

LAGUNA BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD MEMBER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

BB 9012

Board Bylaws

The Governing Board recognizes that electronic communication is an efficient and convenient way for Board members to communicate and expedite the exchange of information within the district and with members of the public. Board members shall exercise caution so as to ensure that electronic communications are not used as a means for the Board to deliberate outside of an agendaized Board meeting nor to circumvent the public's right to access records regarding district business.

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.

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.

In addition, Board members may use electronic communications to discuss matters that do not pertain to district business, regardless of the number of Board members participating in the discussion.

Board members shall make every effort to ensure that their electronic communications conform to the same standards and protocols established for other forms of communication. A Board member may respond, as appropriate, to an electronic communication received from a member of the community and should make clear that their response does not necessarily reflect the views of the Board as a whole. Any complaint or request for information should be forwarded to the Superintendent in accordance with Board bylaws and protocols so that the issue may receive proper consideration and be handled through the appropriate district process. As appropriate, communication received from the media shall be forwarded to the designated district spokesperson.

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, they shall copy the communication to a district electronic storage device for easy retrieval.

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

City of San Jose v. Superior Court (2017) 2 Cal.5th 608

Date Board Bylaw Adopted: September 25, 2018
(Replaced BB 9015)