

MEDFORD AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

DATE ADOPTED: June 24, 2019

**FILE SECTOR: BOARD GOVERNANCE &
OPERATIONS**

DATE REVISED: November 29, 2021

**POLICY TITLE: REMOTE PARTICIPATION
IN BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS**

Medford Area Public School District Board of Education (BOE) expects all individual board members to be physically present at all BOE meetings. The BOE recognizes, however, this is not always possible and special circumstances may prevent a BOE member from being physically present at a meeting.

The BOE will permit an individual member to participate in open session meetings from a remote location via technology based on this criteria:

- The remote participating member will be counted in the quorum requirement for the meeting and will be counted as attending the meeting.
- The remote participating member will be permitted to participate in discussion on items of business, and make and vote upon motions with a roll call vote.
- A member may not attend remotely in any closed session meeting or closed session portion(s) of any BOE meeting, any individual student disciplinary proceeding or in any disciplinary or nonrenewal proceedings involving individual employees.
- The remote participating member cannot participate in votes coming out of a closed session discussion.

Additional criteria requirements include:

- The district administrator will work with appropriate staff to identify an appropriate mode of technology that enables reliable two-way communication and make every effort to provide meeting materials and that satisfies the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law requirements regarding public notice and public accessibility of meetings.
- No BOE meeting may be delayed, cancelled or rescheduled solely to accommodate a member's request to exercise the privilege of remote participation. If the technology used to enable remote participation is not functioning to facilitate appropriate participation and/or there is any uncertainty regarding compliance with the Open Meetings Law, the BOE may terminate the privilege of remote participation provided there is a physical quorum, the meeting(s) in question may continue without the participation of the member(s) who are not physically present.
- When the number of individual members wishing to exercise the privilege of remote participation in any meeting exceeds the capacity of the technology that is used to facilitate remote participation, then no BOE member shall avail themselves of the privilege of remote participation for that meeting unless one or more members withdraw their request and the number of pending requests is once again within the capacity of the technology being used.

To lessen the risk that a technical limitation or technology-related problem may prevent otherwise-authorized remote participation in a BOE meeting, an individual member who wishes to exercise the privilege of remote participation in any meeting shall inform the district administrator and presiding officer of the meeting as far in advance as possible of their desire to attempt remote participation.

CROSS REFERENCE: BD, BDC, BDDF & BDDH

LEGAL REFERENCE: 19.81 et seq., 19.83, 19.84, 19.85, 19.86, 19.88, & 120.11