### **Billings School District 2**

#### THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### **Board Meetings**

## Regular Meetings

Unless otherwise specified, all meetings will take place in the board room of the Lincoln Center. Regular meetings shall take place at 5:30 p.m. on the third (3rd) Monday of each month, or at other times and places determined by a majority vote. The regular meetings in January and February shall be held on the fourth(4<sup>th</sup>) Monday. When any other meeting date falls on a legal holiday, the meeting may take place the next business day , or at other time and place determined by a majority vote.

Except for an unforeseen emergency, meetings must occur in a district building or, upon unanimous vote of the trustees, in a publicly accessible building located within the District. If regular meetings are scheduled at places other than as stated above or are adjourned to times other than a regular meeting time, notice of the meeting shall be made in the same manner as provided for special meetings. The Trustees may meet outside the boundaries of the District for collaboration or cooperation on educational issues with other school boards, educational agencies, or cooperatives. Adequate notice of the meeting, as well as an agenda, must be provided to the public in advance. Decision making may only occur at a properly noticed meeting held within the District's boundaries. When a meeting date falls on a legal holiday, the meeting may take place the next business day.

### **Emergency Meetings**

In the event of an unforeseen emergency involving possible personal injury or property damage, the Board may meet immediately and take official action without prior notification. For the purposes this policy, unforeseen emergency means a storm, fire, explosion, community disaster, insurrection, act of God, or other unforeseen destruction or impairment of school district property that affects the health and safety of the trustees, students, or district employees or the educational functions of the district.

### **Budget Meetings**

Between July 1 and August 10 of each year, the Clerk shall publish a notice stating the date, time, and place trustees will meet for the purpose of considering and adopting a final budget for the District, stating that the meeting of the trustees may be continued from day to day until final adoption of a District budget and stating that any taxpayer in the District may appear at the meeting and be heard for or against any part of the budget. This notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Billings area.

On the date and at the time and place stated in the published notice (on or before August 20), trustees shall meet to consider all budget information and any attachments required by law. The

meeting may continue from day to day; however, the Board must adopt a final budget not later than August 25.

# **Special Meetings**

Special meetings may be called by the Chair or by any two (2) trustees. A written notice of a special meeting, stating the purpose of the meeting, shall be delivered to every trustee not less than forty-eight (48) hours before the time of the meeting, except that the forty-eight (48) hour notice is waived in an unforeseen emergency as stated in §20-3-322(5), MCA. Such written notice shall be posted conspicuously within the District in a manner that will receive public attention. Written notice also shall be sent not less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting to each newspaper and radio or television station that has filed a written request for such notices. Business transacted at a special meeting will be limited to that stated in the notice of the meeting.

#### **Closed Sessions**

Under Montana law, the Board may meet in closed sessions to consider matters involving individual rights of privacy or to discuss litigation strategy. Before closing a meeting, the presiding officer must determine and publicly state that the demands of individual privacy exceed the merits of public disclosure or that the Board chooses to recess to closed session to discuss litigation strategy in a particular matter. This exception does not apply if the litigation involves only public bodies or associations as parties. Before closing a meeting for a litigation purpose, the District may wish to consult legal counsel on the appropriateness of this action. No formal action shall take place during any closed session.

Trustees, or small groups of trustees, shall not engage in litigation strategy sessions or meet with contracted legal counsel outside of an official Board meeting except with the full Board's knowledge.

<u>Cross References</u> :	1420 1441	Board Agendas, etc Audience Participation
<u>Legal References</u> :	§ 2-3-104, MCA § 2-3-105, MCA § 2-3-201, MCA § 2-3-202, MCA § 2-3-203, MCA § 20-3-322, MCA § 20-9-115 MCA § 20-9-131, MCA 10.55.701, ARM	§ 2-3-103, MCA Public participation – governor to insure guidelines adopted Requirements for compliance with notice provisions Supplemental notice by radio or television Legislative intent – liberal construction Meeting defined Meetings of public agencies and certain associations of public agencies to be open to public – exceptions Meeting and quorum Notice of final budget meeting Final budget meeting Board of Trustees

**Policy History**:

First Reading: January 19, 2004 – Board of Trustees
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