BOARD MEETINGS

The board of trustees shall meet regularly on the first and third Tuesday of every calendar month at 5:30 p.m., or as designated by an order entered upon the minutes. A majority of the members of this school board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Special and recessed meetings may be held upon the call of the president, or upon a call of a majority of the board members. All business shall be transacted in open meeting with the superintendent present. All action taken by this school board shall become official at the time it is taken. The superintendent or his designee shall be present at all meetings except when the superintendent has been asked to excuse himself so that the trustees may discuss matters germane to the superintendent. The board may go into executive session under the circumstances permitted by statute, and the minutes of the board shall show in each instance any final action taken in executive session. All action taken by the board of trustees shall become official at the time it is taken. All school business shall be transacted at board meetings, and members shall avoid commitments through personal interviews with individuals which might tend to hamper or embarrass the trustees or to prejudice their decision.

ENFORCEMENT OF OPEN MEETINGS LAW

The Mississippi Ethics Commission shall have the authority to enforce the provisions of this chapter upon a complaint filed by any person. Upon receiving a complaint, the commission shall forward a copy of the complaint to the head of the public body involved. The public body shall have fourteen (14) days from receipt of the complaint to file a response with the commission. After receiving the response to the complaint or, if no response is received after fourteen (14) days, the commission, in its discretion, may dismiss the complaint or proceed by setting a hearing in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the Ethics Commission.

If the Ethics Commission finds that a member or members of a public body has willfully and knowingly violated the provisions of this chapter, the Ethics Commission may impose a civil penalty upon the individual members of the public body found to be in violation of the provision of this chapter in a sum not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) for a first offense and One Thousand Dollars ($1,000.00) for a second or subsequent offense, plus all reasonable expenses incurred by the person or persons in bringing the complaint to enforce this chapter.

TELECONFERENCE OR VIDEO MEETING

In the event that this board finds it necessary to conduct a meeting through means of teleconference or video, the board shall adhere to the requirements of the Open Meetings Law, as specified in Section 25-41-5 of the MS Code.

PENALTY FOR MISSED BOARD MEETINGS

If a member of a school board misses twenty percent (20%) or more of the meetings of the school board during a calendar year, except for absences caused by required military duty, the member must reimburse the school district that portion of the total salary paid to the member that year which is proportionate to the number of meetings missed by the
member in relation to the total number of school board meetings held during that year. For purposes of this subsection, consideration may be given only to meetings of which public notice is required. 37-6-13 (2002)

DUTY OF BOARD PRESIDENT

Before February 1 of each year, the president of each local school board shall submit a report to the State Board of Education containing the names of any members of the school board who missed twenty percent (20%) or more of the school board meetings during the preceding calendar year.

SOURCE: Jackson Public School District, Jackson, Mississippi
Mississippi School Board Association

LEGAL REF.: Sections 37-6-7, 37-6-9, 37-6-11, 25-41-1; Mississippi Code of 1972
Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, Current Version

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