

Remuneration, Reimbursement And Other Benefits

Compensation

The members of the Governing Board view their Board service as a voluntary contribution to the community and elect not to receive the compensation to which they are entitled pursuant to Education Code 35120.

Reimbursement of Expenses

Board members shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred when performing authorized services for the district. Expenses for travel, telephone, business meals, or other authorized purposes shall be in accordance with policies established for district personnel and at the same rate of reimbursement.

(cf. 1160 - Political Processes)

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

(cf. 3350 - Travel Expenses)

(cf. 3513.1 - Cellular Phone Reimbursement)

Board members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred when performing services directed by the Board. (Education Code 35044)

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

Authorized purposes may include, but are not limited to, attendance at educational seminars or conferences designed to improve Board members' skills and knowledge; participation in regional, state, or national organizations whose activities affect the district's interests; attendance at district or community events; and meetings with state or federal officials on issues of community concern.

Personal expenses shall be the responsibility of individual Board members. Personal expenses include, but are not limited to, the personal portion of any trip, tips or gratuities, alcohol, entertainment, laundry, expenses of any family member who is accompanying the Board member on district-related business, personal use of an automobile, and personal losses and traffic violation fees incurred while on district business.

Any questions regarding the propriety of a particular type of expense should be resolved by the Superintendent or designee before the expense is incurred.

Board members may use district-issued credit cards while on official district business and consistent with the limits established for district personnel. Personal expenses shall not be charged on a district-issued credit card, even if the Board member intends to subsequently reimburse the district for the personal charges.

Health and Welfare Benefits for Current Board Members

Board members may participate in the health and welfare benefits program provided for district employees.

(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)

Health and welfare benefits for Board members shall be no greater than that received by the district's nonsafety employees with the most generous schedule of benefits. (Government Code 53208.5)

OPTION 1: The district shall pay the premiums required for Board members electing to participate in the district health and welfare benefits program to the same extent that it pays for district employees.

OPTION 2: Board members who elect to participate shall pay the full cost of premiums.

OPTION 3: The district shall pay \$_____ as a reimbursement for costs of approved health plans that have been paid by Board members.

Health and welfare benefits provided to Board members shall be extended at the same level to their spouse/registered domestic partner and to their eligible dependent children as specified in law and the health plan.

Health and Welfare Benefits for Former Board Members

Former Board members may participate in the health and welfare benefits program provided for district employees under the conditions specified below.

Health and welfare benefits for former Board members shall be no greater than those received by district nonsafety employees with the most generous schedule of benefits. (Government Code 53208.5)

OPTION 1: (Benefits paid by district)

The district shall pay the premiums for health and welfare benefits of any former Board member who served in office after January 1, 1981, began his/her term before January 1, 1995, and has served for 12 or more years. (Government Code 53201)

Any other former Board member who served at least one term may participate in the health and welfare benefits program at his/her own expense if coverage is in effect at the time he/she leaves office. (Government Code 53201)

OPTION 2: (Benefits paid by former Board member)

Any former Board member leaving the Board after at least one term of office may participate in

the health and welfare benefits program at his/her own expense if coverage is in effect at the time of retirement. (Government Code 53201)

Health and welfare benefits provided to a former Board member shall be extended, at his/her expense and at the same level, to his/her spouse/registered domestic partner and eligible dependent children as specified in law and the health plan.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 33050-33053 General waiver authority*
- 33362-33363 Reimbursement of expenses for attendance at workshops*
- 35012 Board members; number, election and term*
- 35044 Payment of traveling expenses of representatives of board*
- 35120 Compensation for services as member of governing board*
- 35172 Promotional activities*
- 44038 Cash deposits for transportation purchased on credit*

FAMILY CODE

- 297-297.5 Rights, protections and benefits under law; registered domestic partners*

GOVERNMENT CODE

- 8314 Use of public resources*
- 20322 Elective officers; election to become member*
- 20420-20445 Membership in Public Employees' Retirement System; definition of safety employees*
- 53200-53209 Group insurance*
- 54952.3 Simultaneous or serial meetings; announcement of compensation*

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

- 1373 Health services plan, coverage for dependent children*

INSURANCE CODE

- 10277-10278 Group and individual health insurance, coverage for dependent children*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 26

- 403 Tax-sheltered annuities*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

- 18011 Right to maintain existing health coverage*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 26

- 1.403(b)-2 Tax-sheltered annuities, definition of employee*

COURT DECISIONS

- Thorning v. Hollister School District, (1992) 11 Cal.App.4th 1598*
- Board of Education of the Palo Alto Unified School District v. Superior Court of Santa Clara County, (1979) 93 Cal.App.3d 578*

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

- 91 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 37 (2008)*
- 83 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 124 (2000)*

Management Resources:

INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

- Sample Expense and Use of Public Resources Policy Statement, January 2006*

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE PUBLICATIONS

Tax-Sheltered Annuity Plans (403(b) Plans) for Employees of Public Schools and Certain Tax-Exempt Organizations, Publication 571, rev. February 2013

WEB SITES

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

Institute for Local Government: <http://www.ca-ilg.org>

Internal Revenue Service: <http://www.irs.gov>

Public Employees' Retirement System: <http://www.calpers.ca.gov>

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