Code 35012)

*(cf. 9220 - Governing Board Elections)*

The term of office for Board members elected in regular elections shall be four years, commencing on the second Friday in December following their election. (Education Code 5017)

*(cf. 9223 - Filling Vacancies)*

*(cf. 9224 - Oath or Affirmation)*

*(cf. 9250 - Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits)*

Board members whose terms have expired shall continue to discharge the duties of office until their successors have qualified by taking the oath of office. (Education Code 5017; Government Code 1302, 1360)

If a regularly scheduled Board election date is changed due to consolidation with a statewide or municipal general election, the term of incumbent Board members shall be extended to align with the next applicable election. (Elections Code 10404.5)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

5000-5033 Election of school district board members

35010 Control of district

35012 Board members; number, election and terms

35107 Eligibility

ELECTIONS CODE

1302 Local elections, school district election

10400-10418 Consolidation of elections

14050-14057 California Voter Participation Rights Act

GOVERNMENT CODE

1302 Continuance in office until qualification of successor

1303 Exercising functions of office without having qualified

1360 Necessity of taking constitutional oath

*Management Resources:*

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

(12/92 3/93) 10/18

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: December 5, 2018

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**PRESIDENT**

The Board of Trustees shall elect a president from among its members to provide leadership on behalf of the governance team and the educational community it serves.

*(cf. [9000](#) - Role of the Board)*  
*(cf. [9005](#) - Governance Standards)*  
*(cf. [9100](#) - Organization)*

To ensure that Board meetings are conducted in an efficient, transparent, and orderly manner, the president shall:

1. Call such meetings of the Board as he/she may deem necessary, giving notice as required by law

*(cf. [9320](#) - Meetings and Notices)*  
*(cf. [9321](#) - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)*

2. Consult with the Superintendent or designee on the preparation of Board meeting agendas

*(cf. [9322](#) - Agenda/Meeting Materials)*

3. Call the meeting to order at the appointed time and preside over the meeting
4. Announce the business to come before the Board in its proper order
5. Enforce the Board's bylaws related to the conduct of meetings and help ensure compliance with applicable requirements of the Brown Act
6. Recognize persons who desire to speak, and protect the speaker who has the floor from disturbance or interference
7. Facilitate the Board's effective deliberation, ensuring that each Board member has an opportunity to participate in the deliberation and that the discussion remains focused
8. Rule on issues of parliamentary procedure
9. Put motions to a vote, and clearly state the results of the vote

*(cf. [9323](#) - Meeting Conduct)*

The president shall have the same rights as other members of the Board, including the right to discuss and vote on all matters before the Board.

The president shall perform other duties in accordance with law and Board policy including, but not limited to:

**PRESIDENT** (continued)

1. Signing all instruments, acts, orders, and resolutions necessary to comply with legal requirements and carry out the will of the Board
2. Working with the Superintendent or designee to ensure that Board members have necessary materials and information
3. Subject to Board approval, appointing and dissolving all committees

(cf. [9130](#) - Board Committees)

4. In conjunction with the Superintendent or designee, representing the district as the Board's spokesperson in communications with the media

(cf. [1112](#) - Media Relations)

5. Leading the Board's advocacy efforts to build support within the local community and at the state and national levels

When the president resigns or is absent, the vice president shall perform the president's duties. When both the president and vice president are absent, the clerk shall perform the president's duties.

(cf. [9123](#) - Clerk)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

[35022](#) President of the board

[35143](#) Annual organizational meetings; dates and notice

GOVERNMENT CODE

[54950-54963](#) Ralph M. Brown Act

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Call to Order: A Blueprint for Great Board Meetings, 2015*

*Board Presidents' Handbook, revised 2002*

*CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000*

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

(9/89 7/03) 7/17

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: October 4, 2017

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**SECRETARY**

The Board of Trustees shall appoint the Superintendent to serve as secretary to the Board. The secretary to the Board shall be responsible for maintaining an accurate and complete record of all Board proceedings and shall:

1. Prepare, distribute and maintain the Board agenda

*(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)*

2. Record, distribute and maintain the Board minutes

*(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)*

3. Maintain Board records and documents

4. Conduct official correspondence for the Board

5. As directed by the Board, sign and execute official papers

6. Perform other duties as assigned by the Board

*(cf. 2111 - Superintendent Governance Standards)*

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

35025 Secretary and bookkeeper

35143 Annual organizational meetings; dates and notice

35250 Duty to keep certain records and reports

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 Ralph M. Brown Act

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardsmanship, 1996

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

**CLERK**

The Board of Trustees shall elect a clerk from its own membership at the annual organizational meeting. (Education Code 35143)

*(cf. 9100 - Organization)*

The duties of the clerk shall be to:

1. Certify or attest to actions taken by the Board when required
2. Maintain such other records or reports as required by law
3. Sign documents on behalf of the district as directed by the Board
4. Serve as presiding officer in the absence of the president and vice president

*(cf. 9121 - President)*

5. Notify Board members and members-elect of the date and time for the annual organizational meeting
6. Perform any other duties assigned by the Board

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

17593 *Repair and supervision of property (duty of district clerk)*  
35038 *Appointment of clerk by county superintendent of schools*  
35039 *Dismissal of clerk*  
35121 *Appointment of clerk in certain city and high school districts*  
35143 *Annual organizational meetings*  
35250 *Duty to keep certain records and reports*  
38113 *Duty of clerk (re provision of school supplies)*

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 *Ralph M. Brown Act*

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000*  
*Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardsmanship, 1996*

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

**ATTORNEY**

The Board of Trustees recognizes the complex legal environment in which districts operate, the need to provide legal representation for the district, and the importance of reliable, cost-effective, high-quality legal advice and services.

In order to meet the district's legal needs, the Board may appoint legal counsel and fix and order paid legal counsel's compensation as an employee or as an independent contractor. (Education Code 35041.5)

The Board may enter into independent contractor services agreements with county counsel, law firms, attorneys in private practice, and other public or private legal services entities. (Education Code 35204, 35205; Government Code 26520, 26529)

The Board also supports pursuing collaborative legal efforts with other districts as well as other government agencies as appropriate.

*(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)*

*(cf. 3400 - Management of District Assets/Accounts)*

*(cf. 4312.1 - Contracts)*

*(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)*

*(cf. 9260 - Legal Protection)*

**Duties of Legal Counsel**

The district's legal counsel may: (Education Code 35041.5)

1. Render legal advice to the Board and the Superintendent or designee
2. Serve the Board and the Superintendent or designee in the preparation and conduct of district litigation and administrative proceedings
3. Render advice on school bond and tax increase measures and prepare the necessary forms for the voting of these measures
4. Perform other administrative duties as assigned by the Board and Superintendent or designee

**Retaining Legal Counsel**

When the district is seeking legal advice or representation, the Superintendent or designee shall identify prospective attorney(s), firm(s), and/or legal services entity(ies).

The district may, but is not required to, initiate a Request for Proposals to advertise and solicit proposals for legal services. In evaluating the prospective attorney(s), firm(s), and/or entity(ies), the Board and Superintendent may consider the attorney's, firm's, and/or entity's background, experience, and relevant legal reputation; experience advising and representing

**ATTORNEY** (continued)

school districts in California; fees; and experience of attorneys at the firm who will provide legal services.

Any attorney representing the district shall be admitted to practice law in California. (Education Code 35041.5)

The Board and Superintendent shall periodically evaluate the performance of the firm(s) and/or attorney(s); the efficiency and adequacy of advice; the results obtained for the district; the reasonableness of fees; and the responsiveness to and interactions with the Board, administration, and community.

The Board may use such evaluation(s) to determine whether to renew any current agreement(s) for legal services.

The Board may also contract for specialized legal services, as appropriate, when a majority of the Board determines that the unique demands of a particular issue or emergency situation requires such representation.

*(cf. 2121 - Superintendent's Contract)*

**Contacting Legal Counsel**

The Board president, or Superintendent or designee, may, at their discretion, confer with district legal counsel subject to any limits or parameters established by the Board. In addition, the Board president, or Superintendent or designee, may contact district legal counsel to provide the Board with legal information or advice when so directed by a majority of the Board.

Individual Board members other than the Board president may not seek advice from district legal counsel on matters of district business unless so authorized by the Superintendent, the Board president, or a majority of the Board.

*(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)*

*(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)*

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

**ATTORNEY (continued)**

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

35041 *Administrative adviser*

35041.5 *Legal counsel*

35161 *Powers and duties of governing board*

35200-35214 *Liabilities, especially:*

35204 *Contract with attorney in private practice*

35205 *Contract for legal services*

GOVERNMENT CODE

814-895.8 *Liability of public entities and public employees*

995-996.6 *Defense of public employees*

26520 *Legal services to school districts*

53060 *Special services and advice*

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws*, rev. 2007

*Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardmanship*, 1996

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

*Selecting and Working with a School Attorney: A Guide for School Boards*, 1997

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Council of School Attorneys:

<http://www.csba.org/LegislationAndLegal/Legal/CaliforniaCouncilOfSchoolAttorneys.aspx>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

State Bar of California: <http://www.calbar.ca.gov>

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: December 13, 2023

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California



# Board Bylaw

## Board Bylaws

BB 9130(a)

### BOARD COMMITTEES

The Governing Board may establish a committee whenever it determines that such a committee would benefit the district by providing diverse viewpoints, specialized knowledge or expertise, or increased efficiency. Such committees may be subcommittees of the Board or committees that include members of the community, staff, or other stakeholder groups.

*(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)*

*(cf. 2230 - Representative and Deliberative Groups)*

*(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)*

Upon establishing a committee, the Board shall clearly define the committee's purpose, any timeline for completion of assigned responsibilities, any stakeholder groups or individuals to be represented on the committee, length of time that committee members are expected to serve, and expectations for reporting to the Board and/or the Superintendent or designee. Unless specifically authorized by the Board to act on its behalf, the committee shall act in an advisory capacity.

Except for subcommittees of the Board, committee members shall, as appropriate, be recommended by the Superintendent or designee and appointed by the Board president, subject to Board approval.

*(cf. 9121 - President)*

The Superintendent or designee shall provide committee members with information and assistance necessary for the fulfillment of the committee's charges, and may serve as a non-voting advisor to the committee at the discretion of the Board.

Whenever so charged, committees may actively seek input and participation by parents/guardians, staff, community, and students and may consult with local public boards and agencies.

Any committee not required by law may be dissolved when its duties or term has been completed or whenever the Board deems necessary.

### Committee Meetings

Unless otherwise exempted by law, Board-created committees shall provide public notice of their meetings and conduct meetings in accordance with Government Code 54950-54963 (the Brown Act).

*(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)*

*(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)*

**BOARD COMMITTEES** (continued)

However, Board subcommittees composed solely of less than a quorum of the members of the Board are not subject to open meeting laws unless they are standing committees. Standing committees of the Board, irrespective of membership, are those that have a continuing subject matter jurisdiction or a meeting schedule established by action of the Board. (Government Code 54952)

Standing committees with a continuing subject matter jurisdiction include, but are not limited to, those responsible for providing advice on budgets, audits, Board policy, contracts, and personnel matters at the Board's request.

*(cf. 3100 - Budget)*  
*(cf. 3430 - Investing)*  
*(cf. 9310 - Board Policies)*

When a majority of the members of the Board attend an open and noticed meeting of a standing committee, the Board members who are not members of the standing committee shall attend only as observers. (Government Code 54952.2)

Whenever any advisory or standing committee, including a committee not otherwise subject to the Brown Act, posts a meeting agenda at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting, that meeting shall be considered as a regular meeting of the Board for purposes of the Brown Act and therefore must be held within district boundaries unless otherwise authorized by law. (Government Code 54954)

Committees may meet in a closed session during a regular or special meeting only for those purposes specifically authorized by law for closed sessions held by the Board.

*(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)*

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

## **BOARD COMMITTEES (continued)**

### *Legal Reference:*

#### EDUCATION CODE

35010 *Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules*

35024 *Executive committee*

35160 *Authority of governing boards*

35160.1 *Broad authority of school districts*

#### GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 *The Brown Act, especially:*

54952 *Legislative body, definition*

54952.2 *Definition of meeting*

54954 *Time and place of regular meetings; special meetings; emergencies*

54954.3 *Opportunity for public to address legislative body*

54957 *Closed session purposes*

#### COURT DECISIONS

*Frazer v. Dixon Unified School District, (1993) 18 Cal.App.4th 781*

#### ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

81 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.* 156 (1998)

80 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.* 308 (1997)

79 *Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.* 69 (1996)

### *Management Resources:*

#### CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, 2009*

#### WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: June 5, 2013

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**

The Board of Trustees recognizes that effective performance of its community leadership responsibilities may require its participation in district or community committees on matters of concern to the district and its students. As needed, the Board may appoint any of its members to serve as its representative on a district committee or on a committee of another public agency or organization of which the Board or district is a member or to which the Board is invited to participate.

*(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)*

*(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)*

*(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)*

*(cf. 9130 - Board Committees)*

*(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)*

*(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)*

When making such appointments, the Board shall clearly specify the authority and responsibilities of the representative(s), including, but not limited to, reporting back to the Board regarding committee activities and/or actions. Board representatives shall not exercise the authority of the Board without prior Board approval.

*(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)*

*(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)*

If a committee discusses a topic on which the Board has taken a position, the Board member shall express the position of the Board. When contributing his/her own ideas or opinions, the representative shall clearly indicate that he/she is expressing his/her individual idea or opinion.

*(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)*

*(cf. 9010 - Public Statements)*

**Board Representative to Elect Members of County Committee on School District Organization**

At its annual organizational meeting, the Board shall designate one Board member as its representative to elect members to the county committee on school district organization. (Education Code 35023)

*(cf. 9100 - Organization)*

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVES (continued)**

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

4000-4014 County committees on school district organization

35020-35046 School district officers and agents (power of governing board to employ or appoint)

35160 Authority of governing boards

GOVERNMENT CODE

54952.2 Meetings

*Management Resources:*

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

California Department of Education District Organization Handbook, 2010

**STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS**

In order to enhance communication and collaboration between the Governing Board and the student body and to teach students the importance of civic involvement, the Board supports the participation of high school students in district governance.

**Credit, Compensation, and Liability**

The student Board member(s) shall receive elective course credit for service as a student Board member based on the number of equivalent daily instructional minutes for the student Board member's services provided. (Education Code 35120)

Additionally, the student Board member(s) shall receive monthly compensation of \$ (TBD. A student Board member who receives monthly compensation shall receive compensation when absent from a Board meeting if the Board, by resolution duly adopted and included in its minutes, finds that at the time of the Board meeting the student Board member was performing services outside the Board meeting for the district, was ill, was on jury duty, or was absent due to a hardship considered acceptable by the Board. (Education Code 35120)

The student Board member(s) shall be entitled to be reimbursed for mileage to the same extent as other members of the Board. (Education Code 35012)

A student Board member is not liable for any acts of the Board. (Education Code 35012)

**Student Board Member Positions Based on Petition**

High school students may submit a petition to the Board requesting the creation of at least one student Board member position.

To qualify for Board consideration, the petition shall contain the signatures of at least 500 students or 10 percent of the number of students regularly enrolled in district high schools, whichever is less. (Education Code 35012)

Within 60 days of receiving a student petition, or at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting if no meeting is held within those 60 days, the Board shall adopt a Board bylaw or amend this Board bylaw to create at least one student Board member position the Board. (Education Code 35012)

**Student Board Member Positions Based on Board Authority**

There shall be \_\_\_\_ student Board member position(s) on the Board. (Education Code 35160)

**Student Board Member Eligibility, Selection, and Term**

Each student Board member shall be enrolled in a district high school and shall be selected by a vote of the applicable

## **STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS (Continued)**

student body. (Education Code 35012)

If the district has more high schools than student Board member positions, the student Board member position(s) shall rotate annually between the high schools of the district.

The term of the student Board member(s) shall be one year, commencing each July 1. The Board may adjust the term of a student Board member only if a vacancy occurs or to provide more students with an opportunity to serve on the Board. (Education Code 35012)

### **Role and Responsibilities of Student Board Members**

The student Board member(s) shall have the right to attend all Board meetings except closed (executive) sessions. (Education Code 35012)

The student Board member(s) shall also be invited to attend staff briefings, or be provided with a separate staff briefing, within the same timeframe as the briefing of other Board members. Additionally, the student Board member(s) shall receive all materials given to Board members between meetings, except for materials that pertain to closed session items, at the same time they are presented to other Board members. (Education Code 35012)

The student Board member(s) shall be recognized at Board meetings as full member(s), shall be seated with other members of the Board, and shall be allowed to participate in questioning witnesses and discussing issues. (Education Code 35012)

The student Board member(s) shall be allowed to cast preferential votes on all matters except those subject to closed session discussion. *Preferential voting* means a formal expression of opinion that is recorded in the minutes and cast before the official vote of the Board. Preferential votes shall not affect the final numerical outcome of a vote. (Education Code 35012)

The student Board member(s) may make motions that may be acted upon by the Board, except on matters dealing with employer-employee relations pursuant to Government Code 3540-3549.3. (Education Code 35012)

The student Board member(s) shall be appointed to subcommittees of the Board in the same manner as other Board members, although a student Board member may decline an appointment. The availability of all subcommittee members, including the availability of the student Board member(s), may be considered when scheduling subcommittee meetings. (Education Code 35012)

The student Board member(s) shall not be considered members of the Board for purposes of the Brown Act. (Education Code 35012)

The student Board member(s) shall not be counted in determining the vote required to carry any measure before the Board or whether a quorum is in attendance at a Board meeting.

The student Board member(s) shall be invited to attend functions of the Board, such as forums, meetings with students and parents/guardians, and other general assemblies. (Education Code 35012)

## **STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS (Continued)**

On a case-by-case basis, the student Board member(s) may make restorative justice recommendations to the Board regarding specific expulsion matters. In order for such a recommendation to be made, the student who is subject to the expulsion and that student's parent/guardian shall first provide written consent. If such consent is given, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the student Board member(s) with information regarding the expulsion but only to the extent necessary for the student Board member(s) to provide a recommendation related to restorative justice to the Board. (Education Code 35012)

### **Student Board Member Training**

The Superintendent or designee may, at district expense, provide learning opportunities to the student Board member(s) through trainings, workshops, and conferences, such as those offered by the California School Boards Association and other organizations, to enhance their knowledge, understanding, and performance of leadership skills and their Board responsibilities.

The Superintendent or designee may periodically provide information to student Board member candidates to give them an understanding of the position. Once selected, the incoming student Board member(s) shall be provided an orientation designed to build knowledge of the district and an understanding of the responsibilities and expectations of the position

### **Alternate Student Board Member**

If the Board determines that a student Board member is not fulfilling the duties of the position, the Board may appoint another student to serve out the term of the student Board member. If an alternate student Board member is appointed, the Board shall suspend the prior student Board member's rights and privileges related to service on the Board. (Education Code 35012)

### **Elimination of Position**

Once established, the student Board member position shall continue to exist until the Board, by majority vote of all voting Board members, approves a motion to eliminate the position. Such a motion shall be listed as a public agenda item for a Board meeting prior to the motion being voted upon. (Education Code 35012)



## **STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS (Continued)**

### *Legal Reference:*

#### EDUCATION CODE

33000.5 *Appointment of student member to State Board of Education*

35012 *Board members; number, election and terms; student members*

35160 *Authority of governing boards*

#### GOVERNMENT CODE

3540-3549.3 *Educational Employment Relations Act*

### *Management Resources:*

#### WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Association of Student Councils: <http://www.casc.net>

California Association of Student Leaders: <http://www.caslboard.com>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

Bylaw

adopted: March 2, 2016

revised: February 7, 2018

revised: March, 2025

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**LIMITS OF BOARD MEMBER AUTHORITY**

The Board of Trustees recognizes that the Board is the unit of authority over the district and that a Board member has no individual authority. Board members shall hold the education of students above any partisan principle, group interest, or personal interest.

*(cf. 1160 - Political Processes)*  
*(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)*  
*(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)*  
*(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)*  
*(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)*

Unless agreed to by the Board as a whole, individual members of the Board shall not exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the schools or command the services of any school employee. Individual Board members shall submit requests for information to the Superintendent. Board members shall refer Board-related correspondence to the Superintendent for forwarding to the Board or for placement on the Board's agenda, as appropriate.

*(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)*  
*(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)*  
*(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)*  
*(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)*

Individual Board members do not have the authority to resolve complaints. Any Board member approached directly by a person with a complaint should refer the complainant to the Superintendent or designee so that the problem may receive proper consideration and be handled through the appropriate district process.

*(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)*  
*(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)*  
*(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)*  
*(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)*  
*(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)*  
*(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)*  
*(cf. 6159.1 - Procedural Safeguards and Complaints for Special Education)*

A Board member whose child is attending a district school should be aware of his/her role as a Board member when interacting with district employees about his/her child. Because his/her position as a Board member may inhibit the performance of school personnel, the Board member should inform the Superintendent or designee before volunteering in his/her child's classroom.

*(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)*  
*(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)*  
*(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)*

## **LIMITS OF BOARD MEMBER AUTHORITY (continued)**

The Superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of the state's open meeting laws (Brown Act) to each Board member and to anyone who is elected to the Board but has not yet assumed office.

Board members and persons elected to the Board who have not yet assumed office are responsible for complying with the requirements of the Brown Act. (Government Code 54952.1)

### *Legal Reference:*

#### EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

7054 Use of district property

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

35100-35351 Governing boards, especially:

35160-35184 Powers and duties

35291 Rules

35292 Visits to schools (Board members)

51101 Rights of parents/guardians

#### GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54962 The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:

54952.1 Member of a legislative body of a local agency

54952.7 Copies of chapter to members of legislative body

### *Management Resources:*

#### CSBA PUBLICATIONS

CSBA Professional Governance Standards, 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership: Boardsmanship, 1996

#### WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS**

### **Board Member Qualifications**

Any person is eligible to be a member of the Governing Board, without further qualifications, if the person is 18 years of age or older, a citizen of California, a resident of the school district, or, if applicable, the trustee area, a registered voter, and not legally disqualified from holding civil office. (Education Code 35107)

A person is not eligible to be a member of the Board if they have been convicted of an offense(s) as specified in law and the accompanying Exhibit, except when the person has been granted a pardon in accordance with law. A district employee duly elected to the Board shall resign from district employment, or shall otherwise cease being a district employee, before being sworn in. If a district employee duly elected to the Board is sworn in and remains a district employee, then the employment shall automatically terminate upon being sworn into office. (Education Code 35107)

(cf. [9224](#) - *Oath of Affirmation*)

(cf. [9270](#) - *Conflict of Interest*)

The Board encourages all candidates to become knowledgeable about the role of board members. The Superintendent or designee shall provide a Board candidate, upon request by the candidate, with information that will enable them to understand the responsibilities and expectations of being a Board member, including information regarding available workshops, seminars, and/or training. Additionally, the Superintendent or designee shall provide a Board candidate, upon request by the candidate, the county election official's contact information and general information about school programs, district operations, and Board responsibilities.

(cf. [9230](#) - *Orientation*)

(cf. [9240](#) - *Board Training*)

### **Recalling a Board Member**

A Board member may be recalled as permitted by Elections Code 11000-11386. To commence a recall of a Board member, proponents shall serve, file, and publish or post a notice of intention to circulate the recall petition as specified by law and any applicable county elections official directives. Additionally, the recall petition shall be in the format provided by the Secretary of State and include, among other things, an estimate of the cost of conducting the special election, as determined by the county elections official, in consultation with the district.

Within 14 days after the regular meeting at which the Board receives a certificate of sufficiency of signatures on a recall petition from the county elections official, the Board shall order an election to be held to determine whether the Board member named in the petition shall be recalled. The election shall be held not less than 88, nor more than 125, days after the date that the Board orders the election. However, the election may be conducted within 180 days after the issuance of the Board's order to consolidate the election with a regularly scheduled election. (Elections Code 11240-11242)

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS (continued)**

A recall election of a Board member shall be conducted in accordance with Elections Code 11381-11386.

If a recall of a Board member is successful, that Board member's seat becomes vacant and shall be filled in accordance with Education Code 5090-95 and Board Bylaw 9223 – Filling Vacancies.

**Consolidation of Elections**

The Board may consolidate Board elections with the local municipal or statewide primary or general election in accordance with Elections Code [1302](#). Additionally, if a regularly scheduled Board election held other than on a statewide election date results in a decrease in local voter turnout of 25 percent or more compared to the average local turnout for the previous four statewide general elections, the Board shall take action to consolidate Board elections with statewide elections in accordance with Elections Code 14051-14052.

In order to consolidate elections, the Board shall adopt a resolution and submit it to the County Board of Supervisors for approval not later than 240 days prior to the date of the currently scheduled district election. (Elections Code [10404.5](#))

Whenever a regularly scheduled Board election is changed due to consolidation of elections, the terms of office of incumbent Board members shall be extended to align with the next applicable election. (Elections Code [10404.5](#))

*(cf. [9110](#) - Terms of Office)*

**Elections Process and Procedures**

For each election, upon certification by the County Board of Supervisors, the Board shall declare who has been elected to the Board in accordance with law. (Election Code 15400)

A Board member whose term has expired shall continue to discharge the duties of the office until a successor has qualified by taking the oath of office. (Government Code 1302, 1360)

Board members may reside anywhere within the district's boundaries and shall be elected by all voters in the district.

The Board may review the district's Board election method to determine whether any modification is necessary.

If the district seeks to change its election method, the Board shall follow procedural requirements and hold public hearings in accordance with Elections Code 10010 and 21100-21150 before adopting a resolution at an open meeting specifying the change and obtain approval from the county committee on school district organization having jurisdiction over the district in accordance with Education Code 5019.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS (continued)**

The election method or trustee-area boundaries in effect at the beginning of a Board member's term shall be used when any vacancy that occurs during that term is to be filled, even if, during the term, the district has adopted "by-trustee area" election method or trustee area boundaries have been adjusted.

**Campaign Conduct**

All candidates, including current Board members running as incumbents, shall abide by local, county, state, and federal requirements regarding campaign contributions, funding, and expenditures.

A Board member shall not expend, and a candidate shall not accept, any public money for the purpose of seeking elective office. However, the district may establish a dedicated fund for those seeking election to the Board, provided that the funds are available to all candidates who are qualified pursuant to Education Code [35107](#) without regard to incumbency or political preference. (Government Code 85300)

In order to help protect the public's trust in the electoral process as well as the public's confidence in the Board and district, the Board encourages all candidates to sign and adhere to the principles in the Code of Fair Campaign Practices pursuant to Elections Code [20440](#).

(cf. [0410](#) - *Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities*)

(cf. [9005](#) - *Governance Standards*)

**Statement of Qualifications**

On the 125th day prior to the day fixed for the general district election, the Board secretary or designee shall deliver a notice, bearing the secretary's signature and district seal, to the county elections official describing both of the following: (Elections Code [10509](#))

1. The elective offices of the district to be filled at the general election and which offices, if any, are for the balance of an unexpired term
2. Whether the district or the candidate is to pay for the publication of a statement of qualifications pursuant to Elections Code [13307](#)

(cf. [9223](#) - *Filling Vacancies*)

Candidates for the Board may submit a candidate statement to the elections official for inclusion in the voter's pamphlet. Candidate statements shall be limited to no more than 200 words. (Elections Code [13307](#))

When the elections official allows for the electronic distribution of candidate statements, a candidate for the Board may, in addition to or instead of submitting a candidate statement for

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS (continued)**

inclusion in the mailed voter's pamphlet, prepare and submit a candidate statement for electronic distribution.

The district shall assume no part of the cost of printing, handling, translating, mailing, or electronically distributing candidate statements filed pursuant to Elections Code [13307](#). As a condition of having candidate statements included in the voter's pamphlet, the district may require candidates to pay their estimated pro rata share of these costs to the district in advance pursuant to Elections Code [13307](#).

**Tie Votes in Board Member Elections**

Whenever the County Superintendent of Schools certifies to the Board that there is a tie vote such that it is impossible to determine which of two or more candidates has been elected to the Board, the Board shall immediately notify the candidates who received the tie votes of the time and place where the candidates or their representatives should appear before the Board. The Board at that time and place shall determine the winner by lot. (Education Code 5016)

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE[1006](#) Qualifications for holding office, county board of education[5000-5033](#) Elections[5220-5231](#) Elections[5300-5304](#) General provisions (conduct of elections)[5320-5329](#) Order and call of elections[5340-5345](#) Consolidation of elections[5360-5363](#) Election notice[5380](#) Compensation (of election officer)[5390](#) Qualifications of voters[5420-5426](#) Cost of elections[5440-5442](#) Miscellaneous provisions[7054](#) Use of district property[35107](#) Eligibility; school district employees[35177](#) Campaign expenditures or contributions[35239](#) Compensation of governing board member of districts with less than 70 ADAELECTIONS CODE[20](#) Public office eligibility[1302](#) Local elections, school district election[2201](#) Grounds for cancellation[4000-4008](#) Elections conducted wholly by mail[10010](#) District boundaries[10400-10418](#) Consolidation of elections[10509](#) Notice of election by secretary[10600-10604](#) School district elections[13307](#) Candidate's statement[13308](#) Candidate's statement contents[13309](#) Candidate's statement, indigence[14025-14032](#) California Voting Rights Act[14050-14057](#) California Voter Participation Rights Act[20440](#) Code of Fair Campaign Practices

*Management Resources: (continued on next page)*

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS (continued)**

GOVERNMENT CODE

[1021](#) *Conviction of crime*

[1097](#) *Illegal participation in public contract*

[12940](#) *Nondiscrimination, Fair Employment and Housing Act*

[81000-91014](#) *Political Reform Act*

PENAL CODE

[68](#) *Bribes*

[74](#) *Acceptance of gratuity*

[424](#) *Embezzlement and falsification of accounts by public officers*

[661](#) *Removal for neglect or violation of official duty*

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

*Article 2, Section 2 Voters, qualifications*

*Article 7, Section 7 Conflicting offices*

*Article 7, Section 8 Disqualification from office*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 52

*10301-10508 Voting Rights Act*

COURT DECISIONS

*Rey v. Madera Unified School District, (2012) 203 Cal. App. 4th 1223*

*Randall v. Sorrell, (2006) 126 S.Ct. 2479*

*Sanchez v. City of Modesto, (2006) 145 Cal. App. 4th 660*

*Dusch v. Davis, (1967) 387 U.S. 112*

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

*85 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 49 (2002)*

*83 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 181 (2000)*

*81 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 94 (1998)*

*69 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 290 (1986)*

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

*Legal Alert on the Impact of Senate Bill No. 415 on School Board Elections, January 2017*

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Secretary of State's Office: <http://www.sos.ca.gov>

Fair Political Practices Commission: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov>

Institute for Local Self Government: <http://www.ca-ilg.org>

(11/06 4/13) 7/17

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: June 5, 2013

revised: October 4, 2017

revised: December 22, 2022

revised: January 11, 2023

revised: June, 2024

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS**

This exhibit is a non-exhaustive list of offenses the conviction of which disqualifies a person from holding public office, including as a Governing Board member of a school district, in the State of California.

1. California Constitution, Article VII, Section 8: Giving or offering a bribe to procure personal election or appointment
2. California Constitution, Article VII, Section 8: Committing bribery, perjury, forgery, malfeasance in office, or other high crimes
3. Penal Code section 67: Giving or offering a bribe to any executive officer in the state to influence any decision made by that officer in their official capacity
4. Penal Code section 68: While an executive or ministerial officer, employee, or appointee of the state, a county, a city, or another political subdivision of the state, asking for, receiving, or agreeing to receive any bribe to influence any decision made by that person in their official capacity
5. Penal Code section 74: As a public officer, for gratuity or reward, appointing another person to public office, or permitting another person to exercise or discharge the duties of their office
6. Penal Code section 88: While a member of the Legislature or of a legislative body of a city, county, city and county, school district, or other special district, committing any of various crimes against the Legislative power, including bribery and logrolling
7. Penal Code section 98: While an officer, committing any of various bribery and corruption crimes against the public justice as specified in Penal Code 92-100, including bribing or threatening judges or jurors
8. Penal Code section 165: Giving or offering a bribe to a member of a city council or a board of supervisors to influence any decision made by that member in their official capacity
9. Penal Code section 424: While an officer of the state or of any county, city, town, or district of the state, or while otherwise charged with the receipt, safekeeping, transfer, or disbursement of public moneys, appropriating such moneys for personal use, or refusing to pay any public moneys as required by law
10. Penal Code section 2772: Interfering with the work of prisoners employed at a road camp, or giving or attempting to give such prisoners any controlled substances, intoxicating liquors, firearms, weapons, or explosives of any kind
11. Penal Code section 2790: Interrupting the work of prisoners employed at a public park or camp, or giving or attempting to give such prisoners any controlled substances, intoxicating liquors, firearms, weapons, or explosives of any kind
12. Government Code section 1021: Committing designated crimes as specified in the California Constitution or state law
13. Government Code section 1097: While a public official, being financially interested in a contract made in their official capacity, or by any body or board of which he or she is a

member, or aiding or abetting a public official in committing such a violation

14. Government Code section 9055: While a member of the Legislature or of a legislative body of a city, county, city and county, school district, or other special district, committing any of various crimes against the Legislative power, including bribery and logrolling
15. Government Code section 9412: While a member of the Legislature, refusing to appear before the Senate, Assembly, or any committee of the Legislature after being summoned to testify, or while appearing before the Senate, Assembly, or any committee, refusing to be sworn or to answer any material and proper question, or refusing to produce, upon reasonable notice, any material and proper books, papers, or documents in their possession and under their control
16. Elections Code section 20: Committing a felony involving accepting or giving, or offering to give, any bribe, the embezzlement of public money, extortion or theft of public money, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any of those crimes
17. Elections Code section 18501: While a public official, aiding the illegal casting of a vote at an election or otherwise facilitating the perpetration of election fraud

**RESIGNATION**

A member of the Governing Board who wishes to resign from the Board shall file a written resignation with the County Superintendent of Schools. (Education Code [5090](#))

The resigning Board member shall also notify the Board and give a copy of his/her written resignation to the Board secretary.

The resignation shall become effective when filed with the County Superintendent, except when a deferred effective date is specified in the resignation. A Board member may not defer the effective date of his/her resignation for more than 60 days after he/she files the resignation with the County Superintendent. (Education Code [5090](#), [5091](#))

Once filed, a written resignation, whether specifying a deferred effective date or otherwise, shall be irrevocable. (Education Code [5090](#))

A Board member who tenders his/her resignation with a deferred effective date shall, until the effective date of the resignation, continue to exercise all the powers of the office, except that he/she shall not have the right to vote for his/her successor in an action taken by the Board to make a provisional appointment. (Education Code [5091](#), [35178](#))

(cf. [9223](#) - *Filling Vacancies*)

A Board member who resigns shall file, within 30 days of leaving office, a revised Statement of Economic Interest/Form 700 covering the period of time between the closing date of the last statement required to be filed and the date he/she leaves office. (Government Code [87302](#), [87500](#))

(cf. [9270](#) - *Conflict of Interest*)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

5090-5095 *Vacancies on the board*

35178 *Resignation with deferred effective date*

GOVERNMENT CODE

1770 *Vacancy on the board*

87300-87313 *Conflict of interest code*

87500 *Statement of economic interests*

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Filling a Board Vacancy*, rev. December 2010

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

(7/84 9/89) 5/16

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: June 29, 2016

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**FILLING VACANCIES**

**Events Causing a Vacancy**

A vacancy on the Board of Trustees may arise from any of the following events:

1. The death of an incumbent (Government Code 1770)
2. The adjudication pursuant to a quo warranto proceeding declaring that an incumbent is physically or mentally incapacitated due to disease, illness, or accident and that there is reasonable cause to believe that the incumbent will not be able to perform the duties of the office for the remainder of the term (Government Code 1770)
3. A Board member's resignation in accordance with Board Bylaw 9222 - Resignation (Government Code 1770)
4. A Board member's removal from office by recall (Elections Code 11000-11386; Government Code 1770)
5. A Board member's ceasing to be a resident of the district (Government Code 1770)
6. A Board member's ceasing to inhabit the trustee area represented by the Board member (Government Code 1770)
7. A Board member's absence from the state for more than 60 days, except in the following situations: (Government Code 1064 1770)
  - a. Upon district business with the approval of the Board
  - b. With the consent of the Board for an additional period not to exceed a total absence of 90 days or, in the case of illness or other urgent necessity and upon a proper showing thereof, for more than 90 days
  - c. For federal military deployment, not to exceed an absence total of six months, as a member of the armed forces of the United States or the California National Guard

If the absence of the Board member for this purpose exceeds six months, the Board may approve an additional six-month absence upon a showing that there is a reasonable expectation that the member will return within the second six-month period, and the Board may appoint an interim member to serve during the absence. If two or more members of the Board are absent by reason of these circumstances, and those absences result in the inability to establish a quorum at a regular meeting, the Board may immediately appoint one or more interim members as necessary to enable the Board to conduct business and discharge its responsibilities. The term of an interim member appointed in these circumstances shall not extend beyond the return of the absent

**FILLING VACANCIES** (continued)

Board member or beyond the next regularly scheduled election for that office,  
whichever comes first

8. A Board member's ceasing to discharge the duties of the office for the period of three consecutive months, except when prevented by illness or when absent from the state with the permission required by law (Government Code 1770)
9. A Board member's conviction of a felony or any offense involving a violation of official duties or conviction of a designated crime resulting in a forfeiture of office (Government Code 1770, 3000-3003)
10. A Board member's refusal or neglect to file the required oath within the time prescribed (Government Code 1770)

*(cf. 9224 - Oath or Affirmation)*

11. The decision of a competent tribunal declaring void a Board member's election or appointment (Government Code 1770)
12. A Board member's commitment to a hospital or sanitarium as a drug addict, dipsomaniac, inebriate, or stimulant addict by a court of competent jurisdiction, in which case the office shall not be deemed vacant until the order of commitment has become final (Government Code 1770)
13. A "failure to elect" in which no candidate or an insufficient number of candidates have filed to run for a Board seat(s) (Education Code 5090, 5326, 5328)

**Timelines for Filling a Vacancy**

When a vacancy occurs, the Board shall take the following action, as appropriate:

1. When a vacancy occurs within four months of the end of a Board member's term, the Board shall take no action. (Education Code 5093)
2. When a vacancy occurs between six months to 130 days before a regularly scheduled Board election at which the vacant position is not scheduled to be filled, a special election to fill the position shall be consolidated with the regular election. The person so elected shall take office at the first regularly scheduled Board meeting following the certification of the election and shall serve only until the end of the term of the position which the person was elected to fill. (Education Code 5093)

**FILLING VACANCIES (continued)**

3. When a vacancy occurs any time outside of the statutory time windows identified in Items #1 and #2 above, the Board shall either order an election or make a provisional appointment within 60 days of the date of the vacancy or the filing of the member's deferred resignation, whichever is sooner. (Education Code 5091, 5093)

**Eligibility for Appointment**

In order to be appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board, a person must meet the eligibility requirements specified in law and BB 9220 – Governing Board Elections.

**Provisional Appointments**

When, as authorized by law, the Board has opted to make a provisional appointment to fill a vacancy, the Board, by resolution may approve the procedures for selecting the person to be provisionally appointed to fill the vacancy. These procedures may, but are not required to, include the following:

1. Advertising in the local media to solicit candidate applications
2. Establishing a committee consisting of less than a quorum of the Board to ensure that applicants are eligible for Board membership and announce the names of the eligible candidates
3. Interviewing the candidates at a public meeting

Within 10 days after the Board makes a provisional appointment to fill a Board vacancy, the Superintendent or designee, on behalf of the Board, shall post a notice of the actual vacancy, or the filing of a deferred resignation, and the provisional appointment. The Superintendent or designee shall post the notice as follows: (Education Code 5092)

1. In three public places in the district or, if applicable, trustee area
2. On the district's website
3. In a newspaper of general circulation published in the district, if such a newspaper exists

The notice shall contain: (Education Code 5092)

1. The fact of the vacancy or resignation
2. The date of the occurrence of the vacancy or the date of the filing of, and the effective date of, the resignation
3. The full name of the provisional appointee to the Board and the date of the provisional appointee's appointment
4. A statement notifying the voters that unless a petition calling for a special election pursuant to Education Code 5091 is filed in the office of the County Superintendent of Schools within 30 days of the provisional appointment, the appointment shall become effective

**FILLING VACANCIES** (continued)

The person appointed shall only hold office until the next regularly scheduled election for district Board members. (Education Code 5091)

If within 30 days of the Board's appointment, registered voters of the district or, where elections are by trustee areas, of the trustee area submit a petition for special election that the County Superintendent determines to be legally sufficient, the provisional appointment is terminated, and a special election shall be held in accordance with Education Code 5091 to fill the vacancy.

**Appointment Due to Failure to Elect**

When a vacancy occurs because no candidate or an insufficient number of candidates have been nominated and a district election will not be held, the Board shall appoint a qualified person to the office. This appointment shall be made at a meeting prior to the day fixed for the election and the appointee shall be seated at the organizational meeting as if elected at the district election. (Education Code 5328)

*(cf. 9100 - Organization)*

When an appointment is being made because of a failure to elect, the district shall publish a notice once in a newspaper of general circulation published in the district, or if no such newspaper exists, in a newspaper having general circulation within the district. This notice shall state that the Board intends to make an appointment and shall inform persons of the procedure available for applying for the appointment. (Education Code 5328.5)

When, as authorized by law, the Board seeks to make an appointment because of a failure to elect, the Board, by resolution, may approve any additional procedures for selecting the person to be appointed to fill the vacancy.

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

**FILLING VACANCIES (continued)**

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

5000-5033 Elections

5090-5095 Vacancies

5200-5208 Districts governed by boards of education

5300-5304 Elections

5320-5329 Order and call of election

5340-5345 Consolidation of elections

5360-5363 Election notice

5420-5426 Cost of elections

5440-5442 Miscellaneous provisions, elections

35107 Eligibility of board members

35178 Resignation with deferred effective date

ELECTIONS CODE

10600-10604 School district elections

11381-11386 Candidates for recall

GOVERNMENT CODE

1064 Absence from state

1770 Vacancies: definition

3000-3002 Forfeiture of office

3060-3075 Removal other than by impeachment

6061 One time notice

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act

PENAL CODE

88 Bribery, forfeiture from office

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 18

704 Military medals or decorations

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

58 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 888 (1975)

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Filling a Board Vacancy, rev. January 2008

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California State Attorney General's Office, Quo Warranto Applications: <http://caag.state.ca.us/opinions/quo.htm>

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: September 24, 2015

revised: January 11, 2023

revised: June, 2024

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California



**OATH OR AFFIRMATION**

Prior to entering upon the duties of the office of a Governing Board member or exercising any function of a Board member, each Board member shall take the oath or affirmation required by law. (California Constitution, Article 20, Section 3; Government Code 1360)

*(cf. 4112.3/4212.3/4312.3 - Oath or Affirmation)*

The oath or affirmation may be administered and certified by a Board member, the secretary or assistant secretary to the Board, the Superintendent, the County Superintendent of Schools, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, or any other person authorized in Education Code 60 or Government Code 1225.

The executed oath shall be filed with the County Clerk. (Government Code 1363)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

60 Persons authorized to administer and certify oaths

GOVERNMENT CODE

1303 Misdemeanor for failure to take oath

1360-1369 Oath of office

3100-3109 Oath or affirmation of allegiance

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 20, Section 3 Oath of office

COURT DECISIONS

Chilton v. Contra Costa Community College District (1976) 55 Cal. App. 3d 544

Vogel v. County of Los Angeles (1967) 68 Cal. 2d 18, 22

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: March, 2025

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**ORIENTATION****Board Candidate Orientation**

The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of providing all newly elected or appointed Board members with support and information to assist them in becoming effective members of the Board. Incoming Board members shall be provided an orientation designed to build their knowledge of the district and an understanding of the responsibilities of their position. Such orientation may include the provision of information, support, and/or training related to Board functions, policies, protocols, and standards of conduct.

(cf. [9000](#) - *Role of the Board*)  
(cf. [9220](#) - *Governing Board Elections*)  
(cf. [9223](#) - *Filling Vacancies*)

As early as possible following the election or appointment of Board members, one or more orientation sessions shall be held during open meeting(s) of the Board. The Board president and the Superintendent or designee shall develop an agenda for the meeting(s) and shall identify resources that may be useful for incoming Board members.

(cf. [9121](#) - *President*)

Upon their election or appointment, incoming Board members shall be provided a copy of the Brown Act and informed that, pursuant to Government Code [54952.1](#), they must conform to the Act's requirements as if they had already assumed office. Additional information for incoming Board members may include, but is not limited to, Board bylaws related to the limits of individual Board member authority, the conduct of Board meetings, and other Board operations; governance standards for ethical conduct; legal requirements related to conflict of interest and prohibited political activity; protocols for speaking with district staff, members of the public, and the media; and publications on effective governance practices.

(cf. [1112](#) - *Media Relations*)  
(cf. [1160](#) - *Political Processes*)  
(cf. [9005](#) - *Governance Standards*)  
(cf. [9010](#) - *Public Statements*)  
(cf. [9011](#) - *Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information*)  
(cf. [9012](#) - *Board Member Electronic Communications*)  
(cf. [9200](#) - *Limits of Board Member Authority*)  
(cf. [9270](#) - *Conflict of Interest*)  
(cf. [9323](#) - *Meeting Conduct*)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall provide incoming Board members with specific background information regarding the district, including, but not limited to, the district's vision and goals statements, local control and accountability plan and other comprehensive plans, student demographic data, student achievement data, district policy manual, district budget, and minutes of recent open Board meetings.

**ORIENTATION** (continued)

(cf. [0000](#) - Vision)  
(cf. [0200](#) - Goals for the School District)  
(cf. [0400](#) - Comprehensive Plans)  
(cf. [0460](#) - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

The Superintendent or designee may offer incoming Board members a tour of district schools and facilities, and may introduce them to district and school site administrators and other staff.

Incoming members are encouraged, at district expense and with approval of the Board, to attend the California School Boards Association's Orientation for New Trustees, Institute for New and First-Term Board Members, and workshops and conferences relevant to the needs of the individual member, the Board as a whole, or the district.

(cf. [9240](#) - Board Training)  
(cf. [9320](#) - Meetings and Notices)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

[33360](#) Department of Education and statewide association of school district boards; annual workshops

[33362-33363](#) Reimbursement of expenses; board member or member-elect

GOVERNMENT CODE

[54950-54963](#) The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:

[54952.1](#) Member of a legislative body

[54952.2](#) Open meeting laws; posting agenda; board actions

[54952.7](#) Copies of Brown Act to board members

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Professional Governance Standards for School Boards

The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2009

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

(7/08 8/14) 7/17

Bylaw  
adopted: January 4, 2012  
revised: October 4, 2017

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

**BOARD TRAINING**

The Board of Trustees believes that the Board's ability to effectively and responsibly govern the district is essential to promoting student achievement, building positive community relations, and protecting the public interest in district schools. Board members shall participate in mandatory ethics training, as outlined below, and are encouraged to participate in ongoing opportunities for professional development sufficient to help them understand their responsibilities, stay abreast of new developments in education, and improve governance skills.

*(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)*

*(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)*

Unless a Board member's term expires prior to January 1, 2026, each Board member shall complete ethics training in accordance with Government Code 53234-53235.2 by January 1, 2026, and at least once every two years thereafter. (Government Code 53235)

Once completed, the Board member shall inform the Board president and Superintendent, who shall ensure that records are retained for each Board member's participation in the required ethics training.

The Board president and/or the Superintendent or designee shall provide an orientation to newly elected or appointed Board members consistent with Board Bylaw 9230 - Orientation.

The Board president shall work with the Superintendent or designee to include funds for professional development and associated reasonable travel expenses for the Board as a whole and for each individual Board member in the district's proposed annual budget.

Consistent with the availability of funds in the district's adopted annual budget, the Board president or designee shall annually develop, and bring to the Board for adoption at a Board meeting, a Board professional development calendar designed to assist the Board as a whole in understanding the principles of effective governance, including, but not limited to, information on school finance and budgets, student achievement and assessment, labor relations, community relations, program evaluation, open meeting laws (the Brown Act), conflict of interest laws, and other topics necessary to govern effectively and in compliance with law.

Consistent with the availability of funds in the district's adopted annual budget, individual Board members may identify and participate in additional professional development opportunities, and shall timely inform the Board president and the Superintendent upon doing so. Additionally, the Superintendent or designee shall establish timelines and procedures for how an individual Board member shall request that the district pay for such professional development opportunities, whether in advance or by reimbursement.

Board members are encouraged to consider participating in the professional development opportunities offered by CSBA such as the Institute for New and First-Term Board Members, Masters in Governance Program, Annual Education Conference and Trade Show, Legal Symposium for Experienced Board Members, Board Presidents Workshop, Brown Act Workshop, Policy Update Webinars, and Ethics Trainings.

Individual Board members are encouraged to share the knowledge or skills acquired from individual

## **BOARD TRAINING (continued)**

professional development opportunities with the full Board, thereby benefiting the Board and district.

Consistent with Board Bylaw 9320 - Meetings And Notices, Board members may attend a professional development opportunity as part of a conference or similar public gathering, such as the Annual Education Conference and Trade Show hosted by CSBA, so long as a majority of the Board members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled program, business of a specified nature that is within the district's jurisdiction

### *Legal Reference:*

#### GOVERNMENT CODE

*54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:*

*54952.2 Meeting*

### *Management Resources:*

#### CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Professional Governance Standards for School Boards*

#### WEB SITES

*CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>*

*California County Boards of Education: <http://www.theccbe.org>*

*National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>*

*(12/87 6/94) 12/16*

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: February 1, 2017

revised: December, 2024

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**REMUNERATION, REIMBURSEMENT AND OTHER BENEFITS**

**Compensation**

Existing law establishes the amount of compensation a member of a governing board of a school district may receive for attending board meetings.

Any increase made pursuant to this section shall be effective upon approval by the Board. This will become effective for the period of January through December of each year and is subject to rejection by a majority of the electors in the District voting for a referendum established for that purpose.

Each member of the Governing Board may receive a yearly compensation of \$ 400.00. (Education Code [35120](#))

On an annual basis, the Board may increase the compensation of Board members beyond the limit delineated in Education Code [35120](#) in an amount not to exceed five (5%) percent based on the present monthly rate of compensation. (Education Code [35120](#))

Board members are not required to accept payment for meetings attended.

Any member who does not attend all Board meetings during the month is eligible to receive only a percentage of the monthly compensation equal to the percentage of meetings he/she attended, unless otherwise authorized by the Board in accordance with law. (Education Code [35120](#))

A member may be compensated for meetings he/she missed when the Board, by resolution, finds that he/she was performing designated services for the district at the time of the meeting or that he/she was absent because of illness, jury duty, or a hardship deemed acceptable by the Board. (Education Code [35120](#))

Student Board members shall not receive remuneration for meetings attended. However, students are allowed reimbursement for mileage to and from Board meetings. (Education Code [35012](#))

*(cf. [9150](#) - Student Board Members)*

**Reimbursement of Expenses**

Board members shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred when performing authorized services for the district. Expenses for travel, telephone, business meals, or other authorized purposes shall be in accordance with policies established for district personnel and at the same rate of reimbursement.

*(cf. [1160](#) - Political Processes)*

*(cf. [3100](#) - Budget)*

## **REMUNERATION, REIMBURSEMENT AND OTHER BENEFITS (continued)**

*(cf. [3350](#) - Travel Expenses)*

*(cf. [3513.1](#) - Cellular Phone Reimbursement)*

Board members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred when performing services directed by the Board. (Education Code [35044](#))

*(cf. [9240](#) - Board Training)*

Authorized purposes may include, but are not limited to, attendance at educational seminars or conferences designed to improve Board members' skills and knowledge; participation in regional, state, or national organizations whose activities affect the district's interests; attendance at district or community events; and meetings with state or federal officials on issues of community concern.

Personal expenses shall be the responsibility of individual Board members. Personal expenses include, but are not limited to, the personal portion of any trip, tips or gratuities, alcohol, entertainment, laundry, expenses of any family member who is accompanying the Board member on district-related business, personal use of an automobile, and personal losses and traffic violation fees incurred while on district business.

Any questions regarding the propriety of a particular type of expense should be resolved by the Superintendent or designee before the expense is incurred.

### **Health and Welfare Benefits for Current Board Members**

Board members may participate in the health and welfare benefits program provided for district employees.

*(cf. [4154/4254/4354](#) - Health and Welfare Benefits)*

Health and welfare benefits for Board members shall be no greater than that received by the district's nonsafety employees with the most generous schedule of benefits. (Government Code [53208.5](#))

While an active member of the Board, individuals shall be eligible for medical, dental, and vision insurance coverage under the District's plans as an employee. The Board member shall pay the cost of all premiums for plans they are electing to participate in under the District health and welfare benefits program.

Health and welfare benefits provided to Board members shall be extended at the same level to their spouse/registered domestic partner and to their eligible dependent children as specified in law and the health plan.

**REMUNERATION, REIMBURSEMENT AND OTHER BENEFITS (continued)****Health and Welfare Benefits for Former Board Members**

Former Board members may participate in the health and welfare benefits program provided for district employees under the conditions specified below.

Health and welfare benefits for former Board members shall be no greater than those received by district nonsafety employees with the most generous schedule of benefits. (Government Code [53208.5](#))

Any Board member whose first term of office began on or after January 1, 1995, and any other member retiring from the Board after at least one term, may continue the health and welfare benefits program at his/her own expense if coverage is in effect at the time of retirement. (Government Code 53201)

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE

[33050-33053](#) General waiver authority

[33362-33363](#) Reimbursement of expenses for attendance at workshops

[35012](#) Board members; number, election and term

[35044](#) Payment of traveling expenses of representatives of board

[35120](#) Compensation for services as member of governing board

[35172](#) Promotional activities

[44038](#) Cash deposits for transportation purchased on credit

FAMILY CODE

[297-297.5](#) Rights, protections and benefits under law; registered domestic partners

GOVERNMENT CODE

[8314](#) Use of public resources

[20322](#) Elective officers; election to become member

20420-20445 Membership in Public Employees' Retirement System; definition of safety employees

[53200-53209](#) Group insurance

[54952.3](#) Simultaneous or serial meetings; announcement of compensation

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

[1373](#) Health services plan, coverage for dependent children

INSURANCE CODE

[10277-10278](#) Group and individual health insurance, coverage for dependent children

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 26

403 Tax-sheltered annuities

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

18011 Right to maintain existing health coverage

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 26

1.403(b)-2 Tax-sheltered annuities, definition of employee

COURT DECISIONS

*Thorning v. Hollister School District*, (1992) 11 Cal.App.4th 1598

*Board of Education of the Palo Alto Unified School District v. Superior Court of Santa Clara County*, (1979) 93 Cal.App.3d 578

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

91 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 37 (2008)

83 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 124 (2000)



**REMUNERATION, REIMBURSEMENT AND OTHER BENEFITS (continued)**

*Management Resources:*

INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

*Sample Expense and Use of Public Resources Policy Statement, January 2006*

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE PUBLICATIONS

*Tax-Sheltered Annuity Plans (403(b) Plans) for Employees of Public Schools and Certain Tax-Exempt Organizations, Publication 571, rev. February 2013*

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Institute for Local Government: <http://www.ca-ilg.org>

Internal Revenue Service: <http://www.irs.gov>

Public Employees' Retirement System: <http://www.calpers.ca.gov>

(11/01 11/02) 8/13

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: December 4, 2013

revised: August 7, 2019

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**LEGAL PROTECTION**

**Liability Insurance**

The Board of Trustees shall provide insurance necessary to protect Board members from liability caused by a negligent act or omission that occurs within the scope of the Board member's office in accordance with Education Code 35208.

*(cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)*

**Protection Against Liability**

No Board member shall be liable for harm caused by the Board member's negligent act or omission when acting within the scope of the Board member's responsibilities, including, but not limited to, Board responsibilities as specified in Board Bylaw 9000 – Role of the Board. Additionally, no Board member shall be vicariously liable for injuries caused by the district's acts or omission. (Education Code 35208; Government Code 820.9)

In addition, no Board member shall be liable for any harm caused by the Board member's act or omission if the Board member was acting within the scope of the Board member's responsibilities, made in conformity with federal, state and local laws and made in furtherance of an effort to control, discipline, expel or suspend a student, or maintain order or control in the classroom or school. (20 USC 6736)

The protection against liability shall not apply when: (20 USC 7946)

1. The Board member acted with willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence, recklessness, or a conscious, flagrant indifference to the harmed person's right to safety.
2. The Board member caused harm by operating a motor vehicle.
3. The Board member was not properly licensed, if required, by the State for such activities.
4. The Board member was found by a court to have violated a federal or state civil rights law.
5. The Board member was under the influence of alcohol or any drug at the time of the misconduct.
6. The misconduct constituted a crime of violence pursuant to 18 USC 16 or an act of terrorism for which the Board member has been convicted in a court.
7. The misconduct involved a sexual offense for which the Board member has been convicted in a court.

Nothing in this Board bylaw is intended to protect a Board member from criminal or civil liability for

**LEGAL PROTECTION** (continued)

injury caused by the Board member's own wrongful conduct, for certain violations of law, including the Brown Act, or for liability from the requirement to reimburse the district under certain circumstances as specified in law. (Government Code 820.9, 825, 825.6, 54959, 54960).

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

17029.5 *Contract funding; board liability*

35208 *Liability insurance*

35214 *Liability insurance (self-insurance or a combination of self-insurance and insurance through an insurance company)*

GOVERNMENT CODE

815.3 *Intentional torts*

820-823 *Tort Claims Act*

825.6 *Indemnification of public entity*

1090-1098 *Conflicts of interest, prohibitions applicable to specified officers*

54950-54963 *The Ralph M. Brown Act*

87100-89503 *Conflicts of interest*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 18

16 *Crime of violence defined*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6731-6738 *Teacher Protection Act*

COURT DECISIONS

*Caldwell v. Montoya (Paramount Unified School District) 10 Cal 4th 972 (1995)*

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: March, 2025

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The Board of Trustees desires to maintain the highest ethical standards and help ensure that decisions are made in the best interest of the district and the public. Accordingly, no “District Official,” defined as a Board member or position designated in the district’s conflict of interest code, shall participate in the making of any decision for the district when the decision will or may be affected by the District Official’s financial, family, or other personal interest or consideration, as defined by law.

*(cf. [9005](#) - Governance Standards)*

Additionally, a Board member shall abstain from voting on personnel matters that uniquely affect the Board member's relatives. However, a Board member may vote on collective bargaining agreements and personnel matters that affect a class of employees to which the Board member's relative belongs. Relative means an adult who is related to the Board member by blood or affinity within the third degree, as determined by common law, or an individual in an adoptive relationship within the third degree. (Education Code 35107)

A relationship within the third degree includes an individual's parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and the similar family of the individual's spouse/registered domestic partner unless the individual is widowed or divorced.

**Conflict of Interest Code**

The Board shall adopt a conflict of interest code for the district that incorporates the provisions of 2 CCR [18730](#) by reference, delineates the District Officials, and provides the disclosure categories required for each position. The conflict of interest code shall be submitted to the district's code reviewing body for approval, in accordance with Government Code [87303](#) and within the deadline for submission established by the code reviewing body. (Government Code [87303](#))

Upon direction by the code reviewing body, the Board shall review its conflict of interest code and submit any changes to the code reviewing body or, if no change is required, the Board shall submit a written statement to that effect. (Government Code [87306.5](#))

When a change in the district's conflict of interest code is necessitated due to changed circumstances, such as the creation of new District Officials or changes to the duties of District Officials, the Board shall amend the code, which shall then be submitted to the code reviewing body within 90 days after the changed circumstances necessitating the amendments have become apparent. (Government Code [87306](#))

When reviewing and preparing the district's conflict of interest code, the Superintendent or designee shall provide officers, employees, consultants, and members of the community adequate notice and a fair opportunity to present their views. (Government Code [87311](#))

*(cf. [9320](#) - Meetings and Notices)*

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST (continued)****Conflict of Interest under the Political Reform Act**

A District Official shall not make, participate in making, or in any way use or attempt to use an official position to influence a governmental decision in which the District Official knows or has reason to know that there is a disqualifying conflict of interest. A disqualifying conflict of interest exists if the decision will have a "reasonably foreseeable material financial effect," which is distinguishable from the effect on the public generally, on the District Official's immediate family, or any financial interest described in 2 CCR 18700. (Government Code 87100, 87101, 87103; 2 CCR 18700-18707)

A District Official makes a governmental decision when, acting within the authority of the office or position, the District Official authorizes or directs any action on a matter, votes or provides information or opinion on it, contacts or appears before other District Official for the purpose of affecting the decision, or takes any other action specified in 2 CCR 18704.

However, a District Official is not prohibited from participating in the making of a contract in which the District Official has a financial interest if such participation is required by the rule of necessity or legally required participation pursuant to Government Code [87101](#) and 2 CCR [18705](#).

**Conflict of Interest from Campaign Contributions**

Prior to the district rendering a decision in a proceeding before the district involving a contract, license, permit, or other entitlement for use, as defined by Government Code 84308, a Board member whose campaign committee received a contribution of more than \$500 from any party or participant to the proceeding, or from an agent of such a party or participant, in the prior 12 months, and the party who made such a contribution, shall both publicly disclose that fact on the record of the proceeding. Additionally, if a Board member willfully or knowingly received a contribution to the Board member's campaign committee of more than \$500 from any party or participant to such a proceeding, or from an agent of a party or participant, in the prior 12 months, and knows or has reason to know that the participant has a financial interest in the district's decision, the Board member shall not make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use the Board member's official position to influence the district's decision in the proceeding. However, a Board member may make, participate in making, or attempt to use the Board member's official position to influence the decision if the contribution is returned within 30 days after the decision was made or after the Board member knows or should have known about the contribution and the proceeding, whichever is later.

All Board members and the Superintendent are prohibited from accepting, soliciting, or directing a contribution of more than \$500 to a candidate or ballot measure campaign committee from any party or participant to a proceeding before the district involving a contract, license, permit, or other entitlement for use, as defined by Government Code 84308, or from an agent of a party or participant, while the proceeding is pending before the district and for 12 months following the date the district renders a final decision in the proceeding, if the Board member or Superintendent knows or has reason to know that the participant has a financial interest in the district's decision. However, if a Board member or the Superintendent does accept, solicit, or direct such a contribution during those 12 months but did not do so knowingly or willingly, the Board member or the Superintendent may cure the violation by ensuring that the contribution, or the portion exceeding \$500, is returned within 30 days of accepting, soliciting, or directing the contribution. The Board member or Superintendent shall maintain records of curing the violation. (Government Code 84308)

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST (continued)**

For a Board member or the Superintendent, a proceeding becomes "pending" when an item involving the contract, license, permit, or other entitlement for use, as defined by Government Code 84308, is placed on a Board agenda for discussion or decision or when it is reasonably foreseeable that the proceeding will come before the district for a decision. For a party or participant, and the agent of a party of participant, a proceeding becomes "pending" when an application is filed with the district, or, if the proceeding process does not require an application, when the proceeding is before the district for a decision or other action. (Government Code 84308)

The contributions disclosure requirements and restrictions above do not apply to contracts that are required to be competitively bid, labor contracts, personal employment contracts, contracts valued under \$50,000, contracts where no party receives financial compensation, or contracts with another governmental agency. (Government Code 84308)

**Form 700**

Each District Official shall annually file a Statement of Economic Interest/Form 700 in accordance with the disclosure categories specified in the district's conflict of interest code. An individual who ceases to be a District Official shall, within 30 days, file a revised statement covering the period of time between the closing date of the last required statement and the date the individual ceased to be a District Official. (Government Code 87302)

**Additional Requirements for Boards that Manage Public Investments**

Any Board member, district employee, district consultant who manages public investments, as defined by Government Code [87200](#) and who has a financial interest in a decision shall, upon identifying a conflict or potential conflict of interest and immediately prior to the consideration of the matter, do all of the following: (Government Code [87105](#); 2 CCR [18707](#))

1. Publicly identify each financial interest that gives rise to the conflict or potential conflict of interest in detail sufficient to be understood by the public, except that disclosure of the exact street address of a residence is not required.
2. Not discuss or vote on the matter, or otherwise act in violation of Government Code 87100.

For a Board member, the Board member shall not be counted toward achieving a quorum while the item is discussed.

3. Leave the room until after the discussion, vote, and any other disposition of the matter is concluded

However, the Board member, district employee, or district consultant who manages public investments, as defined by Government Code 87200, may speak on the issue during the time that the general public speaks on it. Additionally, for a Board member, if the matter has been placed on the consent calendar, the Board member shall abstain from voting on the consent calendar or, if the Board removes the item from the consent calendar, the Board member shall abstain from voting on the item. In any event, the Board member shall refrain from

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST (continued)**

discussing or voting on the item. However, the Board member is not required to leave the room during consideration of the consent calendar.

4. If a decision is made during closed session, disclose the interest orally during the open session preceding the closed session.

This disclosure shall be limited to a declaration that the recusal is because of a conflict of interest pursuant to Government Code [87100](#). The Board member, district employee, or district consultant who manages public investments, as defined by Government Code 87200, shall not be present when the item is considered in closed session and shall not knowingly obtain or review a recording or any other nonpublic information regarding the Board's decision.

(cf. [3430](#) - Investing)

(cf. [9321](#) - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

(cf. [9321.1](#) - Closed Session Actions and Reports)

**Conflict of Interest under Government Code [1090](#) - Financial Interest in a Contract**

A District Official shall not be financially interested in any contract made by the district, including in the development, internal discussions, negotiations, modifications, planning, deliberation of issues, and specifications and solicitations for bids. If a District Official has such a financial interest in a contract made by the district, the contract is void. (Government Code [1090](#))

**Remote Interest Exception to Government Code 1090**

A Board member shall not be considered to be financially interested in a contract in which there is only a "remote interest," as specified in Government Code [1091](#), if the interest is disclosed during a Board meeting and noted in the official Board minutes. The affected Board member shall not vote or debate on the matter or attempt to influence any other Board member to enter into the contract. (Government Code [1091](#))

**Noninterest Exception to Government Code 1090**

A District Official shall not be considered to be financially interested in a contract if the interest is reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties, in the employment of a spouse/registered domestic partner who has been a district employee for at least one year prior to the Board member's election or appointment, or in any other "noninterest" specified in Government Code 1091.5.

**Common Law Doctrine Against Conflict of Interest**

A District Official shall abstain from any official action in which the District Official's private or personal interest may conflict with official duties pursuant to the common law doctrine against conflict of interest.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST (continued)****Incompatible Offices and Activities**

Board members shall not engage in any employment or activity or hold any office which is inconsistent with, incompatible with, in conflict with, or inimical to the Board member's duties as an officer of the district. (Government Code [1099](#), [1126](#))

(cf. [4136/4236/4336](#) - Nonschool Employment)

**Gifts**

District Officials may accept gifts only under the conditions and limitations specified in law including, but not limited to, Government Code [89503](#) and 2 CCR [18730](#).

Gifts of travel and related lodging and subsistence shall be subject to the current gift conditions and limitations, except when: (Government Code [89506](#))

1. The travel is in connection with a speech given by a District Official, provided the lodging and subsistence expenses are limited to the day immediately preceding, the day of, and the day immediately following the speech and the travel is within the United States.
2. The travel is provided by a person or agency specified in Government Code [89506](#), including a government, governmental agency or authority, bona fide public or private educational institution, as defined in Revenue and Taxation Code 203, or nonprofit organization exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Gifts of travel exempted from the gift limitation, as described in items #1 and 2 above, shall nevertheless be reportable on the recipient's Statement of Economic Interest/Form 700 as required by law.

A gift of travel does not include travel provided by the district for District Officials (Government Code [89506](#))

**Honoraria**

District Officials shall not accept any honorarium, which is defined as any payment made in consideration for any speech given, article published, or attendance at any public or private conference, convention, meeting, social event, meal, or like gathering. (Government Code [89501](#), [89502](#))

The term honorarium does not include: (Government Code [89501](#))

1. Earned income for personal services customarily provided in connection with a bona fide business, trade, or profession, unless the sole or predominant activity of the business, trade, or profession is making speeches



**CONFLICT OF INTEREST (continued)**

2. Any honorarium which is not used and, within 30 days after receipt, is either returned to the donor or delivered to the district for donation into the general fund without being claimed as a deduction from income for tax purposes

**Advice**

Any District Official, who, in good faith, believes that they may be subject to the requirements of this Bylaw and has questions, is unclear, or is unsure regarding the application of the requirements of this Bylaw to any particular instance or situations, may seek advice from the district's legal counsel with the permission of the Superintendent, Board President, or majority of the Board.

**Training**

Unless a Board member's term expires prior to January 1, 2026, each Board member shall complete ethics training in accordance with Government Code 53234-5325.2 by January 1, 2026, and at least once every two years thereafter as specified in Board Bylaw 9240 – Board Training.

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE[1006](#) *Qualifications for holding office*[35107](#) *School district employees*[35230-35240](#) *Corrupt practices, especially:*[35233](#) *Prohibitions applicable to members of governing boards*[41000-41003](#) *Moneys received by school districts*[41015](#) *Investments*FAMILY CODE[297.5](#) *Rights, protections, and benefits of registered domestic partners*GOVERNMENT CODE[1090-1099](#) *Prohibitions applicable to specified officers*[1125-1129](#) *Incompatible activities*[81000-91014](#) *Political Reform Act of 1974, especially:*[82011](#) *Code reviewing body*[82019](#) *Definition, designated employee*[82028](#) *Definition, gift*[82030](#) *Definition, income*[82033](#) *Definition, interest in real property*[82034](#) *Definition, investment*[87100-87103.6](#) *General prohibitions*[87200-87210](#) *Disclosure*[87300-87313](#) *Conflict of interest code*[87500](#) *Statements of economic interests*[89501-89503](#) *Honoraria and gifts*[89506](#) *Ethics; travel*[91000-91014](#) *Enforcement*PENAL CODE[85-88](#) *Bribes*REVENUE AND TAXATION CODE[203](#) *Taxable and exempt property - colleges*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2[18110-18997](#) *Regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission, especially:*[18700-18707](#) *General prohibitions*

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST (continued)

[18722-18740](#) *Disclosure of interests*

*Legal References: continued*

[18750.1-18756](#) *Conflict of interest codes*

### COURT DECISIONS

*McGee v. Balfour Beatty Construction, LLC, et al. (4/12/16, No. B262850)*

*Davis v. Fresno Unified School District (2015) 237 Cal.App.4th 261*

*Klistoff v. Superior Court, (2007) 157 Cal.App.4th 469*

*Thorpe v. Long Beach Community College District, (2000) 83 Cal.App.4th 655*

*Kunec v. Brea Redevelopment Agency, (1997) 55 Cal.App.4th 511*

### ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

*92 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 26 (2009)*

*92 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 19 (2009)*

*89 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 217 (2006)*

*86 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 138(2003)*

*85 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 60 (2002)*

*82 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 83 (1999)*

*81 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 327 (1998)*

*80 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 320 (1997)*

*69 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 255 (1986)*

*68 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 171 (1985)*

*65 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 606 (1982)*

*63 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 868 (1980)*

### *Management Resources:*

#### CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Conflict of Interest: Overview of Key Issues for Governing Board Members, Fact Sheet, July 2010*

#### FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

*Can I Vote? A Basic Overview of Public Officials' Obligations Under the Conflict-of-Interest Rules, 2005*

#### INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

*Understanding the Basics of Public Service Ethics: Personal Financial Gain Laws, 2009*

*Understanding the Basics of Public Service Ethics: Transparency Laws, 2009*

#### WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Fair Political Practices Commission: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov>

Institute of Local Government: <http://www.ca-ilg.org>

(7/10) 5/16

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: June 29, 2016

revised: April 19, 2023

revised: December, 2024

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING A  
CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE**

WHEREAS, the Political Reform Act, Government Code 87300-87313, requires each public agency in California, including each school district, to adopt a conflict of interest code; and

WHEREAS, a district is permitted to create its conflict of interest code by incorporating by reference the terms of 2 CCR 18730, along with a list of District Officials to whom the code applies and disclosure categories, in accordance with Government Code 87300 and 87306;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the Biggs Unified School District ("District") has previously adopted a local conflict of interest code in this manner; and

WHEREAS, the District has recently reviewed its list of District Officials, and the duties of each, and has determined that no changes to the current conflict of interest code are necessary.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Governing Board of the District adopts the following Conflict of Interest Code, including the accompanying Appendix of District Officials and Disclosure Categories, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, any earlier resolutions, bylaws, and/or appendices containing the District's conflict of interest code are hereby rescinded and superseded by this Resolution and Appendix.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ at a Regular Meeting, by the following vote:

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_ NOES: \_\_\_\_\_ ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST** (continued)**Conflict of Interest Code of the  
Biggs Unified School District (“District”)**

The Political Reform Act (PRA) (Government Code 81000-87505) requires the District to adopt a conflict of interest code. 2 CCR 18730 contains the terms of a conflict of interest code, which may be amended by the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) to conform to amendments in the PRA. Therefore, the terms of 2 CCR 18730 and any amendments to it duly adopted by the FPPC are hereby incorporated by reference. This Code and the attached Appendix, designating positions and establishing disclosure categories, shall constitute the conflict of interest code of the district.

District Officials, defined as those positions listed herein, shall file a Form 700 (also known as a Statement of Economic Interest) in accordance with the disclosure categories listed in the attached Appendix. The Form 700 shall be filed with the district's filing officer and/or, if so required, with the district's code reviewing body. The district's filing officer shall make the statements available for public review and inspection.

**APPENDIX****Disclosure Categories**

Category 1: A District Official designated “Category 1” shall disclose the following:

- a. Interests in real property located entirely or partly within district boundaries, or within two miles of district boundaries, or of any land owned or used by the district.
- b. Investments or business positions in or income from sources which are engaged in the acquisition or disposal of real property within the district, are contractors or subcontractors which are or have been within the past two years engaged in work or services of the type used by the district, or manufacture or sell supplies, books, machinery, or equipment of the type used by the district.

Category 2: A District Official designated “Category 2” shall disclose the following:

- a. Investments or business positions in or income from sources which are contractors or subcontractors engaged in work or services of the type used by the department which the designated person manages or directs.
- b. Investments or business positions in or income from sources which manufacture or sell supplies, books, machinery, or equipment of the type used by the department which the designated person manages or directs.

For a principal in this category, a principal's department is the principal's entire school.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST (continued)**

Category 3 (Applicable to positions that “manage public investments,” as defined by Government Code 87200): A District Official designated “Category 3” shall disclose, in accordance with Government Code 87200-87210, the following:

- a. Interests in real property located entirely or partly within district boundaries, or within two miles of district boundaries, or of any land owned or used by the district.
- b. Investments, business positions, and sources of income, including gifts, loans, and travel payments.

**Designated Positions****District Officials****Disclosure Category**

Governing Board Members	1 or 3
Superintendent	1 or 3
Chief Business Officer	1 or 3

**Disclosures for Consultants**

The Superintendent or designee shall annually determine, on a case-by-case basis, which district consultants, if any, shall constitute District Officials and who shall disclose financial interests. The Superintendent or designee's written determination shall include a description of the consultant's duties and a statement of the extent of disclosure requirements based upon that description. All such determinations are public records and shall be retained for public inspection along with this conflict of interest code.

A consultant is an individual who, pursuant to a contract with the district, makes a governmental decision whether to: (2 CCR [18700.3](#))

1. Approve a rate, rule, or regulation
2. Adopt or enforce a law
3. Issue, deny, suspend, or revoke any permit, license, application, certificate, approval, order, or similar authorization or entitlement
4. Authorize the district to enter into, modify, or renew a contract that requires district approval
5. Grant district approval to a contract that requires district approval and in which the district is a party, or to the specifications for such a contract
6. Grant district approval to a plan, design, report, study, or similar item
7. Adopt or grant district approval of district policies, standards, or guidelines

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST** (continued)

A consultant is also an individual who, pursuant to a contract with the district, serves in a staff capacity with the district and in that capacity participates in making a governmental decision as defined in 2 CCR [18704](#) or performs the same or substantially all the same duties for the district that would otherwise be performed by an individual holding a position specified in the district's conflict of interest code. (2 CCR [18700.3](#))

(7/10) 5/16

Bylaw  
adopted: January 4, 2012  
revised: June 29, 2016  
revised: December, 2024

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

**BOARD POLICIES**

The Board of Trustees shall adopt written policies to convey its expectations for actions that will be taken in the district, clarify roles and responsibilities of the Board and Superintendent, and communicate Board philosophy and positions to students, staff, parents/guardians, and the community.

*(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)*

The Board shall ensure that district policies align with the district's vision and goals, promote student learning and achievement, provide for consistent and fair treatment of students and staff, and proactively address equity and the provision of equal access to opportunities for all students.

*(cf. 0000 - Vision)*

*(cf. 0100 - Philosophy)*

*(cf. 0415 - Equity)*

*(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)*

The Board recognizes the importance of maintaining a policy manual that is up to date and reflects the mandates of law. Board policies are binding on the district to the extent that they do not conflict with federal or state law and are consistent with the district's collective bargaining agreements. No Board policy, bylaw, or administrative regulation, or any portion thereof, shall be operative if it is found to be in conflict with applicable federal or state law or regulations or court decisions. If any portion of a policy is found to be invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions of the policy.

*(cf. 2210 - Administrative Discretion Regarding Board Policy)*

Policies shall be regularly reviewed at a time allocated for this purpose on the agenda of public Board meetings.

*(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)*

*(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)*

The Board shall review certain policies annually, as required by Education Code 35160.5. If no revisions are deemed necessary, the Board minutes shall nevertheless indicate that the review was conducted. Other policies shall be monitored and reviewed as specified in the policy itself or as needed to reflect changes in law or district circumstances.

*(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)*

*(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)*

**Policy Development and Adoption Process**

The district's policy development process shall include the following basic steps:

**BOARD POLICIES** (continued)

1. The Board and/or Superintendent or designee shall identify the need for a new policy or revision of an existing policy. The need may arise from a change in law, a new district vision statement, new goals in the local control and accountability plan, educational research or trends, an incident that has arisen in the district, or a recommendation or request from staff, a parent/guardian, or other interested person.
2. As needed, the Superintendent or designee shall gather fiscal data, staff and public input, related district policies, sample policies from the California School Boards Association or other organizations or agencies, and other useful information and data to fully inform the Board about a particular issue.

*(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)*

3. The Board may hold discussions during a public Board meeting to gain an understanding of the issue and provide initial direction to the Superintendent or designee. The discussion may include, but not be limited to, community expectations, staff recommendations, and the expected impact of the policy on student learning and well-being, equity, governance, and the district's fiscal resources and operational efficiency.
4. The Board or Superintendent may request that legal counsel review the draft policy as appropriate.
5. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and present a draft policy for a first reading at a public Board meeting. At its second reading, the Board may take action on the proposed policy. The Board may waive the second reading or may require an additional reading if necessary.

*(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)*

Only policies formally adopted by a majority vote of the Board shall constitute official Board policy.

*(cf. 9323.2 - Actions by the Board)*

The district's policy development process may be revised or expanded as needed based on the issue being considered, the need for more information, or the desire to provide greater opportunities for consultation and public input.

Policies shall become effective upon Board adoption or at a future date if so designated by the Board at the time of adoption.

**Board Bylaws**

The Board shall prescribe and enforce rules for its own governance consistent with state law and regulations. (Education Code 35010)



## **BOARD POLICIES (continued)**

Bylaws governing Board operations may be developed, adopted, and amended following the same procedures as those used for the adoption or amendment of Board policy.

### **Administrative Regulations**

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for developing and enforcing administrative regulations for the operation of the district. Administrative regulations shall be consistent with law and Board policy and shall be designed to promote the achievement of district goals and objectives. Administrative regulations may describe specific actions to be taken, roles and responsibilities of staff, timelines, and/or other provisions. The Superintendent or designee may also develop procedures manuals, handbooks, or other guides to carry out the intent of Board policy.

When Board policies are amended, the Superintendent or designee shall review corresponding administrative regulations to ensure that they conform to the intent of the revised policy. In case of conflict between administrative regulation and Board policy, policy shall prevail.

The Board may review and/or approve administrative regulations for the purpose of ensuring conformity with the intent of Board policy.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

At any time, the Board and Superintendent or designee may determine that progress reports to the Board on the implementation and/or effectiveness of the policy should be scheduled. If so, the Board and Superintendent or designee shall agree upon a timeline and, as applicable, measures for evaluating the effectiveness of the policy in achieving its purpose.

*(cf. 0500 - Accountability)*

### **Access to Policies**

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all district employees and the public have access to an up-to-date district policy manual. The policy manual shall be maintained electronically and/or by paper copy.

*(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)*  
*(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)*

As necessary, the Superintendent or designee shall notify staff, parents/guardians, students, and other stakeholders whenever a policy that affects them is adopted or revised. He/she may determine the appropriate communication strategy depending on the issue. Policies shall be posted on the district's web site when required by law.

**BOARD POLICIES (continued)**

*(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)*  
*(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)*  
*(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)*  
*(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)*

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

*35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules*  
*35160 Authority of governing boards*  
*35160.5 Annual review of school district policies*  
*35163 Official actions, minutes and journal*  
*35164 Vote requirements*

*Management Resources:*

WEB SITES

*CSBA, Policy Services, including Policy Update Service, Governance and Management Using Technology (GAMUT Online), Policy Review Program, Individual District Policy Workshops, Agenda Online, and Manual Maintenance: <http://www.csba.org/ps>*

*(6/99 7/06) 7/18*

Bylaw  
adopted: August 3, 2011  
reviewed: January 4, 2012  
revised: August 1, 2018

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

**MEETINGS AND NOTICES**

Meetings of the Board of Trustees are conducted for the purpose of accomplishing district business. In accordance with applicable open meeting laws (Brown Act), the Board shall hold its meetings in public and shall conduct closed sessions during such meetings only as authorized by law. To encourage community involvement in the schools, Board meetings shall provide the opportunity for members of the public to directly address the Board. All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with law and the Board's bylaws, policies, and administrative regulations.

A Board meeting exists whenever a majority of Board members gather at the same time and location, including teleconference location as permitted by Government Code 54953, to hear, discuss, deliberate, or take action upon any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. (Government Code 54952.2)

In accordance with law and as specified in Board Bylaw 9012 – Board Member Electronic Communication, a majority of the Board shall not, outside of an authorized meeting, use a series of communications of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, including social media and other electronic communications, to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. (Government Code 54952.2)

However, the Superintendent or designee may engage in separate conversations or communications with Board members in order to answer questions or provide information regarding an item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, as long as that employee or district official does not communicate the comments or position of any Board members to other Board members. (Government Code 54952.2)

In order to help ensure the participation of individuals with disabilities at Board meetings, the Superintendent or designee shall provide appropriate disability-related accommodations or modifications upon request in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any doubt about a request for accommodation shall be resolved in favor of accessibility. Notice of the procedure for receiving and resolving such requests for accommodation shall be given in each instance in which notice of the time of a meeting is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted. (Government Code 54953, 54953.2, 54954.1, 54954.2)

**Regular Meetings**

The Board shall hold *ONE* regular meeting(s) each month. Regular meetings shall be held at *6:00 p.m.* on the *Second Wednesday* at the *District Office, 300 B Street, Biggs, CA 95917*.

## **MEETINGS AND NOTICES (continued)**

At least 72 hours prior to a regular meeting, the agenda shall be posted at one or more locations freely accessible to members of the public and on the district's web site. (Government Code 54954.2)

Consistent with Government Code 54957.5 and Board Bylaw 9322 – Agenda/Meeting Materials, whenever agenda materials relating to an open session of a regular meeting are distributed to the Board less than 72 hours before the meeting, the Superintendent or designee shall make the materials available for public inspection at a public office or location designated for that purpose. The records shall be posted on the district website at the time the materials are distributed to all or a majority of the Board if distributed outside of business hours.

### **Special Meetings**

Special meetings of the Board may be called at any time by the presiding officer or a majority of the Board members on any topic, within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board unless otherwise prohibited by law or as specified in BB 9323.2 – Actions by the Board. (Government Code 54956)

At least 24 hours before the time of the meeting, written notice of special meetings shall be delivered personally or by any other means to all Board members and the local media who have requested such notice in writing. The notice also shall be posted on the district's website, and , at least 24 hours before the time of the meeting, in a location freely accessible to the public. The notice shall specify the time and location of the meeting and the business to be transacted or discussed. No other business shall be considered at this meeting. (Education Code 35144; Government Code 549546)

Any Board member may waive the 24-hour written notice requirement prior to the time of the meeting by filing a written waiver of notice with the clerk or secretary of the Board or by being present at the meeting at the time it convenes. (Education Code 35144; Government Code 54956)

Every notice of a special meeting shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the Board concerning any item that has been described in the meeting notice, before or during the item's consideration. (Government Code 54954.3)

### **Emergency Meetings**

In the case of an emergency situation for which prompt action is necessary due to the disruption or threatened disruption of public facilities, the Board may hold an emergency meeting without complying with the 24-hour notice and/or 24-hour posting requirement for special meetings pursuant to Government Code 54956. (Government Code 54956.5)

The Board may meet in closed session during emergency meetings so long as two-thirds of the members present at the meeting agree or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, by unanimous vote of the members present. (Government Code 54956.5)

**MEETINGS AND NOTICES (continued)**

The Board shall comply with all other requirements for special meetings during an emergency meeting. (Government Code 54956.5)

Except in the case of a dire emergency, the Board president or designee shall give notice of the emergency meeting by telephone at least one hour before the meeting to the local media that have requested notice of special meetings. All telephone numbers provided by the media in the most recent request for notification shall be exhausted. If telephone services are not functioning, the notice requirement of one hour is waived and, as soon after the meeting as possible, the Board shall notify those media representatives of the meeting and shall describe the purpose of the meeting and any action taken by the Board. In the case of a dire emergency, the Board president or designee shall give such notice at or near the time notification is given to the other members of the Board about the meeting. (Government Code 54956.5)

The minutes of the meeting, a list of persons the Board president or designee notified or attempted to notify, a copy of the roll call vote, and any actions taken at the meeting shall be posted for at least 10 days in a public place as soon after the meeting as possible. (Government Code 54956.5)

An *emergency* means a work stoppage, crippling activity, or other activity that severely impairs public health and/or safety as determined by a majority of the members of the Board. (Government Code 54956.5)

A *dire emergency* means a crippling disaster, mass destruction, terrorist act, or threatened terrorist activity that poses peril so immediate and significant that requiring the Board to provide one-hour notice before holding an emergency meeting may endanger the public health and/or safety as determined by a majority of the members of the Board. (Government Code 54956.5)

**Adjourned/Continued Meetings**

The Board may adjourn/continue any regular or special meeting to a later time and location that shall be specified in the order of adjournment. Less than a quorum of the Board may adjourn such a meeting. If no Board members are present, the secretary or the clerk may declare the meeting adjourned/continued to a later time and location and shall give notice in the same manner required for special meetings. (Government Code 54955)

Within 24 hours after the time of adjournment/continuance, a copy of the order or notice of adjournment/continuance shall be conspicuously posted on or near the door of the location where the meeting was held. (Government Code 54955)

**Study Sessions, Retreats, Public Forums, and Discussion Meetings**

The Board may convene a study session or public forum to study an issue in more detail or to receive information from staff or feedback from members of the public. The Board may also convene a retreat

**MEETINGS AND NOTICES** (continued)

or discussion meeting to discuss Board roles and relationships. Any such meeting, regardless of title or topic, shall be held as a regular or special meeting, as appropriate, and shall comply with all other requirements for regular or special meetings. (Government Code 54956)

**Other Gatherings**

Attendance by a majority of Board members at any of the following events is not subject to the Brown Act provided that a majority of the Board members do not discuss specific district business among themselves other than as part of the scheduled program: (Government Code 54952.2)

1. A conference or similar public gathering open to the public that involves a discussion of issues of general interest to the public or to school board members
2. An open, publicized meeting organized by a person or organization other than the district to address a topic of local community concern
3. An open and noticed meeting of another body of the district
4. An open and noticed meeting of a legislative body of another local agency
5. A purely social or ceremonial occasion
6. An open and noticed meeting of a standing committee of the Board established pursuant to Board Bylaw 9130 – Board Committees, provided that the Board members who are not members of the standing committee attend only as observers

Individual contacts or conversations between a Board member and any other person that are not part of a series of communications prohibited by the Brown Act are permitted. (Government Code 54952.2)

**Location of Meetings**

Unless the Board is holding a teleconference meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, all meetings shall be held within district boundaries, except to do any of the following: (Government Code 54954)

1. Comply with state or federal law or court order or attend a judicial or administrative proceeding to which the district is a party
2. Inspect real or personal property which cannot conveniently be brought into the district, provided that the topic of the meeting is limited to items directly related to the property

**MEETINGS AND NOTICES (continued)**

3. Participate in meetings or discussions of multiagency significance, provided these meetings are held within one of the other agencies' boundaries, with all participating agencies giving the notice required by law
4. Meet in the closest meeting facility if the district has no meeting facility within its boundaries or if its principal office is located outside the district
5. Meet with elected or appointed state or federal officials when a local meeting would be impractical, solely to discuss legislative or regulatory issues affecting the district over which the state or federal officials have jurisdiction
6. Meet in or near a facility owned by the district but located outside the district, provided the meeting agenda is limited to items directly related to that facility
7. Visit the office of the district's legal counsel for a closed session on pending litigation, when doing so would reduce legal fees or costs
8. Attend conferences on nonadversarial collective bargaining techniques
9. Interview residents of another district regarding the Board's potential employment of an applicant for Superintendent of the district
10. Interview a potential employee from another district

All meetings, regardless of location, shall comply with the applicable notice and open meeting requirements. Additionally, no such meeting may be held in a facility that prohibits the admittance of any person on the basis of ancestry or any characteristic listed in Government Code 11135, which is inaccessible to individuals with disabilities, or where members of the public must make a payment or purchase in order to be admitted. (Government Code 54961)

If a fire, flood, earthquake, or other emergency renders the posted regular or special meeting location unsafe and the deadline for posting the location has passed, the meeting shall be held at a location designated by the Board president or designee, who shall so inform all news media who have requested notice of meetings pursuant to Government Code 54956 by the most rapid available means of communication.

**Traditional Teleconferencing**

A Board member may participate in any meeting by teleconference, which includes both audio or video/audio so long as the following conditions are met: (Government Code 54953)

1. All votes taken during the meeting are by rollcall

**MEETINGS AND NOTICES (continued)**

2. The meeting is conducted in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of the parties or the public appearing before the legislative body of a local agency
3. The location of the Board member participating by teleconference is open and accessible to the public during the meeting, except during closed session, such that members of the public may observe in person the Board member participating by teleconference, may hear/listen to the meeting to the same extent as the Board member participating by teleconference, and may make public comment during the same portion of the agenda as other members of the public from the same location as the Board member participating by teleconference
4. The location of the Board member participating by teleconference is noted in the agenda and the agenda is posted at the location of the Board member participating by teleconference in advance of the meeting as statutorily required based on the type of meeting
5. At least a quorum of the members is within the district boundaries

**Teleconferencing by Individual Board Member Due to Just Cause**

Until January 1, 2026, when there is “just cause” preventing a Board member from attending a Board meeting in person, that Board member may participate in that meeting by teleconference without: (Government Code 54953)

1. Including the location of the Board member participating by teleconference in the agenda
2. Making the location of the Board member participating by teleconference open and accessible to the public
3. Posting the agenda at the location of the Board member participating by teleconference

A Board member needing to participate by teleconference for just cause shall notify the Board at the earliest possible opportunity, including at the start of a regular meeting, of the need to do so and include a general description of the circumstances relating to the need to appear by teleconference at the given meeting. (Government Code 54953)

For the Board member to participate by teleconference under this section, all of the following are required: (Government Code 54953)

1. All votes taken during the meeting are by rollcall
2. At least a quorum of the Board participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda
3. The Board member participating by teleconference utilizes both audio and visual technology to participate in the meeting



**MEETINGS AND NOTICES (continued)**

4. The Board member participating by teleconference publicly discloses, before any action is taken, whether any individual 18 years of age or older is present at the Board member's location and the general nature of the member's relationship with each such individual
5. The public is able to access the meeting via a two-way audiovisual platform or a two-way audio service and a live webcast, with real-time public comment being allowed via the platform or service, in addition to public comment being available in person

The platform or service may require members of the public to register in order to make public comments so long as the platform or service is not controlled by the district

6. The agenda for the meeting includes information describing how members of the public can access the platform or service

If the platform or service is disrupted such that the public cannot access the meeting or give real-time public comment, the meeting may continue but the Board may not take action on any agenda item until the disruption is resolved. (Government Code 54953)

A Board member shall be permitted to participate by teleconference for just cause for no more than two meetings per calendar year. (Government Code 54953)

For purposes of this section, "just cause" may exist for any of the following: (Government Code 54953)

1. A childcare or caregiving need of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires a Board member to participate remotely
2. A contagious illness prevents a Board member from attending in person
3. A Board member has a need related to a physical or mental disability not otherwise reasonably accommodated
4. A Board member is traveling while on official business of the Board or another state or local agency

**Teleconferencing by Individual Board Member Due to Emergency Circumstances**

Until January 1, 2026, when a physical or family medical emergency would prevent a Board member from attending a Board meeting in person, that Board member may request to participate in such meeting by teleconference. The Board member requesting to appear remotely shall submit the request as soon as possible and include a concise general description of the emergency that necessitated the request. The Board member shall not be required to disclose any disability, medical diagnosis, or personal medical information exempt under existing law. (Government Code 54953)

**MEETINGS AND NOTICES** (continued)

If the request is received timely, it shall be added to the agenda as the first item of business at the meeting, even before any closed session items. If the request is not received timely, it shall be taken up by the Board before the first item of business at the meeting. The request shall only be granted upon a vote by the majority of the Board. (Government Code 54953, 54954.2)

If the request is granted by the Board, the Board member may participate by teleconference without: (Government Code 54953)

1. Including the location of the Board member participating by teleconference in the agenda
2. Making the location of the Board member participating by teleconference open and accessible to the public
3. Posting the agenda at the location of the Board member participating by teleconference

For the Board member to participate by teleconference due to emergency circumstances, all of the following are required: (Government Code 54953)

1. All votes taken during the meeting are by rollcall
2. At least a quorum of the Board participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda
3. The Board member participating by teleconference utilizes both audio and visual technology to participate in the meeting
4. The Board member participating by teleconference publicly discloses, before any action is taken, whether any individual 18 years of age or older is present at the Board member's location and the general nature of the member's relationship with each such individual
5. The public is able to access the meeting via a two-way audiovisual platform or a two-way audio service and a live webcast, with real-time public comment being allowed via the platform or service, in addition to public comment being available in person

The platform or service may require members of the public to register in order to make public comments so long as the platform or service is not controlled by the district

6. The agenda for the meeting includes information describing how members of the public can access the platform or service

If the platform or service is disrupted such that the public cannot access the meeting or give real-time public comment, the meeting may continue but the Board shall not take action on any agenda item until the disruption is resolved. (Government Code 54953)

In total, a Board member may not participate by teleconference due to emergency circumstances alone, or together with a teleconference due to just cause, as specified above, for more than 20 percent of the Board's regular meetings or for more than three consecutive months. If the Board meets less than 10 times in a calendar year, a Board

**MEETINGS AND NOTICES (continued)**

member may not appear remotely due to emergency circumstances for more than two meetings. (Government Code 54953)

**Teleconferencing Meetings During a Proclaimed State of Emergency**

The Board may conduct a Board meeting entirely by teleconference during a proclaimed state of emergency pursuant to Government Code 8625-8629 in any of the following circumstances: (Government Code 54953)

1. For the purpose of determining whether meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees due to the emergency
2. When the Board has been determined, pursuant to Item #1 above, that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees due to the emergency

The Board may hold a meeting by teleconference during a proclaimed state of emergency without: (Government Code 54953):

1. Including the location of Board members in the agenda
2. Making the locations of Board members open and accessible to the public
3. Posting the agenda at the locations of Board members

For the Board to hold such meeting, all of the following are required: (Government Code 54953)

1. All votes taken during the meeting are by rollcall
2. The public is able to access the meeting via a call-in service or an internet-based platform or service, with real-time public comment being allowed via the platform or service

If an internet-based platform or service is utilized, it may require members of the public to register in order to make public comments so long as the platform or service is not controlled by the district

3. The agenda for the meeting includes information describing how members of the public can access the platform or service

If the platform or service is disrupted such that the public cannot access the meeting or give real-time public comment, the meeting may continue but the Board may not take action on any agenda item until the disruption is resolved. (Government Code 54953)

For any public comment period with a time limit, the Board may not close that public comment period or the opportunity to register until the full time for public comment has elapsed. For any other public comment period, the Board shall allow a reasonable amount of time to allow members of the public to provide public comment and to register to do so. (Government Code 54953)

The Board may continue to conduct all meetings by teleconference throughout one or more 45-day periods so long as, prior to the beginning of each 45-day period, the Board has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and determines that it continues to directly impact the ability of the Board to meet safely in person. (Government Code 54953)

## MEETINGS AND NOTICES (continued)

### **State Description**

*Ed. Code 35140 Time and place of meetings*  
*Ed. Code 35143 Annual organizational meetings; date and notice*  
*Ed. Code 35144 Special meeting*  
*Ed. Code 35145 Public meetings*  
*Ed. Code 35145.5 Agenda; public participation; regulations*  
*Ed. Code 35146 Closed sessions; student matters*  
*Ed. Code 35147 Open meeting laws exceptions*  
*Gov. Code 11135 Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state*  
*Gov. Code 3511.1 Local agency executives*

*Gov. Code 54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act*  
*Gov. Code 54953 Oral summary of recommended salary and benefits of superintendent*

*Gov. Code 54954 Time and place of regular meetings*  
*Gov. Code 54954.2 Agenda posting requirements, board actions*  
*Gov. Code 54956 Special Meetings*  
*Gov. Code 54956.5 Emergency meetings*

### **Federal Description**

*28 CFR 35.160 Effective communications*  
*28 CFR 36.303 Auxiliary aids and services*  
*42 USC 12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act*

### **Management Resources Description**

*Attorney General Opinion 78 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 327 (1995)*  
*Attorney General Opinion 79 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 69 (1996)*  
*Attorney General Opinion 84 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 181 (2001)*  
*Attorney General Opinion 84 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 30 (2001)*  
*Attorney General Opinion 88 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 218 (2005)*  
*Court Decision Wolfe v. City of Fremont, (2006) 144 Cal.App. 544*  
*CSBA Publication The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2014*  
*Institute for Local Government Publication The ABCs of Open Government Laws*  
*League of California Cities Publication Open and Public IV: A Guide to the Ralph M. Brown Act, 2nd Ed., 2010*  
*Website Institute for Local Government*  
*Website League of California Cities*  
*Website California Attorney General's Office*  
*Website CSBA*

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012  
 revised: January 6, 2021  
 revised: March 2, 2022  
 revised: April 19, 2023  
 revised: April 10, 2024

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

# **Board Bylaw**

## **Board Bylaws**

BB 9321(a)

### **CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS**

The Board of Trustees is committed to complying with state open meeting laws and modeling transparency in its conduct of district business. The Board shall hold a closed session during a regular, special, or emergency meeting only for purposes authorized by law.

Each agenda shall contain a general description of each closed session item to be discussed at the meeting as required by law and provided in the accompanying Exhibit (1). (Education Code 35145, Government Code [54954.2](#), 54954.5, 54957)

In the open session preceding the closed session, the Board shall disclose the items to be discussed in closed session as specified in this bylaw. The Board may either state the information on the agenda or refer the public to the item(s) as listed by number or letter on the agenda. In the closed session, the Board may consider only those items covered in its statement. (Government Code 54957, 54957.7)

After the closed session, the Board shall reconvene in open session before adjourning the meeting and, when applicable, shall publicly disclose any actions taken in the closed session, the votes or abstentions thereon, and other disclosures as specified in this bylaw. Such reports may be made in writing or orally at the location announced in the agenda for the closed session as required by law and provided in the accompanying Exhibit (2). (Education Code 32281; Government Code 54957.1, 54957.7)

When an action taken during a closed session involves final approval or adoption of a document, such as a contract or settlement agreement, that becomes public upon such approval or adoption, the Superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of the document to any person present at the conclusion of the closed session who submitted a written request. If the action taken results in one or more substantive amendments, the Superintendent or designee shall make the document available the next business day or when the necessary changes to the document are completed. Whenever copies of an approved agreement will not be immediately released due to an amendment, the Board president shall orally summarize the substance of the amendment for those present at the end of the closed session. (Government Code 54957.1)

### **Confidentiality**

A Board member shall not disclose confidential information received in closed session unless the Board authorizes the disclosure of that information or the information has been publicly reported by the District. (Government Code 54963)

The Board shall not disclose any information that is protected by state or federal law. In addition, no victim or alleged victim of tortious sexual conduct or child abuse shall be identified in any Board agenda, notice, announcement, or report required by the Brown Act, unless the identity of the person has previously been publicly disclosed. (Government Code 54957.7, 54961)

### **Personnel Matters: Appointment, Employment, Performance Evaluation, or Discipline/Dismissal/Release**

**CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS (continued)**

The Board may hold a closed session under the "personnel exception" to consider the appointment, employment, performance evaluation, discipline, dismissal, or change in employment status of an employee. Such a closed session shall not include discussion or action on proposed compensation except for a reduction of compensation that results from the imposition of discipline. (Government Code [54957](#), 54957.1)

**Personnel Matters: Specific Complaints or Charges**

The Board may hold a closed session to hear complaints or charges brought against an employee, unless the employee who is the subject of the complaint requests an open session. Before the Board holds a closed session on specific complaints or charges brought against an employee, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the employee receives written notice of the right to have the complaints or charges heard in open session. This notice shall be delivered personally or by mail at least 24 hours before the time of the closed session. (Government Code 54957)

**Personnel Matters: Application for Early Withdraw of Funds in Deferred Compensation Plan**

The Board may hold a closed session to discuss an employee's application for early withdrawal of funds in a deferred compensation plan when the application is based on financial hardship arising from an unforeseeable emergency due to illness, accident, casualty, or other extraordinary event, as specified in the deferred compensation plan. (Government Code 54957.10)

**Negotiations/Collective Bargaining**

The Board may meet in closed session to review the Board's position and/or instruct its designated representative(s) regarding salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of its represented and unrepresented employees, and, for represented employees, any other matter within the statutorily provided scope of representation. A closed session regarding salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits may include discussions of the district's available funds and funding priorities, but only insofar as they relate to providing instructions to the Board's designated representative. Final action on the proposed compensation of one or more unrepresented employees shall not be taken in closed session. (Government Code 54957.6)

The Board also may meet in closed session with a state conciliator who has intervened in proceedings regarding any of the purposes enumerated in Government Code 54957.6.

Pursuant to Government Code 54957.1, approval in closed session of an agreement regarding labor negotiations with represented employees pursuant to Government Code 54957.6 shall be reported after the agreement is final and has been accepted or ratified by the other party. However, the Board may, at its sole discretion, vote on such an agreement in open session. (Government Code 54957.1)

Pursuant to Government Code 3549.1, the Board may, without following the requirements of the Brown Act, meet in closed session exclusively for the purpose of discussing its position regarding any matter within the scope of representation or for the purpose of instructing its designated representatives. The Board shall not discuss any other item at any such closed session. (Government Code 3549.1)

**CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS (continued)****Matters Related to Students**

If a public hearing would lead to the disclosure of confidential student information such as grades or discipline information, the Board shall meet in closed session to consider a suspension, disciplinary action, any other action against a student except expulsion, or a challenge to a student record. At least 72 hours prior to the start of the meeting of which the closed session is a part, the Superintendent or designee, on behalf of the Board, shall, in writing, by registered or certified mail or by personal service, notify the student and the student's parent/guardian of the intent of the Board to hear the item in closed session. If a written request for open session is received from the student or the student's parents/guardians within 48 hours of receiving the notice, the meeting shall be public, except that any discussion at that meeting which may be in conflict with the right to privacy of any other student shall remain in closed session. (Education Code 35146, 48912, 49070)

If the Board conducts an expulsion hearing pursuant to Board Policy 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process, the Board shall do so in closed session unless the student submits a written request at least five days before the date of the hearing that the hearing be held in open session. Regardless of whether the expulsion hearing is conducted in open or closed session, the Board shall meet in closed session for the purpose of deliberating and determining whether the student should be expelled. (Education Code 48918)

In order to protect student privacy rights provided in 20 USC 1232g or other applicable laws, the identity of a student shall not be listed in the agenda and, unless the item is heard in open session, shall not be included in any report after closed session. Additionally, a student matter shall be listed in the open session portion of the agenda with the same description and numbering system as it was on the closed session portion of the agenda.

**Security Matters**

The Board may meet in closed session with the Governor, Attorney General, District Attorney, district legal counsel, sheriff or chief of police, or their respective deputies, or a security consultant or a security operations manager, on matters posing a threat to the security of public buildings; to the security of essential public services, including water, drinking water, wastewater treatment, natural gas service, and electric service; or to the public's right of access to public services or public facilities. Such discussions may be held in closed session during an emergency meeting called pursuant to Board Bylaw 9320 - Meetings and Notices and Board Bylaw/Exhibit (1) 9323.2 - Actions By The Board.

The Board may also meet in closed session to consult with law enforcement officials on the development of a plan for tactical responses to criminal incidents and to approve the plan. (Education Code 32281)

**Real Property Negotiations**

## **CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS (continued)**

The Board may meet in closed session with its real property negotiator prior to the purchase, sale, exchange, or lease of real property by or for the district in order to grant its negotiator authority regarding the price and terms of payment for the property. (Government Code 54956.8)

### **Anticipated Litigation/Initiation of Litigation**

Based on the advice of its legal counsel, the Board may hold a closed session to confer with or receive advice from its legal counsel regarding anticipated litigation or whether to initiate litigation when discussion of either matter in open session would prejudice the district's position with respect to such litigation. For this purpose, "litigation" means any adjudicatory proceeding, including eminent domain, before a court, administrative body exercising its adjudicatory authority, hearing officer, or arbitrator. (Government Code 54956)

Litigation is considered to be "anticipated" when, in the Board's opinion based on the advice of its legal counsel regarding the existing facts and circumstances, there is a significant exposure to litigation against the district or against a district officer or employee based on prior or prospective activities or alleged activities during and potentially during the course and scope of that office or employment. (Government Code 54956.9)

Existing facts and circumstances are limited to the following: (Government Code 54956.9)

1. Facts and circumstances that might result in litigation against the district but which the district believes are not yet known to potential plaintiff(s)
2. Facts and circumstances including, but not limited to, an accident, disaster, incident, or transactional occurrence which might result in litigation against the district, which are already known to potential plaintiff(s)
3. The receipt of a claim pursuant to the Government Claims Act or a written threat of litigation from a potential plaintiff
4. A threat of litigation made by a person in an open meeting on a specific matter within the responsibility of the Board
5. A threat of litigation made by a person outside of an open meeting on a specific matter within the responsibility of the Board, provided that the district official or employee receiving knowledge of the threat made a record of the statement before the meeting

Each agenda item related to anticipated litigation shall only contain one such matter. For an anticipated litigation item that is anticipated based on Items #2, #3, or #5 above, the agenda item shall also include the facts or circumstances that might result in litigation, the claim or written threat of litigation, or the record of the threat. However, the agenda item shall not identify the alleged victim of unlawful or tortious sexual conduct or anyone making the threat on the alleged victim's behalf, or identify a public employee who is the alleged perpetrator of any unlawful or tortious conduct upon which a threat of litigation is based, unless the identity of the person has been publicly disclosed. (Government Code 54956.9)



**CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS (continued)****Existing Litigation**

Based on the advice of its legal counsel, the Board may hold a closed session to confer with or receive advice from its legal counsel regarding existing litigation when discussion of the matter in open session would prejudice the district's position with respect to such litigation. Litigation is considered to be "existing" when the district has been named a party to the litigation or a district officer or employee has been named a party to the litigation based on prior or prospective activities or alleged activities during the course and scope of that office or employment, including litigation in which involves whether an activity is outside the course and scope of the office or employment. For this purpose, "litigation" means any adjudicatory proceeding, including eminent domain, before a court, administrative body exercising its adjudicatory authority, hearing officer, or arbitrator. (Government Code 54956.9)

**Tort, Public, or Workers' Compensation Liability**

The Board may meet in closed session to discuss a claim for the payment of tort liability losses, public liability losses, or workers' compensation liability incurred by a joint powers agency (JPA) formed for the purpose of insurance pooling or self-insurance authority of which the district is a member. (Government Code 54956.95)

**Joint Powers Agency Issues**

When the board of the JPA has so authorized and upon advice of district legal counsel, the Board may meet in closed session in order to receive, discuss, and take action concerning information that has direct financial or liability implications for the district and that was obtained in a closed session of a JPA of which the district is a member.

During the Board's closed session, a Board member serving on the JPA board may disclose confidential information acquired during a closed session of the JPA to fellow Board members. (Government Code 54956.96))

**Review of Audit Report from California State Auditor's Office**

Upon receipt of a confidential final draft audit report from the California State Auditor's Office and before the report has been made public, the Board may meet in closed session to discuss its response to that report. After public release of the report from the California State Auditor's Office, any Board meeting to discuss the report shall be conducted in open session, unless exempted from that requirement by some other provision of law. (Government Code 54956.75)

**Review of Assessment Instruments**

The Board may meet in closed session to review the contents of any student assessment instrument approved or adopted for the statewide testing system. Before any such meeting, the Board shall agree by resolution to accept any terms or conditions established by the State Board of Education for this review. (Education Code 60617)

## CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS (continued)

### *Legal Reference:*

#### EDUCATION CODE

35145 Public meetings

35146 Closed session (re student suspension)

44929.21 Districts with ADA of 250 or more

48912 Governing board suspension

48918 Rules governing expulsion procedures; hearings and notice

49070 Challenging content of students records

60617 Meetings of governing board

#### GOVERNMENT CODE

3540-3549.3 Educational Employment Relations Act

6252-6270 California Public Records Act

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act

#### COURT DECISIONS

*Morrison v. Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles Board of Commissioners*, (2003) 107 Cal.App.4th 860

*Bell v. Vista Unified School District*, (2001) 82 Cal.App. 4th 672

*Fischer v. Los Angeles Unified School District*, (1999) 70 Cal.App. 4th 87

*Furtado v. Sierra Community College District* (1998) 68 Cal.App. 4th 876

*Roberts v. City of Palmdale*, (1993) 5 Cal.App. 4th 363

*Sacramento Newspaper Guild v. Sacramento County Board of Supervisors*, (1968) 263 Cal.App. 2d 41

*San Diego Union v. City Council*, (1983) 146 Cal.App.3d 947

#### ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

94 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 82 (2011)

86 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 210 (2003)

78 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 218 (1995)

59 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 532 (1976)

57 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 209 (1974)

### *Management Resources:*

#### CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws*, 2009

#### ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

*The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Legislative Bodies*, 2003

#### LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES PUBLICATIONS

*Open and Public IV: A Guide to the Ralph M. Brown Act*, rev. July 2010

#### WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Attorney General's Office: <http://www.oag.ca.gov>

League of California Cities: <http://www.cacities.org>

(7/12 12/14) 06/16

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

Revised: November 7, 2012

Revised: June 29, 2016

Revised: December 13, 2023

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

## **Board Bylaws**

BB 9321.1(a)

### **CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS AND REPORTS**

No matters other than those announced in open session shall be acted upon during the closed session. (Government Code 54957.7)

*(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)*

The Board of Trustees shall reconvene in open session before adjourning and report closed session actions, the votes or abstentions thereon, and other disclosures required by Government Code 54957.1. These disclosures may be made at the location announced in the agenda for the closed session, as long as the public is allowed to be present at that location for the purpose of hearing them. (Government Code 54957.7)

### **Personnel Matters**

The Board shall report any personnel action taken and the votes or abstentions thereon at the public meeting during which the closed session is held. This report shall identify the title of the position. However, the report of a dismissal or nonrenewal of an employment contract shall be deferred until the first public meeting after administrative remedies, if any, have been exhausted. (Government Code 54957.1)

*(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)*

*(cf. 2140 - Evaluation of the Superintendent)*

*(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*

*(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*

### **Negotiations/Collective Bargaining**

Final action on the proposed compensation of one or more unrepresented employees shall not be taken during the closed session. (Government Code 54957.6)

Approval of an agreement concluding closed session labor negotiations with represented employees shall be reported after the agreement is final and has been accepted or ratified by the other party. This report shall identify the item approved and the other party or parties to the negotiation. (Government Code 54957.1)

*(cf. 4143/4243 - Negotiations/Consultation)*

*(cf. 4143.1/4243.1 - Public Notice - Personnel Negotiations)*

### **Student Matters**

Actions related to student matters shall be taken in open session and shall be a matter of public record. No information shall be released in violation of student privacy rights provided in law. (Education Code 35146, 48918; 20 USC 1232)

In an expulsion action, the student's name shall not be disclosed, but the cause for the expulsion shall be disclosed in open session.

## **CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS AND REPORTS (continued)**

*(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)*

*(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)*

*(cf. 5125 - Student Records)*

*(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)*

*(cf. 5144 - Discipline)*

*(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)*

### **Real Estate Negotiations**

Approval of an agreement concluding real estate negotiations shall be reported after the agreement is final. If the Board renders the agreement final, it shall report that approval, the votes or abstentions thereon, and the substance of the agreement in open session at the public meeting during which the closed session is held. If final approval rests with the other party, the Superintendent or designee shall disclose the fact of that approval and the substance of the agreement upon inquiry by any person, as soon as the other party or its agent has informed the district of its approval. (Government Code 54957.1)

### **Pending Litigation**

The Board shall report the following actions related to pending litigation, and the votes or abstentions thereon, at the public meeting during which the closed session is held: (Government Code 54957.1)

1. Approval to legal counsel to defend, appeal or not appeal, or otherwise appear in litigation. This report shall identify the adverse parties, if known, and the substance of the litigation.
2. Approval to legal counsel to initiate or intervene in a lawsuit. This report shall state that directions to initiate or intervene in the action have been given and that details will be disclosed to inquiring parties after the lawsuit is commenced unless doing so would jeopardize the district's ability to serve process on unserved parties or its ability to conclude existing settlement negotiations to its advantage.
3. Acceptance of a signed offer from the other party or parties which finalizes the settlement of pending litigation. This report shall state the substance of the agreement.

If approval is given to legal counsel to settle pending litigation and if final approval rests with the other party or with the court, the district shall report the fact of approval, the substance of the agreement and the vote and abstentions thereon to persons who inquire once the settlement is final. (Government Code 54957.1)

## **CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS AND REPORTS (continued)**

### **JPA/Self-Insurance Claims**

The Board shall report the disposition of joint powers authority or self-insurance claims and the votes or abstentions thereon at the public meeting during which the closed session is held. This report shall include the name of the claimant(s), the name of the agency claimed against, the substance of the claim and the monetary settlement agreed upon by the claimant. (Government Code 54957.1)

*(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)*

*(cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)*

### **Review of Assessment Instruments**

At the public meeting during which the Board holds a closed session to review student assessment instruments, the Board shall confirm that this review was made. Any actions related to the review shall be taken in open session without revealing any proprietary or confidential information and shall be a matter of public record.

*(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)*

#### *Legal Reference:*

##### EDUCATION CODE

35145 Public meetings

35146 Closed session (re student matters)

48918 Rules governing expulsion procedures; hearings and notice

49073-49079 Privacy of student records

60617 Meetings of Board of Trustees

##### GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:

54957.1 Closed sessions; public report of action taken

54957.6 Closed sessions; representatives to employee organization(s)

54957.7 Disclosure of items to be discussed

##### UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

##### CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

99.1-99.8 Family Educational Rights and Privacy

##### COURT DECISIONS

Kleitman v. Superior Court of Santa Clara County 87 Cal Rptr. 2d (1999)

##### ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

80 Ops.Cal.Att'y.Gen. 85 (1997)

Bylaw  
adopted: January 4, 2012

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

**Board Bylaw**

**AGENDA/MEETING MATERIALS**

**Agenda Content**

Governing Board meeting agendas shall reflect the district's vision and goals and the Board's focus on student learning and well-being.

Each agenda shall state the meeting time and location and shall briefly describe each item to be transacted or discussed, including items to be discussed in closed session. (Government Code 54954.2)

The agenda shall provide members of the public the opportunity to address the Board on any agenda item before or during the Board's consideration of the item. The agenda for a regular meeting shall also provide members of the public an opportunity to address the Board regarding matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board which are not on the agenda. (Education Code 35145.5; Government Code 54954.3)

The agenda does not need to provide an opportunity for public comment on an item that has previously been considered at an open meeting by a committee comprised exclusively of Board members, provided that members of the public were afforded an opportunity to comment on the item, before or during the committee's consideration of the item, and the item has not been substantially changed since the committee considered it. (Government Code 54954.3)

The notice and agenda shall describe the means available for the public to access the meeting and provide public comment in-person and, if a Board member is appearing remotely due to an emergency circumstance or for just cause pursuant to Government Code 54953, through an internet-based service or call-in option. (Government Code 54953)

The agenda shall include information regarding how, when, and to whom a request for disability-related accommodations or modifications, including auxiliary aids and services, may be made by an individual who requires accommodations or modifications in order to participate in the Board meeting, as well as the procedure for receiving and resolving such requests as required by law. (Government Code 54954.2)

Each agenda for a regular meeting shall list the address designated by the Superintendent or designee for public inspection of documents related to an open session item, or for records of a statement threatening litigation against the district to be discussed in closed session, when such documents have been distributed to the Board less than 72 hours before the meeting. (Government Code 54956.9, 54957.5)

Each agenda shall include a statement regarding the option for students and parents/guardians to request that directory information or personal information of the student or parent/guardian, as defined in Education Code 49061 and/or 49073.2, be excluded from the minutes. The agenda shall also state that the request must be made in writing to the secretary or clerk of the Board.

### **Agenda Preparation**

The Board president and the Superintendent, as secretary to the Board, shall work together to develop the agenda for each regular and special meeting.

Any Board member or member of the public may request that a matter within the jurisdiction of the Board be placed on the agenda of a regular meeting. The request shall be submitted in writing to the Superintendent or designee with supporting documents and information.

The Board president and Superintendent shall decide whether a request from a member of the public is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Items not within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board may not be placed on the agenda. In addition, before placing the item on the agenda, the Board president and Superintendent shall determine if the item is merely a request for information, and if so, respond accordingly.

If the Board president and Superintendent deny a request from a Board member to place an item on the agenda, the Board member may request the Board to take action during a Board meeting to determine whether the item shall be placed on the agenda.

The Board president and Superintendent shall also decide whether an agenda item is appropriate for discussion in open or closed session, whether the item should be an action item subject to Board vote or an information item, and when the item is placed on the agenda.

In order to promote efficient meetings, the Board may bundle a number of items and act upon them together by a single vote through the use of a consent agenda. Consent items shall be items of a routine nature and items for which Board discussion is not anticipated and for which the Superintendent recommends approval. When any Board member requests the removal of an item from the consent agenda, the item shall be removed and given individual consideration for action as a regular agenda item.

The agenda shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to comment on any consent agenda item unless such item has been previously considered at an open meeting of a committee comprised exclusively of Board members. (Government Code 54954.3)

Any Board action that involves borrowing \$100,000 or more shall be discussed, considered, and deliberated upon as a separate item of business on the meeting agenda.

BB 9322(c)

### **AGENDA/MEETING MATERIALS (continued)**

(GovernmentCode 53635.7)

All public communications with the Board are subject to requirements of relevant Board policies and administrative regulations.

### **Agenda Dissemination to Board Members**

At least 72 hours before each regular meeting, each Board member shall be provided a copy of the agenda and agenda packet, including the Superintendent or designee's report; minutes to be approved; copies of communications; reports from committees, staff, and others; and other available supporting documents pertinent to the meeting.

When special meetings are called, Board members shall receive, at least 24 hours prior to the meeting, notice of the business to be transacted. (Government Code 54956)

Board members shall review agenda materials before each meeting. Individual members may confer directly with the Superintendent or designee to ask questions and/or request additional information on agenda items. However, a majority of Board members shall not, outside of a noticed meeting, directly or through intermediaries or electronic means discuss, deliberate, or take action on any matter within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board.

### **Agenda Dissemination to Members of the Public**

Agenda and related materials distributed to the Board shall be made available to the public upon request without delay. However, only those documents which are disclosable public records under the Public Records Act (PRA) and which relate to an agenda item scheduled for the open session portion of a regular meeting or which contain a claim or written threat of litigation which will be discussed in closed session shall be made available to the public. (Government Code 54956.9, 54957.5)

At least 72 hours prior to a regular meeting, the agenda shall be posted at one or more locations freely accessible to members of the public. (Government Code 54954.2)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall post the agenda on the homepage of the district website. The posted agenda shall be accessible through a prominent direct link to the current agenda or to the district's agenda management platform in accordance with Government Code 54954.2. When the district utilizes an integrated agenda management platform, the link to that platform shall take the user directly to the website with the district's agendas, and the current agenda shall be the first available. (Government Code 54954.2)

BB 9322(d)

### **AGENDA/MEETING MATERIALS (continued)**

If a writing which relates to an open session agenda item or which contains a claim or written threat of litigation which will be discussed in closed session during a regular Board meeting is



distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to a meeting, the Superintendent or designee shall make the writing available for public inspection at a designated location at the same time the document is distributed to all or a majority of the Board. However, if the writing is distributed to at least a majority of the Board at a time when the designated location is closed to the public, this requirement may be satisfied by posting the writing on the district website if the following conditions are met: (Government Code 54957.5)

1. An initial staff report or similar document containing an executive summary and any staff recommendations related to the agenda item is made available for public inspection at the designated location at least 72 hours before the meeting
2. The writing is immediately posted on the district's website in a position and manner that makes it clear that the writing relates to an agenda item for the upcoming meeting
3. The district lists the website address where such writings may be accessed on all Board meeting agendas
4. A physical copy of the document is made available for public inspection at the designated location at the beginning of the next regular business hours, but not less than 24 hours before the relevant Board meeting

The Superintendent or designee shall mail a copy of the agenda or a copy of all the documents constituting the agenda packet to any person who requests the items. The materials shall be mailed at the time the agenda is posted or upon distribution of the agenda to a majority of the Board, whichever occurs first. (Government Code 54954.1)

The Superintendent or designee shall email a copy of, or a website link to, the agenda or a copy of all the documents constituting the agenda packet to any person who requests such items to be delivered by email. If the Superintendent or designee determines that it is technologically infeasible to do so, a copy of the agenda or a website link to the agenda and a copy of all other documents constituting the agenda packet shall be sent to the person who has made the request in accordance with mailing requirements specified in law. (Government Code 54954.1)

Any request for mailed copies of agendas or agenda packets shall be in writing and shall be valid for the calendar year in which it is filed. Written requests must be renewed following January 1 of each year. (Government Code 54954.1)

Persons requesting mailing of the agenda or agenda packet shall pay an annual fee, as determined by the Superintendent or designee, not to exceed the cost of providing the service

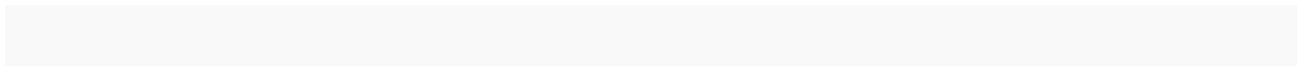
BB 9322(e)

#### **AGENDA/MEETING MATERIALS (continued)**

Any document prepared by the district or Board and distributed during a public meeting shall be made available for public inspection at the meeting. Any document prepared by another person shall be made available for public inspection after the meeting. These requirements shall not apply to a document that is exempt from public disclosure under the PRA. (Government Code 54957.5)

Upon request, the Superintendent or designee shall make the agenda, agenda packet, and/or any writings distributed at the meeting available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. (Government Code 54954.1)

*Legal References on next page*



BB 9322(f)

**AGENDA/MEETING MATERIALS** (continued)

***State***

*Ed. Code 35144*

*Ed. Code 35145*

*Ed. Code 35145.5*

***Description***

*Special meeting*

*Public meetings*

*Agenda; public participation; regulations*

*Ed. Code 49061*  
*Ed. Code 49073.2*  
*Gov. Code 53635.7*  
*Gov. Code 54954.1*  
*Gov. Code 54954.2*  
*Gov. Code 54954.3*  
*Gov. Code 54954.5*  
*Gov. Code 54956.5*  
*Gov. Code 54957.5*  
*Gov. Code 54960.2*  
*Gov. Code 6250-6270*  
*Gov. Code 95000-95004*

**Federal**

*28 CFR 35.160*  
*28 CFR 36.303*  
*42 USC 12101-12213*

**Management Resources**

*Attorney General Opinion*  
*Attorney General Opinion*  
*Attorney General Publication*  
*Court Decision*

*Court Decision*  
*CSBA Publication*  
*CSBA Publication*  
*Website*  
*Website*

*Student records; definitions*  
*Meeting minutes; directory or personal information*  
*Separate item of business for borrowing of \$100,000 or more*  
*Request for copy of agenda or agenda packet by member of public*  
*Agenda posting requirements, board actions*  
*Opportunity for public to address legislative body*  
*Closed session item descriptions*  
*Emergency meetings*  
*Public records*  
*Challenging board actions; cease and desist*  
*California Public Records Act*  
*California Early Intervention Services Act*  
**Description**  
*Effective communications*  
*Auxiliary aids and services*  
*Americans with Disabilities Act*  
**Description**  
*99 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 11 (2016)*  
*78 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 327 (1995)*  
*The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Legislative Bodies, rev. 2003*  
*Caldwell v. Roseville Joint Union High School District, (2007) U.S. Dist. LEXIS 66318*  
*Mooney v. Garcia, (2012) 207 Cal.App.4th 229*  
*Call to Order: A Blueprint for Great Board Meetings, 2018*  
*The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2019*  
[California Attorney General's Office](#)  
[CSBA](#)

Bylaw  
adopted: January 4, 2012  
revised: March 4, 2013; 02/2019  
revised: April 6, 2022  
revised: June 14, 2023  
**Board Bylaws**

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

BB 9323(a)

**MEETING CONDUCT**

**Meeting Procedures**

All Governing Board meetings shall begin on time and shall be guided by an agenda prepared in accordance with Board bylaws and posted and distributed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (open meeting requirements) and other applicable laws.

(cf. [9322](#) - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

The Board president shall conduct Board meetings in accordance with Board bylaws and procedures that enable the Board to efficiently consider issues and carry out the will of the majority.

(cf. [9121](#) - President)

The Board believes that late night meetings deter public participation, can affect the Board's decision-making ability, and can be a burden to staff. Regular Board meetings shall be adjourned at 10:30 p.m. unless extended to a specific time determined by a majority of the Board. The meeting shall be extended no more than once and if necessary, may subsequently be adjourned to a later date.

(cf. [9320](#) - Meetings and Notices)

### **Quorum and Abstentions**

The Board shall act by majority vote of all of the membership constituting the Board. (Education Code [35164](#))

(cf. [9323.2](#) - Actions by the Board)

The Board believes that when no conflict of interest requires abstention, its members have a duty to vote on issues before them. When a member abstains, the abstention shall not be counted for purposes of determining whether a majority of the membership of the Board has taken action.

(cf. [9270](#) - Conflict of Interest)

### **Public Participation**

Members of the public are encouraged to attend Board meetings and to address the Board concerning any item on the agenda or within the Board's jurisdiction. So as not to inhibit public participation, persons attending Board meetings shall not be requested to sign in, complete a questionnaire, or otherwise provide their name or other information as a condition of attending the meeting, except that if the meeting is conducted using remote public participation or with a Board member attending remotely pursuant to Government Code

BB 9323(b)

### **MEETING CONDUCT (continued)**

54953, a member of the public desiring to provide comment through the use of a third party internet website or online platform may be required to register as required by the third party provider.

In order to conduct district business in an orderly and efficient manner, the Board requires that public presentations to the Board comply with the following procedures:

1. The Board shall give members of the public an opportunity to address the Board on any item of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, either before or during the Board's consideration of the item. (Education Code [35145.5](#); Government Code [54954.3](#))

2. At a time so designated on the agenda at a regular meeting, members of the public may bring before the Board matters that are not listed on the agenda. The Board shall take no action or discussion on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except as authorized by law. (Education Code [35145.5](#); Government Code [54954.2](#))
3. Without taking action, Board members or district staff members may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by the public about items not appearing on the agenda. Additionally, on their own initiative or in response to questions posed by the public, Board members or staff members may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on their own activities. (Government Code [54954.2](#))

Furthermore, the Board or a Board member may provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, ask staff to report back to the Board at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or take action directing staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. (Government Code [54954.2](#))

4. The Board need not allow the public to speak on any item that has already been considered by a committee composed exclusively of Board members at a public meeting where the public had the opportunity to address the committee on that item. However, if the Board determines that the item has been substantially changed since the committee heard the item, the Board shall provide an opportunity for the public to speak. (Government Code [54954.3](#))

(cf. [9130](#) - Board Committees)

5. A person wishing to be heard by the Board shall first be recognized by the president and shall then proceed to comment as briefly as the subject permits.

In general, individual speakers will be allowed three minutes to address the Board on each agenda or nonagenda item, and the Board will limit the total time for public input on each item to 20 minutes. However, in exceptional circumstances when necessary to ensure full opportunity for public input, the Board president may, with Board consent, adjust the amount of time allowed for public input and/or the time allotted for each speaker. Any such

BB 9323(d)

#### **MEETING CONDUCT (continued)**

adjustment shall be done equitably so as to allow a diversity of viewpoints. The president may also ask members of the public with the same viewpoint to select a few individuals to address the Board on behalf of that viewpoint.

In order to ensure that non-English speakers receive the same opportunity to directly address the Board, any member of the public who utilizes a translator shall be provided at least twice the allotted time to address the Board, unless simultaneous translation equipment is used to allow the Board to hear the translated public testimony simultaneously. (Government Code [54954.3](#))

6. The Board president may rule on the appropriateness of a topic, subject to the following conditions:

- a. If a topic would be suitably addressed at a later time, the Board president may indicate the time and place when it should be presented.
- b. The Board shall not prohibit public criticism of its policies, procedures, programs, services, acts, or omissions. (Government Code [54954.3](#))
- c. The Board shall not prohibit public criticism of district employees. However, whenever a member of the public initiates specific complaints or charges against an individual employee, the Board president shall inform the complainant of the appropriate complaint procedure.

(cf. [1312.1](#) - *Complaints Concerning District Employees*)

(cf. [9321](#) - *Closed Session Purposes and Agendas*)

7. The Board president shall not permit actual disruption of Board meetings. Actual disruption by an individual or group or any conduct or statements that threaten the safety of any person(s) at the meeting shall be grounds for the president to terminate the privilege of addressing the Board and remove the individual from the meeting.

The Board President or designee may remove an individual for actually disrupting the meeting. Prior to removal, the individual shall be warned that their behavior is disrupting the meeting and that failure to cease the disruptive behavior may result in removal. If, after being warned, the individual does not promptly cease the disruptive behavior, the Board president, or designee, may then remove the individual from the meeting. (Government Code 54957.95)

When an individual's behavior constitutes the use of force or a true threat of force, the individual shall be removed from a Board meeting without a warning. (Government Code 54957.95)

*Disrupting* means engaging in behavior during a Board meeting that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting and includes, but is not limited to, a failure to comply with reasonable and lawful regulations adopted by a

BB 9323(e)

## **MEETING CONDUCT** (continued)

legislative body pursuant to Section 54954.3 or any other law, or engaging in behavior that constitutes use of force or a true threat of force. (Government Code 54957.95)

*True threat of force* means a threat that has sufficient indicia of intent and seriousness, that a reasonable observer would perceive it to be an actual threat to use force by the person making the threat. (Government Code 54957.95)

Additionally, the Board may order the room cleared if necessary. In this case, members of the media not participating in the disturbance shall be allowed to remain, and individuals not participating in such disturbances may be allowed to remain at the discretion of the Board. When the room is ordered cleared due to a disturbance, further Board proceedings shall concern only matters appearing on the agenda. (Government Code 54957.9)

When disruptive conduct occurs, the Board may decide to recess the meeting to help restore order, or if removing the disruptive individual(s) or clearing the room is infeasible, move the meeting to

another location. The Board may direct the Superintendent or designee to contact local law enforcement as necessary.

## **Recording by the Public**

Members of the public may record an open Board meeting using an audio or video recorder, still or motion picture camera, cell phone, or other device, provided that the noise, illumination, or obstruction of view does not persistently disrupt the meeting. The Superintendent or designee may designate locations from which members of the public may make such recordings without causing a distraction.

(cf. [9324](#) - Board Minutes and Recordings)

If the Board finds that noise, illumination, or obstruction of view related to these activities would persistently disrupt the proceedings, these activities shall be discontinued or restricted as determined by the Board. (Government Code [54953.5](#), [54953.6](#))

*Legal Reference:*

### EDUCATION CODE

[5095](#) Powers of remaining board members and new appointees

[32210](#) Willful disturbance of public school or meeting a misdemeanor

[35010](#) Prescription and enforcement of rules

[35145.5](#) Agenda; public participation; regulations

[35163](#) Official actions, minutes and journal

[35164](#) Vote requirements

[35165](#) Effect of vacancies upon majority and unanimous votes by seven member board

### CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

[527.8](#) Workplace Violence Safety Act

### GOVERNMENT CODE

[54953.3](#) Prohibition against conditions for attending a board meeting

[54953.5](#) Audio or video recording of proceedings

[54953.6](#) Broadcasting of proceedings

[54954.2](#) Agenda; posting; action on other matters

BB 9323(f)

## **MEETING CONDUCT (continued)**

[54954.3](#) Opportunity for public to address legislative body; regulations

[54957](#) Closed sessions

[54957.9](#) Disorderly conduct of general public during meeting; clearing of room

### PENAL CODE

[403](#) Disruption of assembly or meeting

### COURT DECISIONS

*City of San Jose v. Garbett* (2010) 190 Cal.App.4th 526

*Norse v. City of Santa Cruz* (9th Cir. 2010) 629 F.3d 966

*McMahon v. Albany Unified School District* (2002) 104 Cal.App.4th 1275

*Rubin v. City of Burbank* (2002) 101 Cal.App.4th 1194

*Baca v. Moreno Valley Unified School District* (1996) 936 F.Supp. 719

### ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

90 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 47 (2007)

76 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 281 (1993)

66 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 336 (1983)

63 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 215 (1980)

61 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 243, 253 (1978)

59 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 532 (1976)

55 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 26 (1972)

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Call to Order: A Blueprint for Great Board Meetings, 2015*

*The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2014*

ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

*The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Local Legislative Bodies, 2003*

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Attorney General's Office: <http://oag.ca.gov>

(11/06 12/16) 10/19

Bylaw

adopted: January 4, 2012

revised: February 1, 2017

revised: December 4, 2019

revised: January 11, 2023

## **Board Bylaw**

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Biggs, California

**Board Bylaws**

BB 9323.2(a)

### **ACTIONS BY THE BOARD**

The Board of Trustees shall act by a majority vote of all of the membership constituting the Board, unless otherwise required by law. (Education Code 35164, 35165)

*(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)*

*(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)*

*(cf. 9012 - Board Member Electronic Communications)*

*(cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)*

An "action" by the Board means: (Government Code 54952.6)

1. A collective decision by a majority of the Board members



2. A collective commitment or promise by a majority of the Board members to make a positive or negative decision
3. A vote by a majority of the Board members when sitting as the Board upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance

The Board shall not take action by secret ballot, whether preliminary or final. (Government Code 54953)

Actions taken by the Board in open session shall be recorded in the Board minutes. (Education Code 35145)

*(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)*

### **Action on Non-Agenda Items**

The Board may take action on a subject not appearing on the posted meeting agenda only after publicly identifying the item and if any one of the following conditions are met: (Government Code 54954.2)

1. When a majority of the Board determines that an emergency situation exists, as defined for emergency meetings pursuant to Government Code 54956.5
2. When two-thirds of the members present, or if less than two-thirds of the members are present then by a unanimous vote of all members present, determine that the need to take immediate action came to the district's attention after the agenda was posted
3. When an item appeared on the agenda of, and was continued from, a meeting that occurred not more than five days earlier

BB 9323.2(b)

### **ACTIONS BY THE BOARD** (continued)

4. Until December 31, 2025, when a Board member requests to participate by teleconference due to emergency circumstances pursuant to Government Code 54953 so long as the timing of the request did not allow for sufficient time to place it on the agenda

### **Challenging Board Actions**

Before seeking to file a civil action to stop or prevent a Brown Act violation or to invalidate a prior action taken by the Board, the district attorney's office or interested person shall first present a demand to "cure and correct" the alleged violation to the district. If the district receives a proper demand from the district attorney's office or any interested person to "cure and correct" an alleged violation of the Brown Act, the Board shall consult with legal counsel on if and how to respond as provided by law. (Government Code 54960-54960.5)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

15266 School construction bonds  
17466 Declaration of intent to sell or lease real property  
17481 Lease of property with residence for nondistrict purposes  
17510-17512 Leasing for production of gas, resolution requiring unanimous vote  
17546 Private sale of personal property  
17556-17561 Dedication of real property  
35140-35149 Meetings  
35160-35178.4 Powers and duties  
48660-48661 Community day schools, establishment and restrictions

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

425.16 Special motion to strike in connection with a public issue  
1245.240 Eminent domain vote requirements  
1245.245 Eminent domain, resolution adopting different use

GOVERNMENT CODE

53090-53097.5 Regulation of local agencies by counties and cities  
53724 Parcel tax resolution requirements  
53790-53792 Exceeding the budget  
53820-53833 Temporary borrowing  
53850-53858 Temporary borrowing  
54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act, especially:  
54952.6 Action taken, definition

*Legal Reference: Continued on next page*

BB 9323.2(c)

**ACTIONS BY THE BOARD (continued)**

*Legal Reference: Continued*

54953 Meetings to be open and public; attendance; prohibition against secret ballots  
54960-54960.5 Actions to prevent violations  
65352.2 Coordination with planning agency  
PUBLIC CONTRACT CODE  
3400 Bid specifications  
20111 Contracts over \$50,000; contracts for construction; award to lowest responsible bidder  
20113 Emergencies, award of contracts without bids  
20114 Repairs, maintenance, and improvements to district facilities by day labor or force account  
22034 Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act informal bidding ordinance  
22035 Repair or replacement of facilities in case of emergency  
22050 Emergency contracting procedures

COURT DECISIONS

*Los Angeles Times Communications LLC v. Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (2003) 112 Cal.App.4th 1313*  
*McKee v. Orange Unified School District (2003) 110 Cal.App.4th 1310*  
*Bell v. Vista Unified School District (2002) 82 Cal.App.4th 672*  
*Boyle v. City of Redondo Beach (1999) 70 Cal.App.4th 1109*

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, 2014*  
ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS  
*The Brown Act: Open Meetings for Local Legislative Bodies, 2003*  
LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES PUBLICATIONS  
*Open and Public IV: A Guide to the Ralph M. Brown Act 2nd Edition, rev. July 2010*  
WEB SITES  
CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>  
Institute for Local Government: <http://www.ca-ilg.org>  
Office of the Attorney General: <http://www.oag.ca.gov>

(3/11 11/12) 3/19

Bylaw  
adopted: January 4, 2012  
revised: March 4, 2013  
revised: May 1, 2019  
revised: April 10, 2024

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

# Exhibit

## Board Bylaws

E(1) 9323.2(a)

### ACTIONS BY THE BOARD

#### RESTRICTIONS ON BOARD ACTIONS

This exhibit is a non-exhaustive list of the Governing Board actions that require more than a majority vote as well as restrictions and prohibitions on when the Board may take certain actions. Other such actions may exist and may be identified in the future.

#### Actions Requiring a Two-Thirds Vote of the Board

1. Resolution declaring the Governing Board's intention to sell or lease real property (Education Code [17466](#))  
*(cf. [3280](#) - Sale or Lease of District-Owned Real Property)*
2. Resolution declaring the Board's intent to convey or dedicate property to the state or any political subdivision for the purposes specified in Education Code [17556](#) (Education Code [17557](#))
3. Resolution authorizing and directing the Board president, or any other presiding officer, secretary, or member, to execute a deed of dedication or conveyance of property to the state or a political subdivision (Education Code [17559](#))
4. Lease, for up to three months, of school property which has a residence on it and which cannot be developed for district purposes because funds are unavailable (Education Code [17481](#))
5. Request for temporary borrowing of funds needed for immediate requirements of the district to pay district obligations incurred before the receipt of district income for the fiscal year sufficient to meet the payment(s) (Government Code [53821](#))
6. Upon complying with Government Code [65352.2](#) and Public Resources Code [21151.2](#), action to render city or county zoning ordinances inapplicable to a proposed use of the property by the district so long the proposed use of property is not for nonclassroom facilities (Government Code [53094](#))  
*(cf. [7131](#) - Relations with Local Agencies)*  
*(cf. [7150](#) - Site Selection and Development)*  
*(cf. [7160](#) - Charter School Facilities)*
7. When the district is organized to serve only grades K-8, action to establish a community day school for any of grades K-8 (Education Code [48660](#))  
*(cf. [6185](#) - Community Day School)*

**ACTIONS BY THE BOARD (continued)**

8. When the district is organized to serve only grades K-8, has an average daily attendance (ADA) of 2,500 or less, or desires to operate a community day school to serve any of grades K-6 (and no higher grades) and seeks to situate a community day school on an existing school site, certification that satisfactory alternative facilities are not available for a community day school (Education Code [48661](#))
9. Decision to pursue the authorization and issuance of general obligation bonds pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 1 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution and subdivision (b) of Section 18 of Article XVI of the California Constitution (Education Code 15266)

(cf. [7214](#) - General Obligation Bonds)

10. Resolution of necessity to proceed with an eminent domain action and, if the Board subsequently desires to use the property for a different use than stated in the resolution of necessity, a subsequent resolution so authorizing the different use (Code of Civil Procedure 1245.240, 1245.245)
11. When the district has a three-member Board and has adopted the procedures set forth in the Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (UPCCAA), action to respond to an emergency facilities condition without giving notice for bids to award contracts, including the repair or replacement of district facilities, the taking of any other action that is directly related to and immediately required by that emergency, the procurement of the necessary equipment, services, and supplies for those purposes, the delegation of authority to the Superintendent or designee to take such action, and the determination during a regular Board meeting of the need to continue the action (Public Contract Code 22035, 22050)

**Actions Requiring a Two-Thirds Vote of the Board Members Present at the Meeting**

1. Determination that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the district's attention after the posting of the agenda. If less than two-thirds of the Board members are present at the meeting, a unanimous vote of all members present is required. (Government Code [54954.2](#))
2. Determination that a closed session is necessary during an emergency meeting. If less than two-thirds of the Board members are present, a unanimous vote of all members present is required. (Government Code [54956.5](#))

(cf. [9320](#) - Meetings and Notices)

(cf. [9321](#) - Closed Session)

**Actions Requiring a Four-Fifths Vote of the Membership of the Board**

1. Resolution for district borrowing based on issuance of notes, tax anticipation warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness, in an amount up to 50 percent of the district's estimated income and revenue for the fiscal year or the portion not yet collected at the time of the borrowing (Government Code [53822](#), [53824](#))

**ACTIONS BY THE BOARD (continued)**

2. Resolution for district borrowing, between July 15 and August 30 of any fiscal year, of up to 25 percent of the estimated income and revenue to be received by the district during that fiscal year from apportionments based on ADA for the preceding school year (Government Code [53823-53824](#))
3. Declaration of an emergency in order to authorize the district to include a particular brand name or product in a bid specification (Public Contract Code [3400](#))

(cf. [3311](#) - Bids)

4. When the district has a five-member or seven-member Board and has adopted the procedures set forth in UPCCAA, action to respond to an emergency facilities condition without giving notice for bids to award contracts, including the repair or replacement of district facilities, the taking of any other action that is directly related to and immediately required by that emergency, the procurement of the necessary equipment, services, and supplies for those purposes, the delegation of authority to the Superintendent or designee to take such action, and the determination during a regular Board meeting of the need to continue the action (Public Contract Code [22035](#), [22050](#))
5. Resolution to award a contract for a public works project at \$212,500 or less to the lowest responsible bidder, when the district is using the informal process authorized under the UPCCAA for projects of \$200,000 or less, all bids received are in excess of \$200,000, and the Board determines that the district's cost estimate was reasonable (Public Contract Code [22034](#))

**Action Requiring a Four-Fifths Vote of the Board Members Present at the Meeting**

1. Approval of the expenditure and transfer of necessary funds and use of district property or personnel to meet a national or local emergency created by war, military, naval, or air attack, or sabotage, or to provide for adequate national or local defense (Government Code 53790-53792)

**Actions Requiring a Unanimous Vote of the Membership of the Board**

1. Resolution authorizing and prescribing the terms of a lease of district property for extraction and taking of gas not associated with oil (Education Code [17510-17511](#))
2. Authorization of the use of day labor or force account, or waiver of the competitive bid process pursuant to Public Contract Code [20111](#), when the Board determines that an emergency exists requiring the repair, alteration, work, or improvement to any facility to permit the continuance of existing classes or to avoid danger to life or property, and upon approval of the County Superintendent of Schools (Public Contract Code [20113](#))

## **ACTIONS BY THE BOARD (continued)**

### **Action Requiring a Unanimous Vote of the Board Members Present at the Meeting**

1. Private sale of surplus property without advertisement in order to establish that such property is not worth more than \$2,500. Disposal of surplus property or donation to a charitable organization requires the unanimous vote of the Board members present to establish that the value of such property would not defray the cost of arranging its sale. (Education Code [17546](#))

(cf. [3270](#) - *Sale and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies*)

(10/16 3/19) 10/20

### **Actions Required to Occur During a Regular Board Meeting**

1. Termination of the Superintendent or an assistant superintendent without cause (Education Code 35150)
2. Discussion or action regarding the contract, salary, salary schedule, or other compensation of the Superintendent, assistant superintendent, or other management employee as described in Government Code 3511.1 (Government Code 54956)

### **Prohibitions on Certain Board Actions**

1. Termination of the Superintendent or an assistant superintendent without cause within 30 days after the first convening of the Board after an election at which one or more Board members are elected or recalled (Education Code 35150)
2. When the District is disposing of surplus land and has received a notification from the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Government Code 54230.5 with regard to the surplus land, final action to ratify or approve the proposed disposal of surplus land unless the district holds an open and public meeting in compliance with Government Code 54230.7 to review and consider the substance of the notice

Exhibit  
version: January 4, 2012  
revised: 05/16; 10/16; 05/19  
revised: December 2, 2020  
revised: April 10, 2024

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

**MINUTES AND RECORDINGS**

The Board of Trustees recognizes that maintaining accurate minutes of Board meetings helps foster public trust in Board governance and provides a record of Board actions for use by district staff and the public.

*(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)*  
*(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)*  
*(cf. 9323 - Meeting Conduct)*

The secretary of the Board shall keep minutes and record all official Board actions. The Board's minutes shall be public records and shall be made available to the public upon request. (Education Code 35145, 35163)

*(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)*  
*(cf. 9122 - Secretary)*  
*(cf. 9323.2 - Actions by the Board)*

The minutes of Board meetings shall include, but not be limited to:

1. A notation of which Board members are present, in person or by teleconference, and whether a member is not present for part of the meeting due to late arrival and/or early departure

*(cf. 9250 - Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits)*  
*(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)*

2. A brief summary of the Board's discussion on each agenda topic, rather than a verbatim record of each Board member's specific points of view during the discussion
3. A summary of the public comments made on agendized items and unagendized topics
4. The specific language of each motion and the names of the Board members who made and seconded the motion
5. Any action taken by the Board, and the vote or abstention on that action of each Board member present (Education Code 35145; Government Code 54953)

Upon request by a student's parent/guardian, or by the student if age 18 or older, the minutes shall not include the student's or parent/guardian's address, telephone number, date of birth, or email address, or the student's name or other directory information as defined in Education Code 49061. The request to exclude such information shall be made in writing to the secretary or clerk of the Board. (Education Code 49073.2)

*(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)*



## **MINUTES AND RECORDINGS (continued)**

The Board agenda shall include a statement of the option and process for students and parents/guardians to request that such information be excluded from the minutes.

The Superintendent or designee shall distribute a copy of the "unapproved" minutes of the previous meeting(s) with the agenda for the next regular meeting. The Board shall approve the minutes as circulated or with necessary amendments.

Upon approval by the Board, the minutes shall be signed by presiding President.

Official Board minutes and recordings shall be stored in a secure location and shall be retained in accordance with law.

*(cf. 3580 - District Records)*

Any minutes or recordings kept for Board meetings held in closed session shall be kept separately from the minutes or recordings of regular and special meetings. Minutes or recordings of closed sessions are not public records. (Government Code 54957.2)

*(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)*

### **Recording or Broadcasting of Meetings**

The district may tape, film, stream, or broadcast any open Board meeting. At the beginning of the meeting, the Board president shall announce that a recording or broadcasting is being made at the direction of the Board and that the recording or broadcast may capture images and sounds of those attending the meeting. As practicable, the recorder or camera shall be placed in plain view of meeting participants.

Any district recording may be erased or destroyed 30 days after the meeting. Recordings made at the direction of the Board during a meeting are public records and, upon request, shall be made available for inspection by members of the public on district equipment without charge. (Government Code 54953.5)

*Legal Reference: See next page*

## MINUTES AND RECORDINGS (continued)

### *Legal Reference:*

#### EDUCATION CODE

35012 *Number of members; terms; student board members*

35145 *Public meetings*

35163 *Official actions, minutes and journals*

35164 *Vote requirements*

49061 *Student records; definitions*

49073.2 *Privacy of student and parent/guardian personal information*

#### GOVERNMENT CODE

54952.2 *Meeting defined*

54953 *Meetings*

54953.5 *Audio or video recording of proceedings*

54953.6 *Broadcasting of proceedings*

54957.2 *Closed sessions; clerk; minute book*

54960 *Violations and remedies*

#### PENAL CODE

632 *Unlawful to intentionally record a confidential communication without consent*

#### CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

16020-16027 *Classification and retention of records*

### *Management Resources:*

#### CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Call to Order: A Blueprint for Great Board Meetings, 2015*

*The Brown Act: School Boards and Open Meeting Laws, rev. 2014*

#### WEB SITES

*CSBA, Agenda Online: <http://www.agendaonline.com>*

(7/08 4/14) 12/18

Bylaw  
adopted: January 4, 2012  
revised: August 6, 2014  
revised: February 6, 2019

**BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Biggs, California

## **BOARD SELF-EVALUATION**

The Board of Trustees shall annually conduct a self-evaluation in order to demonstrate accountability to the community and ensure that district governance effectively supports student achievement and the attainment of the district's vision and goals.

(cf. [0000](#) - *Vision*)

(cf. [0200](#) - *Goals for the School District*)

(cf. [2140](#) - *Evaluation of the Superintendent*)

The evaluation may address any area of Board responsibility, including, but not limited to, Board performance in relation to vision setting, curriculum, personnel, finance, policy development, collective bargaining, community relations, and advocacy. The evaluation may also address objectives related to Board meeting operations, relationships among Board members, relationship with the Superintendent, understanding of Board and Superintendent roles and responsibilities, communication skills, or other governance or boardsmanship skills.

(cf. [9000](#) - *Role of the Board*)

(cf. [9005](#) - *Governance Standards*)

The Board shall evaluate itself as a whole. Individual Board members are also expected to use the evaluation process as an opportunity to assess and set goals for their own personal performance.

Each year, the Board, with assistance from the Superintendent, shall determine an evaluation method or instrument that measures key components of board responsibility and previously identified performance objectives. Visual and/or audio recordings of a Board meeting may only be used as an evaluation tool when consent is given by all Board members.

Any discussion involving the Board's self-evaluation shall be conducted in open session.

At the request of the Board, a facilitator may be used to assist with the evaluation process. The Board may invite the Superintendent or other individual(s) with pertinent information to provide input into the evaluation process.

Following the evaluation, the Board shall set goals, define and/or refine protocols, and establish priorities and objectives for the following year's evaluation. The Board shall also develop strategies for strengthening Board performance based on identified areas of need, including, but not limited to, Board trainings such as those offered by the California School Boards Association.

(cf. [9230](#) - *Orientation*)

(cf. [9240](#) - *Board Training*)

**BOARD SELF-EVALUATION** (continued)

*Legal Reference:*

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 Brown Act; board self-evaluations not covered

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Professional Governance Standards*

*Defining Governance, Issue 3: Governance Practices, Governance Brief, April 2014*

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

CSBA Board Self-Evaluation: <http://bse.csba.org>

(9/88 3/02) 7/17