

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

BEA
(1121)

School Board Meetings

The Board Chair or designee will establish the agenda of each meeting in conjunction with the Superintendent of Schools or designee. The Board shall reserve the right to amend the agenda during the meeting, should a majority of the Board vote to do so.

School Board meetings shall be open to the public. For the purpose of this policy, a meeting shall mean the convening of a quorum of the membership of the Board to discuss or act upon a matter or matters over which the Board has supervision, control, jurisdiction or advisory power.

A simple majority of the Board physically present shall constitute a quorum. However, Board members unable to attend a meeting in person may communicate and be involved in the action of the Board meeting by means of telephone or electronic communication, or in any other manner such that all participating members are able to communicate with each other contemporaneously, *i.e., Skype or FaceTime.*

When requested and necessary, the Board will make a reasonable effort, using existing equipment, to provide a means by which members unable to be physically present can communicate and participate in the ongoing business of the meeting.

Consistent with RSA 91-A:3 and the laws pertaining to student and family privacy rights, the Board will not place any matter on the public meeting agenda that is to be properly discussed in a non-public session.

All public proceedings shall be open to the public. No vote, while in open session, may be taken by secret ballot. Any person shall be permitted to use recording devices including, but not limited to, tape recorders, cameras and videotape equipment at such meetings. The Ashland School Board asks that any persons desiring to record a meeting, or parts thereof, state their intent to do so at the beginning of the meeting.

Non-Public Sessions

The Board may hold non-public sessions, in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, when a majority of the members present vote to do so. Only the members of the Board or the persons invited shall be allowed to attend these sessions.

Special Board Meetings

Special meetings may be called at any time by the Chair of the Board, Superintendent of Schools, or by the action of a majority thereof. All such meetings shall be properly warned. Only business which is stated in the notice of meeting shall be transacted at the meeting.

Notification of Meeting

Except in an emergency, a notice of the time and place of a Board meeting shall be posted in two appropriate places or shall be printed in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town at least 24 hours, excluding Sundays and legal holidays, prior to such meeting.

In the event that an emergency meeting is to be held, the Chair of the Board shall use whatever means are available to inform the public that a meeting is to be held.

All citizens shall be encouraged by a variety of means to attend all budget hearings of the School Board meetings.

Legal References:

RSA 91-A, Access to Public Records and Meetings

RSA 91-A:3, Non-Public Sessions

N.H. Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 303.01(f), Substantive Duties of School Boards

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