

### **Call to Order**

Darrin Dillinger called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the high school board room #335. Board members present were Larry Cyrus, Lisa Wolfe, Amanda Lacey, Darrin Dillinger, Lynn Doelle, and Michael Ayala. Nathan Brandt was absent. Troy White was also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Mission statement was read by Darrin Dillinger.

Darrin Dillinger attested to the publication of the meeting.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Lisa Wolfe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Amanda Lacey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Connection with the community**

- **District celebrations and recognitions**  
The list that was included in the board packet was read.

### **Reports and discussion Items**

- **WASB State Education Convention**  
Board members Amanda Lacey, Lisa Wolfe, Michael Ayala, and Larry Cyrus along with Superintendent Troy White attended the convention. They attended sessions on mental health, finance, school safety, early literacy, policy and resolution, AI, and social media.
- **WASB Day at the Capitol**  
The Board discussed the format. They need to inform the superintendent if they wish to attend this event.
- **Referendum**  
Brochures are being drafted and will be mailed to the community. Public information meetings are going to be held on February 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 in the HS library. Community members are invited to ask questions and tour the building.
- **Defeasance**  
Mr. White explained the defeasance process. The resolution will be brought to the February 19<sup>th</sup> board meeting for a vote.
- **Budget development process**  
The budget development process used by the district was discussed. A recommendation for approval will be brought to the February 19<sup>th</sup> regular Board meeting.
- **Staffing**
  - **School nurse**  
Candidates were interviewed and an offer was made to Therese Schaffner. The Board will need to approve the hiring at the next meeting.
  - **Custodian**  
Trista Putnam, who is currently a contracted worker through Arnolds Supply, will be hired as a district employee when her Arnold's contract is completed.
  - **Physical Education teacher**  
Mr. Wilhelmi plans to retire at the end of the current school year. The Board will need to approve his retirement at the next board meeting.
- **Policy Review**
  - **141 Board Officers**  
Specific officer duties were added to each position. The policy will need to be approved by the Board.
  - **170 Regular and Special Meetings**  
An edit was made to policy 170. This policy will need to be approved by the Board.

- **411 Student Nondiscrimination-Equal Opportunities**
  - **411-EXHIBIT 1 Pupil Nondiscrimination Notice**
  - **411-EXHIBIT 2 Discrimination Complaint Form**
  - **411 Rule Student Discrimination Complaint Procedure**
  - **411.1 Anti-Bullying and Anti-Harassment Students**
  - **411.1 Exhibit Reporting of Bullying or Harassment Form**
  - **411.1 Rule 1 Reporting Bullying Harassment Students, Parents and Non-Employees**
  - **411.1 Rule 2 Reporting Bullying Harassment of Students Expectations and Procedures for District Employees**
  - **411.1 Rule 3 Responding to and Investigating Reports of Possible Bullying or Harassment Involving Students**
  - **411.1 Rule 4 Board Guidelines for Bullying and Harassment Procedures**
- The 411 policies were discussed. The superintendent recommends no changes to these policies at this time. Amanda Lacey suggested the exhibits be more easily accessible on the district website.

**Future Agenda Items**

- 3K/4K registration event
- Voice of democracy award invite

**Review Timelines and Items for Future Board Agendas and Meetings.**

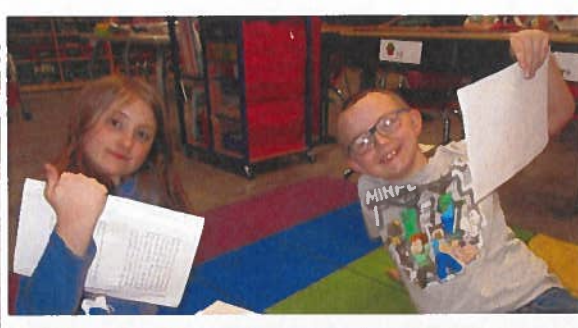
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>February 19, 2025</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 3, 2025</b>	<b>Committee Meeting</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>March 19, 2025</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>

**Adjourn**

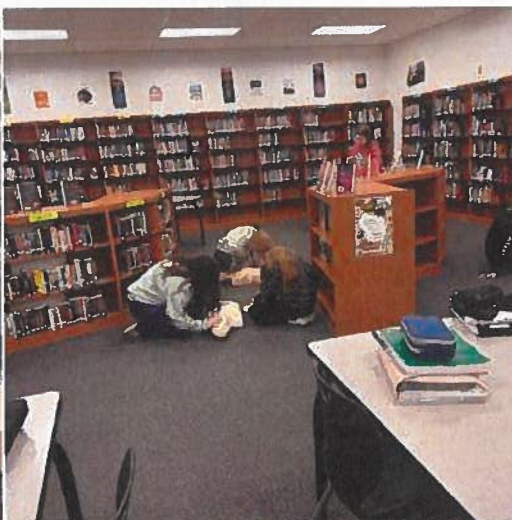
Amanda Lacey made a motion to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. Michael Ayala seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**District solo and ensemble:** Amanda I, Abby K, Corbyn W, Wyatt W, Lindsey A, Ella A, Kaden B, and Aubri B all performed a solo or duet and received judges feedback for their work in singing or playing an instrument. We have 3 students moving on to State Solo and Ensemble this year! Abby K, Amanda I, and Corbyn W.

The **second graders** are soaring with Rocket Math! Students team up to practice their math facts. One takes on the role of 'teacher,' while the other becomes the 'student.' Together, they recite problems and answers, checking for accuracy and learning from mistakes. It's all about teamwork, practice, and mastering those facts.



**Mrs. Fischer's Health Class** gained life-saving skills through hands-on CPR practice with dummies and AEDs, guided by Mrs. Hoffmaster! Empowering our students to be prepared and make a difference!





## In the News

**2024 VFW Voice of Democracy Speech Contest:** A prestigious scholarship program that challenges students to think critically and share their patriotic and democratic ideals. This year's prompt, "Is America today our forefathers' vision?", inspired 155 local entries, with the top 10 advancing to District 9. VFW Post 10406 generously awarded \$1,550 in scholarships to the top six essays.

Congratulations to:

1st Place: Corbyn W. - \$500      2nd Place: Mya S. - \$400      3rd Place: Joette W. - \$300  
4th Place: Jack W. - \$200      5th Place: Ava G. - \$100      6th Place: Layla S. - \$50

Additional congratulations to Avery M. (7th), Maeva N. (8th), Amanda I. (9th), and Samantha A. (10th) for advancing to the District level! Essays selected at the District level could go on to compete at the State and National level!

Pictured left to right:  
Corbyn W., Mya S.,  
Joette W., Jack W., Ava  
G., Layla S., Avery M.,  
Maeva N., Amanda I.,  
Samantha A.



Jan Schaffner (right) accepts the 2024 Buffalo County 4-H Alumni of the Year Award from Annie Lisowski, Buffalo County 4-H Educator.

-Contributed photo

### Schaffner named 2024 4-H Alumni of the Year Award recipient

The 2024 4-H Alumni of the Year Award was presented to Jan Schaffner at the Buffalo County 4-H Leader's Association meeting on Sunday, Jan. 19.

Schaffner has assisted the Buffalo County 4-H

Leader's Association with the completion of 990-N tax forms. She has also donated her time coordinating the annual Buffalo County Safety Day event. Thank you, Jan, for continuing the 4-H legacy!

### C-FC bloodmobile set for Feb. 19

The American Red Cross encourages donors to give blood or platelets now to help protect the blood supply from the ongoing impact of severe winter weather and wildfires. Donors of all blood types—particularly type O negative blood donors and those giving platelets—are needed to help save lives this month.

As dangerous snow and ice continue to sweep across the country, and wildfires in Southern California continue to burn and impact air quality, Red Cross blood drive cancellations have grown into

the hundreds. Collectively, this has resulted in more than 12,000 uncollected blood and platelet donations in January.

Additional winter storms struck last week—including in areas of the U.S. that do not typically experience significant snowfall—which could further strain the blood supply. Additionally, hazardous weather conditions have the potential to make it tougher to move vital blood products across the Red Cross network, possibly affecting deliveries to hospitals in some locations. As National Blood

Donor Month continues, the time to give is now.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities in the local area include a bloodmobile in Fountain City on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at Cochrane-Fountain City High School (S2770 State Hwy. 35) from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Donors are asked to book a time to give blood or platelets by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).







# C-FC boys remain unbeaten in conference play

by Coach Jesse Cyrus

The Cochrane-Fountain City boys basketball team continued its undefeated romp through the Dairyland Conference, moving to 12-0 following last week's win at Eleva-Strum.

In their lone game of the week, the Pirates traveled to B-S on Thursday, Jan. 23, for another conference match up.

The Pirates got out to an early lead and pulled away for a victory by a score of 91-37.

Leading the way on the

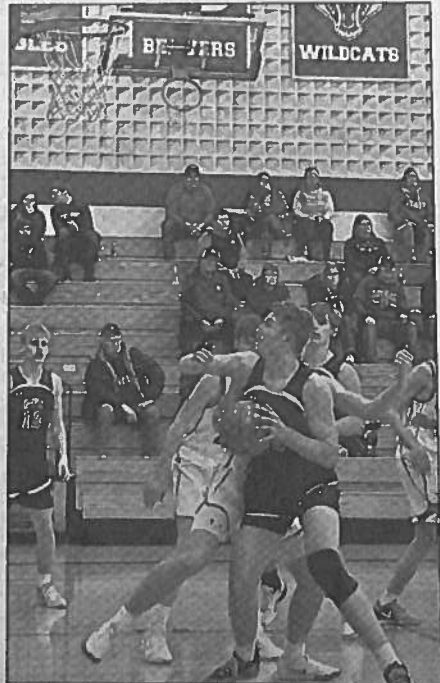
scoreboard for the Pirates were Cameron Lipinski with 26 points, Porter Ehrat with 24 and Reed Schmidtknecht finished with 13.

The victory improved the Pirate's record to 12-1 overall and 12-0 in conference play.

The Pirates have a busy schedule this week, hosting Colfax on Monday, Jan. 27, Blair-Taylor on Tuesday, Jan. 28, and rounding out the week with road trips to Whitehall on Friday and a road trip to Plum City on Saturday to take on Elmwood/Plum City.



Aiden Lisowski takes a jumper in game action at Eleva-Strum last week.



C-FC's Tucker Bambenek looks to make a move to the basket in the low post.

-Contributed photos

# C-FC boys bball continues to see success

by Coach Jesse Cyrus

The Cochrane-Fountain City boys basketball team took on "I love basketball week" this past week with three games, including two conference foes.

On Tuesday, Jan. 14, the Pirates hosted Alma Center Lincoln to round out the Dairyland Conference match-ups for the first go around. The back and forth contest went from tip to final buzzer as the Pirates held on for a 51-47 victory.

The Pirates were led by Cameron Lipinski with 13 points, Porter Ehrat with 10 and Tucker Bambenek also added 10 points on the night.

On Thursday, Jan. 16, the Pirates traveled to Arcadia for their first non-conference match-up of the season.

The Raiders' hot shooting would prove too much for the Pirates on the night as the Pirates would fall by a final score of 66-54.

The Pirates were again led

on the scoreboard by Lipinski with 16 points and Ehrat added 13 points on the night.

The following night, the Pirates would host Pepin/Alma for the start of the second cycle through the Dairyland Conference match-ups.

The Pirates would respond following their first loss of the season with a 77-55 victory over the Eagles.

Ehrat led the way with 24 points followed by Lipinski with 20 points and Aiden Lisowski topped out the leading scorers with 14 points on the night.

The three game week would bump the Pirates' record to 11-1 overall and 11-0 in the Dairyland.

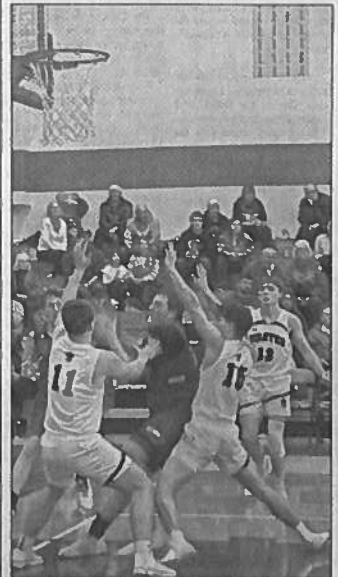
This week the Pirates were scheduled for a non-conference match-up with Elmwood Plum City at Plum City on Monday and will round out the week with another conference match up, traveling to Eleva-Strum on Thursday, Jan. 23.



Porter Ehrat finds a route to the rim for an easy layup.



C-FC's Cameron Lipinski goes above the rim for a bucket as the Pirates took on Alma/Pepin on Friday night.



Aiden Lisowski (11) and Lucas Skroch (18) double-team Alma/Pepin's Breckin Hullopeter.

-Contributed photos

## 2025 Defeasance

Debt levies and resulting funds that are available from October 2024 = \$955,350.

- Levied for 3/1/2025 debt payment of \$528,887.50.
- Levied for 9/1/2025 debt payment of \$26,462.50.
- Levied \$400,000 to defease debt.

The district has an additional \$150,000 in cash from last year's debt levy to apply.

The total amount available for debt is \$1,105,350.

- \$555,350 to pay debt payments on the 2018A Notes of 3/1/2025 and 9/1/2025.
- \$550,000 to defease debt.

The recommendation is to defease a portion of the 2028 maturities of the 2018A Promissory Note

Calendar Year	Existing Debt Schedule \$7,000,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2018A After 2022 & 2023 Defeasances				Defease Portion of 2028 Maturity		Remaining Series 2018A Debt Post 2025 Defeasance Debt Schedule Estimates		
	Principal	Rate	Interest	Total P & I	Defeased Principal	Defeased Interest	Principal	Interest	Total P & I
2025	\$495,000	3.00%	\$60,350	\$555,350	-	-	\$495,000	\$60,350	\$555,350
2026	\$510,000	3.00%	\$45,275	\$555,275	-	\$18,725	\$510,000	\$26,550	\$536,550
2027	\$530,000	3.50%	\$28,350	\$558,350	-	\$18,725	\$530,000	\$9,625	\$539,625
2028	\$545,000	3.50%	\$9,538	\$554,538	\$535,000	\$9,363	\$10,000	\$175	\$10,175
					Savings	\$30,132			

Book	School Board Policies
Section	100 Series: Board of Education
Title	Board Officers
Code	141
Status	Active
Adopted	April 18, 2018
Last Revised	April 24, 2024

The School Board shall elect a President, Vice President, Clerk, and Treasurer from among its members to serve as officers of the Board.

**Election and Term of Office.** Board officers shall be elected by the Board annually at an organizational meeting of the Board that is held on or within 30 days after the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in April.

Secret ballots may be used to conduct the voting for the election of Board officers. Unless the Board proceeds in a different order of selection (pursuant to a specific motion or without any objection being raised by an individual Board member), the officers will normally be elected in the following order: President, Vice President, Clerk, and Treasurer. Voting for any of the officers will include all Board members including those nominated and shall continue, at the same meeting or at a timely subsequent meeting, until a successor to the current officer is elected by a majority vote.

A Board member may accept or refuse a nomination for an office at the time nominations are taken; failure to refuse a nomination constitutes acceptance. A Board member elected as an officer is deemed to have accepted the appointment and the duties of the position.

Provided that the officer remains a member of the Board, and unless the Board expressly specifies otherwise in the process of electing its officers, the regular term of a Board officer normally lasts from the date of his/her election until the date that the Board elects a successor.

**Vacancies in Board Officer Positions.** In the event of a vacancy in a Board officer position, the Board shall fill the vacancy by majority vote, and the person selected shall normally serve in the position until the subsequent election of a successor at an annual organizational meeting, as outlined above. When a vacancy in a Board officer position arises because the former officer is no longer a Board member, the Board fills the vacancy in the officer position independently of filling any vacancy on the Board itself.

**Temporary Disability or Absence.** The Vice President shall automatically carry out the duties and responsibilities of the President in the event of the President's temporary absence or temporary inability to serve in his/her capacity as President. If any other Board officer is temporarily unable to discharge the duties of the office due to disability or absence, the Board may make a temporary appointment in a manner consistent with applicable state law.

**Removal of Board Officers.** The removal of any Board officer from his/her position as an officer prior to the Board's election of a successor via the annual organizational process shall be handled in accordance with the requirements of state law.

**Duties, Powers, and Limited Delegation.** Each Board officer is responsible for ensuring the performance of such duties as are assigned to the position by state law. Each officer shall also be responsible for the performance of any duties, and may exercise such discretionary powers, as the Board assigns to the officer.

**Duties of the President** – The President shall:

1. Prepare the agenda for all regular and special Board meetings, in consultation with the District Administrator.
2. Ensure that public notice is given for all meetings of the Board.
3. Preside at all Board meetings and see that the minutes are properly recorded and approved.
4. Countersign all checks and other orders for the disbursement of District funds.
5. Defend the District from actions brought against it and prosecute actions brought by the District.
6. Serve as spokesperson for the Board.
7. Appoint standing Board committees and any other committees as determined necessary by the Board.
8. Vote on matters before the Board just as any other Board member.
9. Perform such other duties as required by law or assigned by the Board.

**Duties of the Vice President** – The Vice President shall:

1. Carry out the duties and responsibilities of the President in his/her absence, including presiding at regular or special Board meetings.
2. Perform such other duties as assigned by the Board.



**Duties of the Clerk** – The Clerk shall:

1. Be responsible for recording the proceedings of school district and school board meetings and entering them, together with copies of all reports to municipal clerks, in the District's official records, in coordination with the District Administrator.
2. Carry out school board election duties as required by law, in coordination with the District Administrator.
3. Administer the oath of office to newly elected and appointed Board members.
4. Report the name and address of all Board members to the clerk and treasurer of each municipality in which the District is located within 10 days of their election or appointment, in coordination with the District Administrator.
5. Sign checks in payment of lawfully incurred and properly approved expenditures as required by law.
6. Furnish each teacher with a copy of his/her contract with the Board, in coordination with the District Administrator.
7. Annually on or before November 10, deliver to the clerk of each municipality within the District a certified statement of the amount of taxes to be collected, in coordination with the District Administrator.
8. File a timely and verified annual school district report with the Department of Public Instruction, in coordination with the District Administrator.
9. Perform such other duties as required by law or assigned by the Board.

**Duties of the Treasurer** – The Treasurer shall:

1. Receive and deposit promptly in the officially designated District depository(ies) all monies paid to the District, and keep a record of the receipt of such monies, in coordination with the District Administrator.
2. Provide for the disbursement of District funds in accordance with state law, in coordination with the District Administrator.
3. See that a monthly report is submitted to the Board reflecting the current balance in District funds and receipts for the preceding month, in coordination with the District Administrator.
4. Present to the annual meeting a written statement of all money received and disbursed by the treasurer during the preceding year, in coordination with the District Administrator.
5. Sign checks in payment of lawfully incurred and properly approved expenditures as required by law.
6. Make arrangements to sue for all monies due the District.
7. Perform such other duties as required by law or assigned by the Board.

To the extent consistent with applicable law, the Board authorizes the Board officers to delegate the actual performance of delegable duties to District Office employees. The individual officer shall coordinate all such delegation of the performance of specific actions through the District Administrator. In the event the officer and the District Administrator are unable to resolve to their mutual satisfaction any concerns about such delegated actions, the officer or the District Administrator shall arrange for the Board to consider and attempt to resolve the concerns. Board officers should be aware that the delegation of the performance of a legal duty does not transfer all legal responsibility and liability to the delegee.

~~For purposes of illustration applicable to the Clerk, delegable duties related to elections include the ministerial duties of accepting elections related filings and petitions, accepting elections materials provided by municipal clerks, preparing and issuing mandatory election notices, and mailing finance reporting forms to registrants.~~

**Legal Reference**

**Wisconsin Statutes**

<u>Section 17.13</u>	[removal of officers]
<u>Section 19.88(2)</u>	[election of officers by secret ballot]
<u>Section 120.05</u>	[election of board officers in common and union high school districts; temporary absence or disability of an officer]
<u>Section 120.06</u>	[partial identification of clerk duties related to school board elections]
<u>Section 120.15</u>	[partial list of board president duties]
<u>Section 120.16</u>	[partial list of board treasurer duties]
<u>Section 120.17</u>	[partial list of board clerk duties]
<u>Section 120.43(1)</u>	[election of board officers in unified school districts]
<u>Section 120.44(2)</u>	[powers and duties of board officers in unified school districts]
<u>Section 990.001(9)</u>	[acts by agents]

**Cross References:**

**Adoption Date:**

## **Regular and Special Board Meetings Policy 170**

### **Regular School Board Meetings**

A regular Board meeting is any Board meeting that is scheduled (or rescheduled) by a formal action of the Board, including any vote that directs the holding of a Board meeting and any vote that adopts a policy or schedule that directs the holding of one or more Board meetings.

Except as otherwise determined or modified by the Board, and except that no regular meeting shall be deemed scheduled by this paragraph on a legal holiday on which the District's administrative offices are also closed, the Board will hold regular meeting(s) at least once a month as follows: pursuant to an annual schedule of meetings approve by the Board.

### **Special School Board Meetings**

A special Board meeting is a meeting initiated by an individual Board member or the District Administrator as provided by state law and this paragraph. A special meeting shall be held upon the request of the District Administrator or the written request of any Board member. The request shall be filed with the Board President or in the President's absence, the Vice-President. Such a request may be filed directly with such officer or at the Office of the District Administrator with a copy provided to such officer. The individual requesting the meeting is responsible for confirming that the request has been received as intended. The Board officer receiving the written request, or his/her designee, shall ensure that every member of the Board receives written notice of the time and place of any special meeting at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. The written notice may be delivered personally to the Board member, delivered to the Board member's usual residence, e-mailed to the Board member at his or her District-provided e-mail address, or mailed by 1st class mail to the Board member at his/her usual residence in time to arrive at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. However, the requirement of providing each Board member with advance, written notice of a special meeting does not apply and is deemed waived if each Board member consents to holding the special meeting by either:

1. Personally attending the special meeting and consenting; or
2. Providing written consent even though the Board member does not personally attend the special meeting.

### **Provisions Applicable to All Board Meetings**

All Board meetings shall be preceded by appropriate notice, in accordance with state law requirements. To the extent consistent with applicable law, a majority of the Board's members constitutes a minimum quorum at any regular or special school board meeting. In the absence of a lawful quorum, the Board may not take any official action other than to end the meeting (unless, in a very rare circumstance, a valid legal exception applies).

No duly elected or appointed member of the Board shall be excluded from any meeting of the Board.

The Board President, or, in the President's absence, the Vice President, shall serve as the presiding officer of each Board meeting. Every Board meeting shall initially be convened in open session, although the Board may thereafter convene and hold a closed session to the extent permitted by law and consistent with applicable legal requirements.

The Board President and Clerk shall ensure that minutes of each Board meeting are recorded, approved, **signed**, and filed in the Board records. The proceedings of each Board meeting shall be published, publicized, or posted, per the requirements of section 120.11(4) of the state statutes, within 45 days after the meeting

The Board, with the assistance of the District business office, shall ensure that a detailed record of applicable receipts and expenditures is available for public inspection at Board meetings to the extent required by law.

### **Recordings of Meetings**

According to [section 19.90](#) of the state statutes, the school board must make a reasonable effort to accommodate any person desiring to record, film, or photograph an open session of a school board meeting so long as such activity does not interfere with the progress of the meeting or the rights of the participants.

The Board may utilize recordings of open session meetings for the accuracy of the meeting minutes. If the Board uses a recording of a public meeting, the Board may post the recording to the district website.



## Legal References:

### Wisconsin Statutes

<u>Section 19.81(2)</u>	[public access to meetings]
<u>Section 19.83</u>	[governmental meetings; periods of public comment]
<u>Section 19.84</u>	[public notice of board meetings and scheduling of public comment periods]
<u>Section 19.85</u>	[closed session exceptions to meeting in open session; closed session procedures]
<u>Section 19.89</u>	[exclusion of members of a governmental body]
<u>Section 120.11(1)</u>	[regular board meetings and definition of quorum for meetings in common and union high school districts] <i>{Editor's Note: This reference does <u>not</u> apply to unified school districts.}</i>
<u>Section 120.11(2)</u>	[special board meetings in common and union high school districts; includes board member notification requirements for special meetings] <i>{Editor's Note: This reference does <u>not</u> apply to unified school districts.}</i>
<u>Section 120.11(4)</u>	[proceedings of school board meetings; financial records]
<u>Section 120.43</u>	[board meetings in unified school districts] <i>{Editor's Note: This reference applies <u>only</u> to unified school districts.}</i>
<u>Section 985.01</u>	[definitions of "proceedings" and "substance" of official action]
<u>Section 990.001(8m)</u>	[general statutory construction of a quorum of a public body]
<u>Section 995.20</u>	[legal holidays]

### Cross References:

Former Policy OP-2.

**Adoption Date:**