

## CHAPTER 2.00 - SCHOOL BOARD GOVERNANCE AND ORGANIZATION

### BOARD MEETINGS

2.22\*

All official School Board meetings shall be open to the public, and all informal meetings and conferences involving School Board members shall be conducted as public meetings unless specifically exempted by Florida Statutes. The School Board may take no official action at any time other than an official meeting.

- I. Regular School Board meetings shall be established at the organizational meeting held in November. The regular meeting date may be changed by School Board action at any previous meeting, provided that each member is notified by letter or by distribution of the minutes showing a record of the change. When a meeting date is changed, the Superintendent shall take appropriate action to inform the public.
  - A. Special meetings shall be held at the time designated by the Superintendent, School Board chairperson, or when called by a majority of the School Board members as specified in written notice.
  - B. Emergency meetings may be held at any time by the Superintendent, either upon his or her initiative or upon the School Board chairperson's request. An emergency meeting may be called as quickly as complying with notification procedures; School Board members shall be given a tentative agenda during the notification.
    1. The Superintendent shall prepare and distribute an agenda prior to the emergency meeting.
    2. The agenda, the need for the emergency meeting, and the results of the emergency meeting shall be available to the public within twenty-four (24) hours of said meeting.
    3. Emergency meetings shall be conducted in the same manner as prescribed for regular and special meetings.
- II. Regular, special, and emergency meetings of the School Board shall be held in the regular Board meeting room, unless changed in the manner prescribed herein. As provided by Florida Statutes, any regular or special meeting may be held at any other appropriate public place within the District by giving prior public notice of at least forty-eight (48) hours. When such a meeting is scheduled or re-scheduled at a location other than the regular meeting place, the Superintendent shall take such action to give public notice as required by Florida Statutes.

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- III. All School Board meetings shall be conducted in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order* except as noted herein.
- IV. Any item to be placed on the agenda of a regular School Board meeting shall be submitted, in writing, to the Superintendent's office no later than four o'clock (4:00 p.m.), eight (8) working days prior to the meeting at which consideration is desired. This rule shall not preclude the right of any citizen to address the School Board; however, except for good cause as provided herein, the School Board shall not take action on any substantive proposal until such matter has been formally placed on the School Board agenda. Copies of the agenda for regular meetings shall be made available at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the scheduled meeting date to the public or other parties who have expressed a desire for such copy of the agenda. Copies of the agenda for a special meeting shall be prepared at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to such meeting.
  - A. Any person or group desiring to be placed on the agenda shall file with the Superintendent, by twelve o'clock (12:00) noon at least eight (8) working days prior to a meeting, a request to be placed thereon. Such request shall contain the following information:
    - 1. The name and address of the person making the request.
    - 2. The organization or group, if any, represented.
    - 3. Content of the information to be presented - if written material is to be passed out, a copy of such material shall accompany the request.
    - 4. An estimate of the time necessary for such a discussion.
    - 5. Specific action desired of the Board.
    - 6. Any charges to be made against an individual shall be in affidavit form. If any information is to be presented in the form of a statement or charges that might be considered derogatory or of a serious nature, such shall be presented in writing and shall specifically state the charges in the form of an affidavit.
  - B. The Superintendent shall respond verbally or in writing to any person or group requesting to be placed on the agenda. In the event the agenda for the next regular meeting is unduly long, the Superintendent shall place the presentation request on the agenda for the following regular meeting. If a question should arise in regard to the granting of a request, the Superintendent and the chairperson shall confer and make a decision.

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- C. At any School Board meeting, unless otherwise ordered by majority consent of the Board members present, the maximum amount of time allowed for presentation of, and discussion on, the subject matter of any such request shall be thirty (30) minutes, distributed as follows: ten (10) minutes to the maker of the request; ten (10) minutes to any opponent of the proposition of such maker; and ten (10) minutes for questions and discussion by the Superintendent and the Board. Each speaker shall be allowed a maximum of three (3) minutes on a topic unless time is extended by the Board.
- D. All agenda items on which action is deferred shall be listed on the next agenda unless a time certain is specified.
- E. The Superintendent shall either answer correspondence sent to the School Board or bring it to the School Board's attention at its next meeting by placing it on the agenda for information or School Board action.
- V. A majority shall constitute a quorum for any School Board meeting. Unless a majority is present, no meeting can be convened.
- VI. A Board member may participate in Board meetings via telephone or other telecommunication media when out of town and unable to attend a Board meeting when the absence is due to circumstances related to the Board member's primary occupation, Board-approved matters, or other emergencies as approved by the Board. The Board chairperson or, in the absence of the chairperson, the vice-chairperson, must establish the identity of the Board member participating via telephone or any other telecommunication medium.
- VII. The vote shall be unanimous if all members audibly vote "yes" or otherwise indicate an affirmative vote.

When a split vote occurs, the minutes shall show the vote of each member on the question. Each member who is present shall vote on each decision, ruling, or official act which is taken or adopted by the School Board, unless there is or appears to be a conflict of interest under the provisions of Florida Statutes. In such cases the member may abstain, but shall file a memorandum pursuant to requirements of Florida Statutes.

- VIII. The official minutes of the School Board shall be kept as prescribed by Florida Statutes. The minutes shall be kept in a safe place by the Superintendent and shall be made available by the Superintendent during the time the office is open to any citizen desiring to examine the minutes.

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- A. Only motions, resolutions, and the necessary information related thereto; the name of the person making the motion or submitting the resolution; the name of the person who seconds the motion; and the vote or action thereon shall be recorded.
  - B. Any School Board member or Superintendent who wishes any of his or her statements to be recorded may request during the meeting that such become a part of the official minutes.
  - C. Any other matter may be made part of the official minutes by direction of the chairman or by a majority of the School Board.
  - D. Lengthy material such as, but not limited to, student assignments may be maintained in record books which are separate from, but supplemental to the basic record of minutes.
- IX. Members of the public shall have an opportunity to address the School Board at a public meeting regarding any proposition before the Board. Speakers shall adhere to the rules established by the Board in accordance with Florida Statutes.
- X. It is unlawful to knowingly disrupt or interfere with a School Board meeting, and any such action may result in a misdemeanor offense of the second degree. This includes individuals who advise, counsel, or instruct students or School Board employees on techniques for disrupting a School Board meeting.

### **STATUTORY AUTHORITY:**

**1001.41, 1001.42, F.S.**

### **LAW(S) IMPLEMENTED:**

**CHAPTER 112, 120.525, 120.53,  
286.0105, 286.011, 286.0111, 286.0113,  
286.0114, 286.012, 447.605, 877.13, 1001.32,  
1001.37, 1001.371, 1001.372, 1001.41,  
1001.42, 1001.43, 1006.145, F.S.**

### **HISTORY:**

**ADOPTED: 07/01/2002  
REVISION DATE(S): 03/02/2004; 03/22/2010; 03/13/2014  
FORMERLY: 1.04, 1.06, 2.09**