

## **Limits of Board Member Authority**

The Yolo County Board of Education (“County Board”) recognizes that it has authority only as unit and that a County Board member has no individual authority. County Board members shall hold the education of students above any partisan principle, group interest, or personal interest.

Unless agreed to by the County Board as a whole, individual members of the County Board shall not exercise any authority with respect to any matter within the jurisdiction of the County Board. In appropriate circumstances individual County Board members may independently submit requests for information to the secretary of the County Board.

A County Board member is elected to represent the residents of the trustee area that elects them. The collective County Board should act in the best interests of the community at large.

Individual County Board members do not have the authority to resolve complaints. Any County Board member approached directly by a person with a complaint should refer the complainant to the Yolo County Superintendent of Schools (“Superintendent”) or designee so that the problem may receive proper consideration and be handled through the appropriate process. For the purpose of requesting information, County Board members shall also refer County Board-related correspondence to the president and the secretary of the County Board for dissemination to the rest of the County Board or placement on the agenda, as appropriate.

A County Board member whose child is attending a school within the jurisdiction of the Yolo County Office of Education (“YCOE”) should be aware of his/her role as a County Board member when interacting with YCOE employees about his/her child. The County Board member should inform the Superintendent before volunteering in his/her child's classroom.

### Legal Reference:

Education Code, 200-262.4, 1040-1042, 35160-35160.2, 51101

Government Code, 54950-54962

### Management Resources:

CSBA Publications, Professional Governance Standards for County Boards, October 2014

California County Boards of Education Publications County Board Member Handbook: A Guide to Effective Governance, 2015

### Websites

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California County Boards of Education: <http://www.theccbe.org>

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