

Dickson County Dickson County Board of Education of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in August	Descriptor Term: <h2 style="text-align: center;">School Board Meetings</h2>	Descriptor Code: <h3 style="text-align: center;">1.400</h3>	Issued Date: <h3 style="text-align: center;">09/28/23</h3>
		Rescinds: <h3 style="text-align: center;">1.400</h3>	Issued: <h3 style="text-align: center;">04/22/21</h3>

1 The Board will transact all business at official meetings which may be either regular or special.

2 Every meeting of the Board, except with the attorney to discuss pending or threatened litigation,
 3 appeals of DHA decisions, negotiation strategy sessions, and school safety plans, will be open to the
 4 public.¹ Open meetings will be physically accessible to all students, employees, and interested
 5 citizens.²

6 The Board may choose to restrict the presence of electronics or encourage the sharing of information
 7 resources, such as video footage or equipment, in the interests of conducting efficient and orderly
 8 public meetings.³

9 **REGULAR MEETINGS**

10 Regular meetings of the Board shall be held on the fourth Thursday of each month.

11 In instances when any regular meeting date falls on a legal holiday, or other circumstances that may
 12 necessitate change, the meeting shall be rescheduled by the chair.

13 **SPECIAL MEETINGS**

14 The Board shall hold such special meetings as necessary to transact the business of the Board. Such
 15 meetings shall be called by the chair whenever, in the chair's judgment, the interests of the schools
 16 require it, or when requested to do so by a majority of the Board.⁴

17 Only business related to the call of the meeting, and details related to agenda items shall be discussed
 18 or transacted by the Board at a special meeting.

19 **ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE⁵**

20 Absent board members may attend a regular or special meetings by electronic means for certain
 21 qualifying reasons. The following requirements apply to all electronic attendance, regardless of the
 22 reason for the absence:

- 23 1. A quorum of the Board shall be physically present at the meeting in order for the board member to
 24 attend electronically;
- 25 2. Any board member wishing to participate electronically shall do so using technology that allows
 26 the Chair to visually identify the board member; and

1 3. The responsibility for the connection lies with the board member wishing to participate
2 electronically. No more than three (3) attempts to connect shall be made unless the Board chooses
3 to make additional attempts.

4 *Work-Related Absence*

5 A board member may attend a meeting by electric means if out of county due to work; however, he/she
6 may only participate electronically two (2) times per year for this reason. The board members shall
7 give the Chair and Director of Schools at least five (5) days' notice prior to the meeting of the board
8 member's intention to participate electronically.

9 *Sickness or Period of Convalescence*

10 A board member may attend a meeting by electronic means if sick or in a period of convalescence on
11 the advice of a healthcare professional; however, he/she may only participate electronically three (3)
12 times per year for this reason.

13 *Inclement Weather or Natural Disaster*

14 A board member may attend a meeting by electronic means due to inclement weather or natural
15 disaster if the schools in the school district are closed; however he/she may only participate
16 electronically three (3) times per year for this reason.

17 *Family Emergency*

18 A board member may attend a meeting by electronic means if there is a family emergency that
19 prevents him/her from attending in person. The absence shall be due to the hospitalization of eh board
20 member or the death or hospitalization of the member's spouse, father, mother, son, daughter, brother,
21 sister, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, step daughter, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-
22 law, or sister-in-law. The board member may only participate electronically two (2) times per year for
23 this reason.

24 *Military Service*

25 A board member may attend a meeting by electronic means if out of the county due to military service.
26 The board member may participate electronically as often as he/she is able to do so.

¹ TCA 8-44-102

² 28CFR § 36.201(a);36.202

³ OP Tenn Atty. Gen. 95-126 (Dec.28,1995)

⁴ TCA 49-2-202(c)(1)

⁵ TCA 49-2-203(c); Public Acts of 2023, Chapter No. 350