

BOARD MEMBER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Board places a high priority on the importance of a planned and continuing program of in-service education for its members. The central purpose of the program is to enhance the quality and effectiveness of public school governance in our community. The Board shall attempt to plan specific in-service activities designed to assist Board members in their efforts to improve their skills as members of a policy-making body; to expand their knowledge about trends, issues, and new ideas affecting the continued welfare of our local schools; and to deepen their insights into the nature of leadership in a modern democratic society.

Funds shall be budgeted annually to support the program. The public shall be kept informed through the news media about the Board's continuing in-service education and about the programs anticipated for short and long-range benefits to our schools.

The Board regards the following as examples of activities and services appropriate for implementing this policy:

1. Participation in School Board Association conferences, workshops, and conventions.
2. District-sponsored training sessions for Board members.
3. Subscriptions to publication addressed to the concerns of Board members.

In order to control both the investment of time and funds necessary to implement this policy, the board establishes these principles and procedures:

1. A calendar of school board conferences, conventions, and workshops shall be maintained by the superintendent. The board will periodically decide which meetings appear to be most promising in terms of producing direct and indirect benefits to the school district.
2. Funds for participating at such meetings will be budgeted on an annual basis. When funds are limited, the board will designate which of its members would be the most appropriate to participate at a given meeting.
3. Board members shall be reimbursed their expenses in attending approved development opportunities.
4. When a conference, convention, or workshop is not attended by the full Board, those who do participate will be requested to share information, recommendations, and materials acquired at the meeting.

School board members are encouraged to attend workshops presented by the state and national school boards associations.

First Reading:	September 11, 2001
Second Reading:	September 25, 2001
Adopted:	September 25, 2001