Bylaw 9012: Board Member Electronic Communications

Status: PENDING

Original Adopted Date: N/A **| First Reading:** 11/12/2026 **|**

The Governing Board recognizes that electronic communication is an efficient and convenient way for Board members to communicate and expedite the exchange of information with each other, district staff, and members of the public. Board members shall exercise caution to ensure compliance with the Brown Act, the Public Records Act, and other applicable laws.

A majority of the Board shall not, outside of an authorized meeting, use a series of electronic communications of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. (Government Code 54952.2)

Examples of permissible electronic communications concerning district business include, but are not limited to, dissemination of Board meeting agendas and agenda packets, reports of activities from the Superintendent, and reminders regarding meeting times, dates, and places.

Board members may engage in separate conversations or communications with members of the public on a social media platform to answer questions, provide information, or solicit information regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board as long as a majority of the Board does not use the platform to discuss among themselves any business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Additionally, Board members are prohibited from using digital icons, such as "likes" or "emojis," that express reactions to communications made by other Board members regarding matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. (Government Code 54952.2)

Board members shall make every effort to ensure that their electronic communications conform to Board Bylaw 9010 - Public Statements and shall forward any complaints or requests for information to the Superintendent in accordance with applicable Board bylaws.

To the extent possible, electronic communications regarding any district-related business shall be transmitted through a district-provided device or account. When any such communication is transmitted through a Board member's personal device or account, the Board member shall copy the communication to a district electronic storage device for easy retrieval.

This Bylaw does not apply to Board member electronic communications not related to district business or not conducted by a Board member in the Board member's official capacity.

proposed

Policy Reference Disclaimer:
These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the Governing Board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
Ed. Code 35140	Time and place of meetings
Ed. Code 35145	Public meetings
Ed. Code 35145.5	Agenda; public participation and regulations
Ed. Code 35147	Open meeting laws exceptions
Gov. Code 11135	Prohibition of discrimination
Gov. Code 54950-54963	The Ralph M. Brown Act
Gov. Code 54952.2	Meeting; defined
Gov. Code 54953	Meetings to be open and public; attendance
Gov. Code 54954.2	Agenda posting requirements; board actions
Gov. Code 7920.000-7930.215	California Public Records Act

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