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PATERSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Board Member Participation at Board
Meetings Using Electronic Device

0155.1 BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS USING ELECTRONIC DEVICE

The Board of Education recognizes a Board member may be unable to attend a Board Meeting due to a medical condition where the Board member is prohibited from leaving their home due to the medical condition or due to a commitment requiring the Board member to be out-of-State during the time of the Board Meeting. In order to assist these Board members during these circumstances, the Board of Education will permit the Board member to participate in the Board Meeting through the use of an electronic device(s).

In the event a Board member has a medical condition that prohibits their attendance at a Board Meeting or a commitment that requires the Board member to be out-of-State during a Board Meeting, the Board member must have their participation in a Board Meeting using an electronic device pre-approved by the Board of Education at a Board Meeting prior to their anticipated absence. The Board member must submit a written request to the Board President indicating the date of the Board Meeting and the reason for the anticipated absence. The written request may include supporting documentation. The written request must be submitted at least five business days before the Board Meeting prior to the Board meeting the Board member is seeking participation through the use of an electronic device. The Board President will present the request to the Board and all requests must be approved by a majority of the full membership of the Board.

In the event the Board approves a request, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall make arrangements to have the appropriate electronic equipment available at the site of the Board Meeting that will permit the Board member to listen to all aspects of the public meeting to include, but not limited to, Board member and administrative comments and deliberations, public comments, and presentations. The Board member



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participating via electronic equipment shall be provided, either in advance of the meeting or electronically just prior to or during the meeting, all handouts and supporting documentation that is presented, deliberated and voted on during the meeting. In addition, the electronic equipment must permit the Board President to recognize the Board member to make comments, ask questions, vote, and fully participate in the Board Meeting as if the Board member was present at the meeting. And, the Board member's comments, questions, votes and other aspects of his/her participation shall be amplified for all those in attendance at the meeting can hear his/her participation.

The Board member requesting participation in a Board Meeting through the use of an electronic device shall participate in the entire Board public meeting under the conditions outlined in this Policy and cannot participate in selected portions of the public meeting.

Adopted: 21 October 2020

