

BEDB- AGENDA PREPARATION AND DISSEMINATION

The Superintendent shall prepare all agendas for meetings of the Board. In doing so, the Superintendent shall consult with the Board Chairperson.

Items to be placed on the agenda should be received by the Superintendent at least seven days prior to the meeting. Every Board member has the right to place items on the agenda. Matters not included in the agenda may be presented during the meeting provided the Board agrees to discuss the matter. The Board may choose not to deal with every agenda item.

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. This shall not preclude the Board from giving notice of its intent to hold or enter into a non-public session and the statutory reason for doing such.

Any Board member, staff member, student, or citizen of the District may suggest items of business. The inclusion of items suggested by staff members, students, or citizens shall be at the discretion of the Board Chairperson.

The Board shall follow the order of business set up by the agenda unless the order is altered by a majority vote of the members present. Items of business not on the agenda may be discussed and acted upon if a majority of the Board agrees to consider them. The Board, however, may not revise Board policies, or adopt new ones, unless such action has been scheduled, or unless there is an emergency.

The agenda and supporting materials should be distributed to Board members at least four days prior to the Board meeting. Board Members shall be expected to read the information provided them and to contact the Superintendent to request additional information that may be deemed necessary to assist them in their decision-making responsibilities.

When the final agenda has been established, it will be made available to the public, upon request. Members of the public who wish to speak at Board meetings regarding an agenda item are encouraged to contact the Superintendent prior to the Board meeting. Additionally, the Board reserves the right to limit public discussion at Board meetings to agenda items only.

Supporting materials sent with the agenda are subject to disclosure by the Right-to-Know law. Therefore, both the agenda and the supporting materials may be reviewed by the public prior to the meeting. Any supporting materials that contain confidential information, which is exempt from disclosure and where the Board has a legal duty to maintain the confidentiality of the information, shall be clearly marked as confidential. Board members shall not disclose any materials marked as confidential or otherwise exempt from disclosure under the Right-to-Know law.

Notices of meeting shall be consistently posted on the District's web site in a reasonably accessible location.

Statutory/Regulatory/Policy/Handbook/Cross References

RSA 91-A:3 Title IX

Handbook (none)

APPROVED: July 17, 2018, updated, October 20, 2016, revised December 21, 2017

PREVIOUS POLICY: April 26, 1982, “Agenda Preparation”

NHSBA note, September 2017: This policy is revised to include the requirement imposed by House Bill 170, Laws of 2017, Chapter 234 that Districts either consistently post meeting notices on the District web site in a reasonably accessible location or maintain a notice on the web site advising where the meeting notices are posted. It also clarifies that agenda materials sent out in advance of a meeting are subject to disclosure under the Right-to-Know law. Generally, because these materials are readily available, they must be immediately disclosed and may be inspected by the public before the meeting at which the Board will consider the related agenda items. However, specific materials for specific agenda items may be exempt from disclosure under the Right-to-Know law. This revision also specifies that any such confidential/exempt from disclosure materials must be clearly marked as such and that School Board members must avoid disclosing those materials. This policy revision is in response to concerns raised when a Board had agenda item materials disclosed and publicly discussed before the Board’s meeting and the Board’s first consideration of the item.