

School Board**Telephone Conferencing**

Any member or members of the Board of Education, or all members of the Board where appropriate, may participate by telephone conference call in a regular or special meeting of the Board, including any closed session conducted therein, subject to the following:

1. The absent board member(s) may participate in the meeting by telephone conference call only when circumstances prevent the board member(s) from attending the meeting in person;
2. The absent board member(s) may participate in the meeting by telephone conference call only if the meeting place is sufficiently equipped to allow the telephone call to be broadcast over a speaker phone or other similar device capable of allowing the absent board member(s) to hear, and be heard by, the remaining board members and members of the public present at such meeting, and to participate fully in such meeting;
3. The absent board member(s) may participate in the closed session portion of a meeting by telephone conference call only if the location of the closed session is sufficiently equipped to allow the telephone call to be broadcast over a speaker phone or other similar device capable of allowing the absent board member(s) to hear, and be heard by, the remaining board members and other persons present during the closed session portion of the meeting. Any final action taken by telephone conference call in open session following the closed session portion of the meeting will be broadcast by speaker phone or other similar device capable of allowing the absent member(s) to hear, and be heard by, the remaining board members and members of the public present at such meeting;
4. Any board member(s) who participates in a meeting by telephone conference call will be permitted to consider, discuss, and vote upon any matter properly before the Board in the same fashion and with the same effect as if such member(s) were physically present at the meeting;
5. Any member(s) of the Board who participates in a Board meeting by telephone conference call pursuant to this policy will count toward the number of members necessary to constitute a quorum at such meeting.
6. Any meeting in which a board member participates by telephone conference call will be scheduled, noticed and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois School Code, and the provisions of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

The minutes of any regular or special meeting of the Board of Education in which any member of the Board participates by telephone conference call, and the minutes of any closed session conducted therein, will reflect the fact that such member participated by telephone conference call and was not physically present during such meeting.

LEGAL REF.: Illinois School Code, Section 10-12 (105 ILCS 5/10-12);
 Illinois School Code, Section 10-16 (105 ILCS 5/10-16);
 Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/1 *et seq.*);
 Freedom Oil Co. v. Pollution Control Bd., 655 N.E.2d 1184, 211 Ill.Dec.
 801 (4th Dist. 1995); and
 Illinois Atty. General Opinion No. 124 (1982 Ill.Atty.Gen.Op. 124).

CROSS REF.: 270.07

Adopted: 12/13/00