District #186 Board of Education

The Board of Education is comprised of seven members. Membership on the board is restricted to four members within Murphysboro Township and three members from any Congressional Township outside Murphysboro Township. Elections are held every two years, in odd-numbered years, with four seats open one election year and three the next election year. Board members serve on a volunteer basis, without pay, and do not maintain offices in district buildings.

The Board of Education is responsible for hiring the Superintendent, authorizing the appointment of all other staff members, authorizing curriculum development, levying tax monies and budgeting for both educational programs and operating expenses, and setting district policy.

Board of Education Meetings

The Board of Education meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Regular meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. at the District Office located at McElvain School, 593 Ava Road, Murphysboro, Illinois. Meetings are formal business meetings where issues are discussed and action is taken. Meetings are open to the public; however, the board may adjourn for a short period of time to participate in a closed session. Closed sessions are closed to the public.

The board may find it necessary to hold special meetings in addition to its regular monthly meetings. Notice of special meetings will be posted in each district building, as well as, posted on the district’s website.

Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings

Each regular Board of Education meeting includes a time for employees or the public to be heard. Each speaker is limited to 5 minutes or a time determined by the Board President. The Board may not respond to comments from the audience at this time; however, if a matter warrants discussion or action by the Board of Education, such discussion or action will be added to the agenda of a future meeting.

Development and Training of Board of Education Members

All Illinois school board members must receive training in professional development leadership (P.A. 97-8) and the Open Meetings Act (P.A. 97-504). Mandatory training will also be required after the new teacher evaluation requirements are implemented in each school district.

Training completed by current board members is listed on the district website.

Board of Education Contact

Questions regarding Murphysboro CUSD #186 Board of Education may be addressed to Nancy Ward, Secretary to the Board of Education, at the District Office (618.684.3781).