

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

County Board Bylaws

BB 9130

BOARD COMMITTEES

The Santa Cruz County Board of Education (County Board) may establish Board committees on matters whenever it determines that such a committee is within its jurisdiction and would benefit the Santa Cruz County Office of Education (COE). The County Board shall define the duties, responsibilities, authority, and term of a committee at the time of the committee's establishment. Unless specifically authorized by the County Board to act on its behalf, such committees shall act in an advisory capacity only.

The County Board president shall appoint all committees with County Board approval.

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

At the request of the County Board, the County Superintendent of Schools may serve and/or designate or nominate any COE staff member to serve as an advisor to or as a non-voting member of a County Board committee.

Committee Meetings

County Board committees, other than advisory committees with less than a majority of Board members as discussed below, shall provide public notice of their meetings and conduct these meetings in accordance with state open meeting laws. An agenda of any such committee meeting shall be posted not less than 24 hours prior to the meeting. Meetings of advisory committees or standing committees for which an agenda is posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting shall be considered as regular meetings of the committee for purposes of the Brown Act. (Government Code 54954)

Standing committees with continuing subject matter jurisdiction include, but are not limited to, those which at the County Board's request are responsible for providing advice on finance, policy, governmental relations, curriculum development, and program evaluation. An ad hoc committee formed for a limited term and charged with accomplishing a specific task in a short period of time is not a standing committee. Advisory committees composed solely of less than a quorum of the members of the County Board are not subject to open meeting laws unless they are standing committees that have a continuing subject matter jurisdiction or a meeting schedule established by the County Board. (Government Code 54952)

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

Committee Reports and Recommendations

County Board committees shall report their activities and/or recommendations to the County Board at an open meeting of the County Board, except in matters on which a closed session is required or allowed by law.

When an item has already been considered at a public meeting by a County Board committee composed exclusively of County Board members, and the meeting provided for public comment on the item before or during the committee's consideration of the item, the County Board may or may not provide for additional public comment on the item at a subsequent County Board meeting. Public comment shall be afforded, however, if the County Board determines that the item has been substantially changed since it was heard by the committee. (Government Code 54954.3)

Last Reviewed: March 19, 2026

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