

SECTION: LOCAL BOARD PROCEDURES

TITLE: MEETINGS

ADOPTED: August 13, 2012

REVISED:

SOUTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

<p><i>Replaces former policy 020</i></p>	<p>006. MEETINGS</p>
<p>SC 407 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq</p>	<p><u>Parliamentary Authority</u></p> <p>All Board meetings shall be conducted in an orderly and business-like manner. Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern the Board in its deliberations in all cases in which it is not inconsistent with law, state regulations or Board procedures.</p>
<p>SC 422</p>	<p><u>Quorum</u></p> <p>A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Board. No business shall be transacted at a meeting without a quorum, but the Board members present at such a meeting may adjourn to another time.</p>
<p>SC 405, 426, 427, 428</p>	<p><u>Presiding Officer</u></p> <p>The President shall preside at all Board meetings. In the absence, disability or disqualification of the President, the Vice-President shall act instead. If neither person is present, a Board member shall be elected President pro tempore by a plurality of those present to preside at that meeting only.</p>
<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709</p>	<p><u>Notice</u></p> <p>Notice of all public Board meetings, including committee meetings and work sessions, shall be given by publication of the date, place, and time of such meetings in the newspaper(s) of general circulation designated by the Board and posting of such notice at the administrative offices of the Board.</p>
<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709</p>	<p>a. Notice of regular meetings shall be given by publication and posting of a schedule showing the date, place and time of all regular meetings for the at least three (3) days prior to the time of the first regular meeting.</p>
<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709</p>	<p>b. Notice of all special meetings shall be given by publication and posting of notice at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of the meeting, except that such notice shall be waived when a special meeting is called to deal with an actual emergency involving a clear and present danger to life or property.</p>

<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709</p>	<p>c. Notice of all rescheduled meetings shall be given by publication and posting of notice at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of the meeting.</p>
<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703</p>	<p>d. Notice of all recessed or reconvened meetings shall be given by posting a notice of the place, date and time of the meeting and sending copies of such notice to interested parties.</p>
<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 709</p>	<p>e. Notice of all public meetings shall be given to any newspaper(s) circulating in Lehigh County and any radio or television station which so requests. Notice of all public meetings shall be given to any individual who so requests and provides a stamped, addressed envelope for such notification.</p> <p>f. Notice of all public meetings shall be posted on the district website.</p>
<p>SC 423 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 709</p>	<p>Notice of all rescheduled meetings and special meetings shall be given to Board members no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of the meeting.</p>
<p>SC 421 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq</p>	<p><u>Regular Meetings</u></p> <p>Regular Board meetings shall be public and shall be held at specified places at least once every two (2) months.</p> <p>a. Agenda</p> <p>It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent, in cooperation with the Board President to prepare an agenda of the items of business to come before the Board at each regular meeting.</p> <p>The agenda, together with all relevant reports, shall be provided each Board member at least three (3) days before the meeting.</p> <p>b. Order of Business</p> <p>The order of business for regular meetings shall be as follows, unless altered by the President or a majority of those present and voting:</p> <p>Opening procedures Approval of minutes Student/staff activities Presentations Consent agenda (approval of bills, bids, employee leaves, appointments) Business and finance Special reports Other business</p>

	<p>Communications Adjournment</p> <p><u>Special Meetings</u></p> <p>SC 423, 426 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq</p> <p>Special meetings may be called for special or general purposes and shall be public except when conducted as an executive session for purposes authorized by the Sunshine Act.</p> <p>SC 426</p> <p>The President may call a special meeting at any time, and shall call a special meeting upon presentation of the written requests of three (3) Board members. Upon the President's failure or refusal to call a special meeting, such meeting may be called at any time by a majority of the Board members.</p> <p>SC 423</p> <p>No business shall be transacted at any special meeting except that named in the call sent to members for such special meeting.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u></p> <p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq</p> <p>District residents present at a Board meeting may address the Board in accordance with law and Board procedures and policy.</p> <p>Visitor's comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes in length.</p> <p><u>Voting</u></p> <p>All motions shall require for adoption a majority vote of those Board members present and voting, except as provided by statute or Board procedures.</p> <p>All votes on motions and resolutions shall be by voice vote unless an oral roll call vote is requested by the President or another Board member.</p> <p>a. The following actions require the recorded affirmative votes of two-thirds of the full number of Board members:</p> <p>SC 609, 687</p> <p>1. Transfer of budgeted funds.</p> <p>SC 687</p> <p>2. Incur a temporary debt to meet an emergency or catastrophe.</p> <p>SC 324</p> <p>3. Elect to a teaching position a person who has served as a Board member and who has resigned.</p> <p>SC 707</p> <p>4. Convey land or buildings to the municipality co-terminus with the school district in accordance with law.</p>
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SC 803	5. Adopt or change textbooks without the recommendation of the Superintendent.
SC 1129	6. Dismiss, after a hearing, a tenured professional employee. b. The following actions require the recorded affirmative votes of a majority of the full number of Board members:
SC 508	1. Fixing the length of school term.
SC 508 Pol. 108	2. Adopting textbooks recommended by the Superintendent.
SC 508, 1071, 1076	3. Appointing the district Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent(s).
SC 508	4. Appointing teachers and principals.
SC 508	5. Adopting the annual budget.
SC 508	6. Appointing tax collectors and other appointees.
SC 508	7. Levying and assessing taxes.
SC 508	8. Purchasing, selling, or condemning land.
SC 508	9. Locating new buildings or changing the location of old ones.
SC 508 Pol. 107	10. Adopting planned instruction.
SC 508	11. Establishing additional schools or departments.
SC 508, 621	12. Designating depositories for school funds. 13. Expending district funds.
SC 508	14. Entering into contracts of any kind, including contracts for the purchase of fuel or any supplies where the amount involved exceeds \$100 (including items subject to bid requirements).
SC 508	15. Fixing salaries or compensation of officers, teachers, or other appointees of the Board.
SC 224	16. Combining or reorganizing into a larger school district.

SC 508	17. Entering into contracts with and making appropriations to the intermediate unit for the district's proportionate share of the cost of services provided or to be provided by the intermediate unit.
SC 508, 514, 1080	18. Dismissing, after a hearing, a nontenured employee.
SC 212	19. Adopting a corporate seal for the district.
SC 702	20. Determining the location and amount of any real estate required by the school district for school purposes.
SC 708	21. Vacating and abandoning property to which the Board has title.
SC 1503	22. Determining the holidays, other than those provided by statute, to be observed by special exercises and those on which the schools shall be closed for the whole day.
	23. Removing a school director, officer of the Board or appointee of the Board.
	24. Declaring that a vacancy exists on the Board by reason of the failure or neglect of a school director to qualify.
	25. Adopting, amending or repealing Board procedures and policy.
	<u>Minutes</u>
SC 518 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 706	The Board shall cause to be made, and shall retain as a permanent record of the district, minutes of all open Board meetings. Said minutes shall be comprehensible and complete and shall show:
	a. Date, place, and time of the meeting.
	b. Names of Board members present.
	c. Presiding officer.
	d. Substance of all official actions.
	e. Actions taken.
65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 705	f. Recorded votes and a record by individual members of all roll call votes taken.
	g. Names of all residents who appeared officially and the subject of their testimony.

SC 407	The Board Secretary shall provide each Board member with a copy of the minutes of the last meeting prior to the next regular meeting.
SC 433	The minutes of Board meetings shall be approved at the next succeeding meeting and signed by the Board Secretary.
SC 407 Pol. 801	Notations and any tape or audiovisual recordings shall not be the official record of a public Board meeting.
65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709	<p><u>Recess/Reconvene</u></p> <p>The Board may at any time recess or reconvene to a reconvened meeting at a specified date and place, upon the majority vote of those present. The reconvened meeting shall immediately take up its business at the point in the agenda where the motion to recess was acted upon. Notice of the reconvened meeting shall be given as provided in Board policy.</p> <p>If a meeting goes beyond two and one half (2 ½) hours, the Board President may recess the meeting until the next scheduled meeting.</p>
65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 707, 708	<p><u>Executive Session</u></p> <p>The Board may hold an executive session, which is not an open meeting, before; during; at the conclusion of a public meeting; or at some other time. The presiding officer shall announce the reason for holding the executive session; the announcement can be made at the public meeting prior to or after the executive session.</p> <p>The Board may discuss the following matters in executive session:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Employment issues. b. Labor relations. c. Purchase or lease of real estate. d. Consultation with an attorney or other professional advisor regarding potential litigation or identifiable complaints that may lead to litigation. e. Matters that must be conducted in private to protect a lawful privilege or confidentiality. <p>Official actions based on discussions held in executive session shall be taken at a public meeting.</p>

<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq Pol. 006</p>	<p><u>Work Sessions</u></p> <p>The Board may meet as a Committee of the Whole in a public meeting to vote on or to discuss issues. Public notice of such meetings shall be made in accordance with Board procedures.</p> <p>A meeting of the Committee of the Whole, not regularly scheduled, may be called at any time by the President; the President shall call such a meeting when requested to do so by Board members. Public notice of the meeting shall be made in accordance with Board procedures.</p>
<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709</p>	<p>The Board Secretary shall provide notice of a meeting of the Committee of the Whole in accordance with Board procedures.</p>
<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 703, 709</p>	<p><u>Committee Meetings</u></p> <p>Standing committee meetings may be called at any time by the committee chairperson, with proper public notice.</p> <p>A majority of the total membership of a committee shall constitute a quorum.</p>
<p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq</p>	<p>Unless held as an executive session, standing committee meetings shall be open to the public, other Board members, and the Superintendent.</p> <p>A majority of the committee or the chairperson may invite Board employees, consultants or other persons who have special knowledge of an area under discussion.</p> <p>NOTES:</p> <p>Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, including group rules</p> <p>School Code section 687 only requires a majority vote of the Board to transfer unencumbered balances during the last nine (9) months of the fiscal year. See Shoemaker v. Greencastle-Antrim 403 A.2d 1018 (Pa Commw).</p> <p>Executive sessions held during an open meeting have no required time limits; Act 175 of 1974 contained a time limit of thirty (30) minutes, but the Sunshine Act was amended by Act 84 of 1986 and no longer has a time limitation; recommend removing this language from policy.</p>