EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

The Board of Education reserves the right, within the constraints of State Law, to meet in executive session. Such sessions can be requested by any member of the Board or the Superintendent of Schools.

In most cases, only the Board and the Superintendent will be present; however, the President may invite person(s) other than Board members to attend an executive session if in his/her judgment such person(s) may furnish special information on the topic to be discussed, unless objected to by the majority of the Board. The Board may permit staff and other persons whose presence is deemed necessary or appropriate to attend an executive session or any part thereof.

Upon a majority vote of its members, the Board may convene in executive session to discuss the subjects enumerated below. Matters which may be considered in executive session are:

- 1. matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed;
- 2. any matter which may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer;
- 3. information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense which would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed;
- 4. discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation;
- 5. collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law);
- 6. medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation;
- 7. the preparation, grading or administration of examinations; and
- 8. the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof; and,

Matters which may only be considered in executive session are:

9. discussions concerning probable cause to bring disciplinary charges against an employee.

The vote to go into executive session shall be detailed enough to allow the public to understand the topic the Board will be discussing, without disclosing specifics. Discussion in executive session shall be limited to the topic(s) identified in the motion.

Formal action or vote on matters enumerated in paragraph 9 above may only be taken by the Board during an executive session. No formal action or vote may be taken on any other matter. The Board shall reconvene in open session to take final action on other matters discussed, and to adjourn the meeting.

Individual Board members, acting on their own, shall not disclose matters discussed in executive session. However, the Board, acting as a whole, may decide to disclose such information where disclosure is not prohibited under the law.

Minutes of executive sessions will reflect all actions and votes taken by the Board in executive session without personally identifying employees or students affected thereby. The name of the person who called for the executive session will also appear in the minutes of the public meeting.

<u>Cross-ref:</u> 2160, Code of Ethics

Ref: Education Law §1708 (3)

Public Officers Law §§100 et seq.

Application of the Board of Education, 57 EDR Dec. No. 17,147 (2017)

Application of Nett and Raby, 45 EDR 259 (2005)

Formal Opinion of Counsel No. 239, 16 EDR 457 (1976)

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