

DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Board of Education recognizes that district advisory committees provide a valuable method whereby the public and educators can better understand the attitudes and opinions which are held in the school-community environment.

The Board, or the Superintendent with the Board's approval, may appoint district advisory committees to advise the Board on school problems, needs and issues from a balanced, logical, and analytic perspective, as the need arises. The attainment of excellence through equity will further focus the work of the district advisory committees. It is not the intention that advisory committees become policy-making bodies or that they manage or direct staff. Committees are advisory in nature only; that is, they inform, suggest, and recommend to the Board of Education.

All meetings of Board appointed committees shall be held as open meetings in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, also known as the Open Meeting Act of the State of California. It is the intent of the Board of Education that each District Advisory Committee shall exercise reasonable effort to schedule one to two meetings in Malibu each school year. Board appointed Ad Hoc Advisory Committees and Oversight Committees shall establish meeting schedules that best meet the requirements of their respective charges.

District Advisory Committees shall be appointed for a specific purpose under the umbrella of excellence through equity. The Board of Education will review the goals/charges of the committees on an annual basis. Annually, an Assessment/Evaluation form will be distributed to District Advisory Committees for their review and input regarding the committee charges and their yearly accomplishments. When a committee has fulfilled or completed its purpose/charge, it may be given a new or revised charge or it may be dissolved. The Board seeks to be collaborative in determining committee charges.

The Board shall have the sole power to dissolve any of its advisory committees and shall reserve the right to exercise this power at any time during the life of any committees.

Residents of the district attendance area, parents and/or guardians of children currently enrolled in its schools, school employees, and experts/professionals shall be eligible for membership and participation, a prerequisite being solely an unselfish interest in public schools, the community and every child.

Every effort shall be made to select committee members from both Santa Monica and Malibu in a manner which ensures that the committee represents a cross section of qualified people throughout the district. A reasonable balance of males and females, socio-economic status, ethnic representation and geographic location shall be sought in the composition of each committee. It is crucial that the district seek, with diligence, robust parent and/or guardian representation on each committee.

A district administrator, director or above in title, will serve as the ex-officio co-chairperson of each district advisory committee.

Membership recruitment will be ongoing throughout the year. Applications for appointment to advisory committees may be submitted at any time during the year.

The Superintendent is authorized on behalf of the Board of Education to accept letters of resignation from individual committee members.

Guiding Principles and Responsibilities

The Board of Education recognizes that its primary responsibility, and that of its committees, is to act in the best interests of every student in the district. To maximize committee effectiveness and public confidence in committee proceedings, committee members are expected to act and deliberate responsibly and hold themselves to the highest standards of ethical conduct. Each individual committee member shall:

1. Keep excellence through equity as the primary focus
2. Recognize and respect differences of perspective and style on the committee and among staff, students, parents and/or guardians and the community
3. Conduct him/herself in a dignified and professional manner, treating everyone with civility and respect

When a conflict of interest is possible, a committee member shall abstain from the discussion and the vote.

REFERENCE

EDUCATION CODE

8070 Vocational education advisory committee

11503 Parent involvement program

35147 School site councils and advisory committees

35172 Promotional activities

44032 Travel expense payment

44033 Automobile allowances

52012 School site council

52065 American Indian advisory committee

52176 Advisory committees (LEP program)

52208 Parent participation (GATE)

52852 Site council, school-based program coordination

54425 Advisory committees; compensatory education

54444.1-54444.2 Services to migrant children; parent advisory councils

54724 Site council, motivation and maintenance program

56190-56194 Community advisory committee, special education

62002.5 Continuing parent advisory committees; schools receiving funds from economic impact aid or bilingual education act

GOVERNMENT CODE

820.9 Members of local public boards not vicariously liable

54950-54962 Meetings

Policy SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: January 4, 1989

revised: March 10, 1994; October 15, 1998; September 17, 1998; May 14, 1998;

January 5, 2006; March 18, 2010; November 17, 2016