

SALEM SCHOOL SYSTEM
Salem, Connecticut

BY LAWS OF THE BOARD

MEETING CONDUCT

All Board meetings shall commence at the stated time and shall be guided by an agenda, which has been prepared and delivered in advance to all Board members and other designated persons.

Meetings of the Board of Education shall be conducted by the Chairperson in a manner consistent with the bylaws of the Board.

The conduct of meetings shall, to the fullest extent, enable members of the Board to: 1) Consider problems to be solved, weight evidence related thereto and make wise decisions intended to solve the problems, and 2) Receive, consider and take any needed action with respect to reports of accomplishment both as to students and to school operations.

To encourage public participation in its proceedings, as well as to facilitate its own deliberations, the Board has established the following procedures:

1. Citizens will have an opportunity to speak during the Board meeting at a time set aside for public comment. The Chairperson will read Policy #9325.1 prior to the public comment section of the meeting.
2. Participation in Board discussion shall be normally limited to Board members, unless visitors are recognized by the Chairperson and permitted to comment.
3. No boisterous conduct shall be permitted at any Board meeting. Persistence in boisterous conduct shall be grounds for summary termination, by the Chair, of that person's privilege of address. If necessary, the Chairperson may clear the room so that Board members may continue the meeting.
4. No oral presentation shall include charges or complaints against any employee of the Board, regardless of whether or not the employee is identified in the presentation by name or by another reference which tends to identify an individual. All charges or complaints against employees shall be submitted to the Board under provision of Board policy.

The Board may adjourn any regular or special meeting to a specified time and place. If all members of the Board are absent, the clerk may adjourn the meeting. A copy of the notice of adjournment shall be immediately and conspicuously displayed near the meeting door.

Actions of the Board:

No action will be taken unless the subject acted upon is listed in the agenda for that meeting or has been added to the agenda in accordance with Policy #9323.

Action of the Board of Education is made by way of a motion and a second to the motion and is passed by a simple majority vote of the Board of Education, except in circumstances that require a 2/3 majority vote. (Refer to #9222.2, 9311, 9321, 9322). If less than a simple majority vote is made the motion fails.

The Board of Education shall not adopt resolutions except where such adoption is required by law, or where the intent of the Board is to publish a position of the Board, as in advising the General Assembly of the Board's position on a proposed law, or to commend staff members or other agencies for work well done.

All actions taken by the Board shall be identified clearly in minutes of the Board meeting as provided in Policy #9326.

(cf. 1120 – Board of Education Meetings Regarding Public Participation)
(cf. 1312 – Public Complaints)
(cf. 9311 Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Policies and By Laws)
(cf. 9321 – Time, Place and Notification of Meetings)
(cf. 9322 – Public and Executive Sessions)
(cf. 9222.2 – Removal of Officers)
(cf. 9323 – Agenda)
(cf. 9326 – Minutes)
(cf. 9325.1 – Public Comment)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes: 1-18a Definitions. 1-21 Meetings of government agencies to be public. 1-21a Recording, broadcasting or photographing meetings. 1-21g Executive sessions. 1-21h Conduct of meetings. 1-21i Denial of access to public records or meetings. 10-224 Duties of the secretary.

1st Reading: March 26, 1996
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