

Section B: School Board Operations	Knox County Board of Education Policy		
	Descriptor Term:	Descriptor Code:	Issued:
	Board Member	B-120	7/95
	Development Opportunities	Reviewed:	Revised:
		10/18	7/11

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Board member development is an ongoing process for all Board members and a vital responsibility for effective Board membership. The Board shall participate in activities designed to assist Board members in improving their skills as members of a policy-making body.

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

1. A calendar of School Board conferences, conventions and workshops shall be maintained by the Board secretary and provided to each Board member. The Board will regularly identify which meetings should be attended and the benefits which would be derived from participation in such meetings;
2. Funds for participation at such meetings shall be budgeted on an annual basis. The Board as a whole shall retain the authority to approve or disapprove the participation of members in planned activities;
3. Reimbursement to Board members for their travel expenses shall be in accord with the travel expense policy for staff members;¹
4. When a conference, convention or workshop is not attended by the full Board, those participating will be requested to share information, recommendations and materials acquired at the meeting; and
5. The public shall be kept informed through the Board of Education webpage and the news media about the Board’s continuing in-service education and about the programs anticipated for short- and long-range benefits to the schools.

The Board regards participation in local, state and national conferences provided by professional associations and subscription to publications addressing Board related concerns as appropriate types of activities and services under this policy.

It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Schools to provide to each new Board member a copy of the Board’s Policy Manual and other appropriate materials which will acquaint new members with the operation of the school system and Board service.

The Board Chair and the Director of Schools shall arrange an orientation for new Board members which shall be conducted no later than thirty (30) days after new Board members take office.

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Legal Reference:

1. TCA § 49-2-2001.
2. TCA § 49-2-2001.