

**WINSLOW PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
25 MESSALONSKEE AVE.  
WATERVILLE, ME 04901**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Recognizing the value of continuous and life-long learning, the Winslow School Board places a high priority on the development of its members' "boardsmanship" skills and on supporting opportunities for in-service education. The purpose of School Board development is to enhance the quality of education in Winslow and the effectiveness of school unit governance.

School Board members need to be well-informed and to expand their knowledge of trends and issues affecting education and school governance. In addition, School Board members need to develop and reinforce the skills required for effective policy-making, budget planning and communications.

School Board members are encouraged to participate in district-sponsored training sessions and/or workshops and in School Board or related conferences, seminars, workshops and conventions sponsored by the Maine School Boards Association, the Maine School Management Association, the National School Boards Association and other recognized leaders in education. School Board members are also encouraged to be active in leadership opportunities that may be available within regional, state and national associations.

Adequate funds should be budgeted annually to support School Board member development, including participation at meetings, subscriptions to publications that address the concerns of School Board members and memberships in school boards associations.

Upon School Board approval and within budgetary limitations, reimbursement for travel and necessary expenses will be provided to individual members for activities related to School Board development. The School Board, on a case-by-case basis, will determine the number of School Board members authorized to attend specific meetings, conferences, conventions or other events at the Winslow School Department's expense, as warranted by budgetary limitations. School Board members may use their own discretion regarding attendance at meetings, conferences, conventions or other events where reimbursement will not be provided by the Winslow School Department.

At a School Board meeting subsequent to attendance at an educational event, members should report briefly to the School Board and to the public to share knowledge gained and thoughts on implications for local school governance. School Board members should also study and share with the School Board and

Superintendent materials of interest they have collected. Finally, School Board members are encouraged to submit reports or articles to school and community publications, as appropriate, as part of the school unit's public relations or public information program.

**ADOPTED:** May 21, 2003

**REAFFIRMATION:** January 27, 2014

**SOURCE:** Board Policy