

# **RULES OF THE MILWAUKEE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

## **BOARD RULE 1.17**

### **PRESIDENT'S DUTIES AND POWERS: *EX OFFICIO* MEMBERSHIP**

(1) The President shall appoint standing committees to serve for one year and shall appoint all special committees whose appointment is not otherwise addressed. In cases in which, because of the absence or illness of committee members, a standing committee would be unable to meet due to a lack of a quorum, the President may appoint other board members temporarily to the committee on a meeting-by-meeting basis.

(2) The President shall preside at meetings of the Board and be responsible for the orderly conduct of all Board meetings. The President shall:

- (a) call the meeting to order at the appointed time;
- (b) announce the business to come before the Board in its proper order;
- (c) enforce the Board's policies relating to the order of business and the conduct of meetings;
- (d) recognize board members who wish to speak and protect the speaker who has the floor from disturbance or interference;
- (e) explain what the effect of a motion would be if the effect is not clear to board members;
- (f) restrict discussion to the item that has been introduced;
- (g) restrict discussion to a motion that is before the Board;
- (h) answer all parliamentary inquiries or refer such inquiries to the Board Clerk/Director, Office of Board Governance, for study and reply; and
- (i) state all motions, put motions to a vote, and announce the results, referring such activities to the Board Clerk/Director, Office of Board Governance, as appropriate.

(3) The President shall have the right, as other board members have, to offer resolutions, to discuss questions, and to vote.

(4) The President shall:

- (a) sign the instruments, acts, and orders necessary to carry out State requirements and the will of the Board;
- (b) consult with the Superintendent, the Board Clerk/Director, Office of Board Governance, and the management of the Office of Accountability and Efficiency in the planning of the Board's agendas;
- (c) confer with the Superintendent, the Board Clerk/Director, Office of Board Governance, and the management of the Office of Accountability and Efficiency on crucial matters that may occur between Board meetings;
- (d) call special meetings of the Board as necessary; and
- (e) act as the public spokesperson for the Board at all times, except as this responsibility is specifically delegated to others.

(5) In the absence of, or during the disability of, the President, the Vice President shall serve as President. In the absence of both the President and Vice President, the Board shall elect a president *pro tempore*.

(6) The President shall have the power to authorize board members to visit other school systems and to attend conventions, seminars, and similar meetings at the Board's expense. Such authorization shall be certified in writing to the Board Clerk/Director, Office of Board Governance, and,

when pertinent, shall state the name of the organization, purpose of the trip or meeting, destination, and the period of time involved.

- (a) All Board travel must relate to achieving the Board's strategic plan;
- (b) Board travel shall be restricted only to the funds allocated to the Board itself for such purposes. No part of the funding for any trip by a member of the Board shall be taken from the budgets of any schools or departments within MPS;
- (c) The board member shall be reimbursed for eligible expenses, as described in the district's travel policies and procedures. The board member shall reimburse the district for any expenses incurred by the district that are unrelated to the trip or that are incurred due to a board member's negligence or disregard;
- (d) Rental cars are prohibited unless the use can be demonstrated to be the least expensive or most efficient mode of travel;
- (e) Board members who travel must present their travel findings to a public hearing of the appropriate committee of the Board, and that report shall be submitted to the full Board, published in the Board's proceedings, and posted on the district's portal;
- (f) If a board member's obligations are not met on a trip, the member must reimburse the district or appropriate source of funding;
- (g) Annually, in January, a report on MPS-paid travel by individual board members, listing each trip, its purpose, and its cost, must be distributed to the Board and made available to the public;
- (h) Once it is certain that a board member will be leaving the Board (whether through resignation, retirement from the Board, or defeat in an election), no travel expenditures may be approved for that board member for the remainder of his/her term of office.

(7) The President is a member *ex officio* of the Library Board as of his/her election to the presidency. If he/she advises the Board that he/she elects not to serve as a member *ex officio* of the Library Board, the Board shall, at the next regular Board meeting and by roll-call vote, elect one of its other members to serve as a member *ex officio* of the Library Board.

History: Revised 09-29-99, 06-26-2001, 11-19-15  
Legal Ref.: W.S. 43.54(1)(am); 119.10(2)  
Cross Ref.: Bd. Gov. Policy 2.04 Board Member Authority and Duties