

The Importance of Attending Board of Education Meetings

Attending Board of Education meetings where you work makes your association stronger. Board meetings are your opportunity to see your Board at work –making decisions that set the course for your district. They are also an opportunity for the Board to see the association advocating for members and students. ***Your presence shows that you are paying attention.***

You are welcome at all Board meetings.

Attending does not threaten your job. Members not only may attend, but you also may speak during the public comment portion of the meeting.

Going to a Board meeting for the first time? When you arrive, pick up a copy of the agenda and find a seat. Follow along and take notes. The more meetings you go to, the more you will learn.

The information that comes out of Board meetings is necessary for processing grievances, preparing for negotiations, and organizing the community.

Sometimes it is important for your association to attend meetings together to demonstrate unity. If negotiations are contentious, or an important issue is being discussed, a strong showing by members sends a message of unity to the Board.



Boards of Education are tasked with:

- ➔ Educating students.
- ➔ Providing for the safety and welfare of students.
- ➔ Employing the superintendent.
- ➔ Developing and adopting school district policies, curriculum, and budget.
- ➔ Adopting collective bargaining agreements.
- ➔ Determining matters relating to school employees and contractors.
- ➔ Controlling the expenditure and receipt of school funds.

Board of Education meetings are conducted according to the provisions of New Jersey's Open Public Meetings Act.

Remember, your voice is important on issues that impact the Board and the school district.

➔ Learn more at njea.org/messageboard by searching for "BOE."

Questions? Reach out to your NJEA UniServ field representative.