

## RESOLUTION 2023-05

### EUGENE SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Measures to address safety and disruption at Public Board meetings

#### WHEREAS:

1. The previous two years have been hard on staff, students, and families. While changes in health and safety measures can add anxiety, they are important for maintaining consistent in-person activities;
2. Meetings of the school board are often attended by dozens of members of the public who remain in an indoor congregate setting for a sustained period of time. Public meetings serve various purposes, including: informing and engaging community members, receiving feedback and recommendations, promoting transparency, and advancing accountability of leadership;
3. Many staff members are required to attend board meetings, and student board representatives are encouraged to attend;
4. The board has a legal responsibility to furnish a safe place of employment; In Oregon, all employees have a right to a safe workplace. According to Oregon OSHA Worker Health and Safety guidance, "The law requires employers to provide their employees with working conditions that are free of known dangers." School district leaders should consider this guidance when planning public meetings that school district employees will attend as part of their professional duties. Intentionality and forethought support the facilitation of safe, effective, and efficient meetings;
5. ORS 339.341 Statewide School Safety and Prevention System requires the Department of Education shall establish and maintain the Statewide School Safety and Prevention System;
6. While it is impossible to anticipate every scenario, if there are threats or anticipated disruptions, planning ahead is helpful. Depending on the severity of the potential threat or disruption appropriate action should be prepared. If there is a threat which could endanger the health or safety of any individuals, coordinating with law enforcement and mental health experts can promote safety. Law enforcement may be invited to be present at meetings. District leaders may seek advice from law enforcement on specific situations that may arise, and whether the meeting should be held in-person, online, or at all;
7. The board should consider whether the potential disruption is significant enough to cancel the meeting, or to only provide access to the meeting electronically.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, SO BE IT RESOLVED AND DIRECTED:

1. Individuals attending an in-person public meeting of the board or another district body, shall adhere to district safety and prevention plans.
2. The board delegates to the board chair its authority to order additional safety measures for in-person public meetings to the board chair, who shall give due consideration to board policies ACB–Hate Symbols and Bias Incidents; ACC–Racial Harassment; JFCJ–Weapons

in Schools; KGB–Public Conduct on District Property and AC–Nondiscrimination. In addition, guidance from the 4J Risk Management and School Safety team and local law enforcement will be considered.

3. For purposes of this resolution, a public meeting includes any in-person meeting of the board of directors, subcommittee of the board, an advisory committee to the board or superintendent at which members of the public are in attendance in-person.
4. Notice of rules issued pursuant to this resolution will be posted with clearly visible signage at entry points near the board meeting room and on the district website.
5. This resolution and rules issued pursuant to this resolution shall be interpreted and applied consistent with any more restrictive rule order or guidance that applies. Should an applicable law impose a requirement or create a right inconsistent with this order, such law will prevail.
6. The resolution expires on June 30, 2023 unless rescinded or extended further.

Adopted this 16th day of November, 2022 by the Board of Directors for the Eugene School District 4J.

 3/15/23  
Maya Rabasa, Chair  
Board of Directors, Eugene School District 4J