

BOARD TRAINING

The County Board of Education believes that its ability to effectively and responsibly govern is essential to promoting student achievement, building positive community relations, and protecting the public interest in county schools. County 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.

Unless a County Board member's term expires prior to January 1, 2026, each County 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 County Board member shall inform the County Board president and Clerk to the County Board. A record of each County Board member's participation in the required ethics training shall be retained. The County Board president shall work with the County Superintendent of Schools or designee to provide an orientation to newly elected or appointed County Board members consistent with County Board Bylaw 9230 - Orientation.

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

Consistent with the availability of funds in the COE's adopted annual budget, the County Board president shall annually develop, and bring to the County Board for adoption at a County Board meeting, a County Board professional development calendar designed to assist the County 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, community relations, open meeting laws (the Brown Act), conflict of interest laws, and other topics necessary to govern effectively and in compliance with law. This budget would be developed in conjunction with the County Office of Education's budget development calendar. The president may assign such duties to the Budget Committee.

Consistent with the availability of funds in the COE's adopted annual budget, individual County Board members may identify and participate in additional professional development opportunities, and shall timely inform the County Board president upon doing so. Additionally,

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County Board members shall follow any established timelines and procedures for how an individual County Board member shall request that the COE pay for such professional development opportunities, whether in advance or by reimbursement, consistent with Board Bylaw 9250 Remuneration, Reimbursement And Other Benefits.

County 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 County Board members are encouraged to share the knowledge or skills acquired from individual professional development opportunities with the full County Board.

Consistent with County Board Bylaw 9320 - Meetings And Notices, County 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 County Board members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled program, business of a specified nature that is within the COE's jurisdiction.