

Policy Information

Series 1000 - By-Laws

Orientation of New Board Members and Board Member Attendance at Conferences, Conventions and Workshops

Policy # 1520, 5.2

POLICY

1995 1520

By-Laws

SUBJECT: ORIENTATION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS AND WORKSHOPS

New Board of Education members shall receive an orientation in order that they may attain knowledge of the conditions and problems facing the school system and the available personnel and resources for meeting them. The purpose of the orientation shall be to give the new members information basic to the rapid learning of duties and responsibilities of the Board of Education so they will have some basis for making judgements in the formation of their opinions.

Orientation shall be provided through:

- a. Studying the Board Policy Manual;
- b. Attending the New York State School Boards Association conference for new board members;
- c. Participating in similar type workshops held in conjunction with neighboring BOCES;
- d. Meeting with the Board President and the District Superintendent.

In keeping with the stated position on the need for continuing inservice training and development for its members, the Board encourages the participation of all members at appropriate conferences, workshops and conventions. However, in order to control both the investment of time and funds, necessary to implement this policy, the Board establishes the following principles:

- a. Board conferences, conventions, and workshops provide an opportunity for Board Members to keep informed of current developments in education, thus a calendar shall be maintained by the Board Clerk. The Board will periodically decide which meetings appear to be most promising in terms of producing direct and indirect benefits to the BOCES.
- b. National conventions, such as National School Boards, will normally have only one representative of the Board in attendance. When more than one member desires to attend, an attempt will be made to rotate the designation of delegates each year so that the maximum number of members will have an opportunity to attend.
- c. Funds for participation at such meetings will be budgeted for 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.

- d. No compensation shall be paid any Board members for their services. Reimbursement to Board members for their travel expenses (lodging, meals, travel) will be in accordance with the regulations established by the Board for travel reimbursements and shall be approved in advance by the Board. (Ref: Policy #5211) Mileage for use of personal vehicles shall be reimbursed at the same rate paid to staff members. In all cases, records and receipts shall be kept and properly filled vouchers presented prior to payment. Members traveling for the Board shall take action to keep expenses limited. Measures such as coach class travel or group rates for travel and accommodations will be taken advantage of, whenever available and feasible.
- e. When a conference, convention or workshop is not attended by the full Board, those who do participate may be requested to share information, recommendations, and materials acquired at the meeting.
- f. Attendance at conferences must be approved by the District Superintendent.

General Municipal Law Section 77-b
Education Law Section 2118

Board Approved
7/18/95

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