

# LAGUNA BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## **PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

### **BB 9010**

#### Board Bylaws

The Governing Board recognizes the rights 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. and encourages open discussion of issues during the Board meeting. The Board believes that effective Board members have a responsibility to express themselves, whether in agreement or disagreement with the Board majority, in ways that promote the Board's ability to govern the district. 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.

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 other designated representative.

When speaking for the district, the Board encourages its spokespersons to exercise restraint and tact and to communicate the message 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.

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 personal viewpoints as such and not as the viewpoint of the Board.

In addition, the Board encourages members who participate on social networking sites, blogs, or other discussion or informational sites to conduct themselves in a respectful, courteous, and professional manner and to model good behavior for district students and the community. Such electronic communications are subject to the same standards and protocols established for other forms of communication, and the disclosure requirements of the California Public Records Act may likewise apply to them.

Legal Reference:

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

Date Board Bylaw Adopted by the Board: October 26, 1999

Revised: April 24, 2012

Revised: September 25, 2018

(Updated and changed from 9005 to BB 9010)