

FERNDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 502  
BOARD POLICY

No. 1840

ORIENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS AND CANDIDATES

The school board considers it important that a new member be knowledgeable about school governance and operations, and, insofar as possible, prepared to discuss and cast informed votes on matters before the board. The board president and superintendent shall provide pertinent information to new members such as WSSDA Boardsmanship, etc.

Additionally, the board directs the superintendent to cooperate impartially with all candidates in providing them with information about school governance, board operations and school programs. This cooperation, for example, may include:

1. Notification of public meetings of the board, with the agenda provided;
2. Meeting with a candidate(s) to provide background information on the school system and school board service and/or arranging such other candidate orientation sessions as the candidate(s) may reasonably request;
3. Providing each candidate with information published by the Washington State School Directors' Association on the powers and duties of boards and other association materials germane to board service; and
4. Making arrangements for the candidate to review the current policies of the board, administrative regulations and other publications of the school system.

The board and its staff shall seek to be impartial as they cooperate in the orientation of prospective board candidates. It expects the candidates to recognize that until and unless elected or appointed to the board their official status is that of other members of the public, and, thus, they are not entitled to privileged information such as is rightfully discussed only in executive sessions.

Adopted 09-17-81  
Reaffirmed 09-22-94