
CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS

The Board of Directors (Board) is committed to complying with state open meeting laws and modeling transparency in its conduct of the non-profit corporation business. The Board shall hold closed sessions only for purposes authorized by law. A closed session may be held during a regular, special, or emergency meeting in accordance with law.

Each agenda shall contain a general description of each closed session item to be discussed at the meeting, as required by law.

The Board shall disclose in open session the items to be discussed in closed session. In the closed session, the Board may consider only those matters covered in its statement. After the closed session, the Board shall reconvene in open session before adjourning the meeting, and when applicable, shall disclose any action taken in the closed session, in the manner prescribed by Government Code 54957.1.

The Board shall not disclose any information that is protected by state or federal law. In addition, no victim or alleged victim of tortious sexual conduct or child abuse shall be identified in any Board agenda, notice, announcement, or report required by the Brown Act, unless the identity of the person has previously been publicly disclosed.

A Board member shall not disclose confidential information received in a closed session unless the Board authorizes the disclosure of that information.

Personnel Matters

The Board may hold a closed session under the "personnel exception" to consider the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, discipline, or dismissal of an employee. Such a closed session shall not include discussion or action on proposed compensation except for a reduction of compensation that results from the imposition of discipline.

The Board may also hold a closed session to hear complaints or charges brought against an employee by another person or employee, unless the employee requests an open session. Before the Board holds a closed session on specific complaints or charges brought against an employee, the employee shall receive written notice of his/her right to have the complaints or charges heard in open session if desired. This notice shall be delivered personally or by mail at least 24 hours before the time of the session.

The Board may hold a closed session to discuss the non-profit corporation employee's application for early withdrawal of funds in a deferred compensation plan when the application is based on financial hardship arising from an unforeseeable emergency due to illness, accident, casualty, or other extraordinary event, as specified in the deferred compensation plan.

Agenda items related to the non-profit corporation employee appointments and employment shall describe the position to be filled. Agenda items related to performance evaluations shall specify

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the title of the employee being reviewed. Agenda items related to employee discipline, dismissal, or release require no additional information.

Matters Related to Students

The Board shall meet in closed session to consider the expulsion of a student, unless the student submits a written request at least five days before the date of the hearing that the hearing be held in open session. Regardless of whether the expulsion hearing is conducted in open or closed session, the Board may meet in closed session for the purpose of deliberating and determining whether the student should be expelled.

The Board shall meet in closed session to address any student matter that may involve disclosure of confidential student information, or to consider a suspension, disciplinary action, or any other action against a student except expulsion. If a written request for an open session is received from the parent/guardian or adult student, it will be honored to the extent that it does not violate the privacy rights of any other student.

Agenda items related to student matters shall briefly describe the reason for the closed session, such as "student expulsion hearing" or "grade change appeal," without violating the confidentiality rights of individual students. The student shall not be named on the agenda, but a number may be assigned to the student in order to facilitate record keeping. The agenda shall also state that the Education Code requires closed sessions in these cases in order to prevent the disclosure of confidential student record information.

Security Matters

The Board may meet in closed session with the Governor, Attorney General, non-profit corporation attorney, non-profit corporation legal counsel, sheriff or chief of police, or their respective deputies, or a security consultant or a security operations manager, on matters posing a threat to the security of public buildings; to the security of essential public services, including water, drinking water, wastewater treatment, natural gas service, and electric service; or to the public's right of access to public services or public facilities.

The Board may meet in closed session during an emergency meeting held pursuant to Government Code 54956.5 to meet with law enforcement officials for the emergency purposes specified in Government Code 54957 if agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the Board members present. If less than two-thirds of the members are present, then the Board must agree by a unanimous vote of the members present.

Agenda items related to security matters shall specify the name of the law enforcement agency and the title of the officer, or name of applicable agency representative and title, with whom the Board will consult.

CLOSED SESSION PURPOSES AND AGENDAS**Conference with Real Property Negotiator**

The Board may meet in closed session with its real property negotiator prior to the purchase, sale, exchange, or lease of real property by or for the non-profit corporation in order to grant its negotiator authority regarding the price and terms of payment for the property.

Before holding the closed session, the Board shall hold an open and public session to identify its negotiator(s) and the property under negotiation and to specify the person(s) with whom the negotiator may negotiate.

For purposes of real property transactions, negotiators may include members of the Board.

Agenda items related to real property negotiations shall specify the non-profit corporation negotiator attending the closed session. If circumstances necessitate the absence of a specified negotiator, an agent or designee may participate in place of the absent negotiator as long as the name of the agent or designee is announced at an open session held prior to the closed session. The agenda shall also specify the name of the negotiating parties and the street address of the real property under negotiation. If there is no street address, the agenda item shall specify the parcel number or another unique reference of the property. The agenda item shall also specify whether instruction to the negotiator will concern price, terms of payment, or both.

Pending Litigation

Based on the advice of its legal counsel, the Board may hold a closed session to confer with or receive advice from its legal counsel regarding a pending litigation when a discussion of the matter in open session would prejudice the non-profit corporation's position in the litigation. For this purpose, "litigation" means any adjudicatory proceeding, including eminent domain, before a court, administrative body exercising its adjudicatory authority, hearing officer, or arbitrator.

Litigation is considered "pending" in any of the following circumstances:

1. Litigation to which the non-profit corporation is a "party" has been initiated formally.
2. A point has been reached where, in the Board's opinion based on the advice of its legal counsel regarding the "existing facts and circumstances," there is a "significant exposure to litigation" against the non-profit corporation, or the Board is meeting solely to determine whether, based on existing facts or circumstances, a closed session is authorized. Existing facts and circumstances for these purposes are limited to the following:
 - a. Facts and circumstances that might result in litigation against the non-profit corporation but which the non-profit corporation believes are not yet known to potential plaintiffs and which do not need to be disclosed.

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- b. Facts and circumstances including, but not limited to, an accident, disaster, incident, or transactional occurrence which might result in litigation against the non-profit corporation, which are already known to potential plaintiffs and which must be publicly disclosed before the closed session or specified on the agenda.
 - c. The receipt of a claim pursuant to the Tort Claims Act or a written threat of litigation from a potential plaintiff. The claim or written communication must be available for public inspection.
 - d. A threat of litigation made by a person in an open meeting on a specific matter within the responsibility of the Board.
 - e. A threat of litigation made by a person outside of an open meeting on a specific matter within the responsibility of the Board, provided that the non-profit corporation official or employee receiving knowledge of the threat made a record of the statement before the meeting and the record is available for public inspection. Such record does not need to identify an alleged victim of tortious sexual conduct or anyone making a threat on his/her behalf or identify an employee who is the alleged perpetrator of any unlawful or tortious conduct, unless the the identity of this person has been publicly disclosed.
3. Based on existing facts and circumstances, the Board has decided to initiate or is deciding whether to initiate litigation.

Before holding a closed session pursuant to the pending litigation exception, the Board shall state on the agenda or publicly announce the subdivision of Government Code 54956.9 under which the closed session is being held. If authority is based on Government Code 54956.9(a), the Board shall either state the title or specifically identify the litigation to be discussed or state that doing so would jeopardize the non-profit corporation's ability to effectuate service of process upon unserved parties or to conclude existing settlement negotiations to its advantage.

Agenda items related to pending litigation shall be described as a conference with legal counsel regarding either "existing litigation" or "anticipated litigation."

"Existing litigation" items shall identify the name of the case specified by either the claimant's name, names of parties, or case or claim number, unless the Board states that to identify the case would jeopardize service of process or existing settlement negotiations.

"Anticipated litigation" items shall state that there is significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9(b) and shall specify the potential number of cases. When the non-profit corporation expects to initiate a suit, items related to anticipated litigation shall state that the discussion relates to the initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9(c)

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and shall specify the potential number of cases. The agenda or an oral statement before the closed session may be required to provide additional information regarding existing facts and circumstances described in item #2 b-e above.

Review of Audit Report from California State Auditor's Office

Upon receipt of a confidential final draft audit report from the California State Auditor's Office, the Board may meet in closed session to discuss its response to that report. After public release of the report from the California State Auditor's Office, any Board meeting to discuss the report must be conducted in open session, unless exempted from that requirement by some other provision of law.

Closed session agenda items related to an audit by the California State Auditor's Office shall state "Audit by California State Auditor's Office."

Review of Assessment Instruments

The Board may meet in closed session to review the contents of any student assessment instrument approved or adopted for the statewide testing system. Before any such meeting, the Board shall agree by resolution to accept any terms or conditions established by the State Board of Education for this review.

Agenda items related to the review of student assessment instruments shall state that the Board is reviewing the contents of an assessment instrument approved or adopted for the statewide testing program and that Education Code 60617 authorizes a closed session for this purpose in order to maintain the confidentiality of the assessment under review.