

REMOTE PARTICIPATION

1. **Attendance.** School Committee members are expected to be physically present for School Committee meetings except when being physically present is not practicable, which may include:
 - a. An emergency or urgent issue that requires the School Committee to meet remotely;
 - b. Illness or another physical condition;
 - c. Temporary absence from the State of Maine;
 - d. Inclement weather; or
 - e. Other special circumstances, at the discretion of the Chair, that causes significant difficulties for the Committee member to attend in person

In such circumstances, the Committee member may participate in the meeting remotely through telephonic or video conferencing with prior approval of the Chair.

2. **Notice.** Notice of all School Committee meetings will be made in accordance with Policy BDDA. The notice shall include:
 - a. The means by which members of the public may access the meeting remotely, as applicable; and
 - b. The location of the meeting for members of the public to attend in person

Copies of the agenda, together with relevant supporting documents, shall be made available to members of the public in accordance with Policy BDDA.

3. **Voting.** School Committee members participating in a meeting remotely are present for the purposes of a quorum and voting. Votes taken during meetings using remote methods shall be taken by a roll call vote that can be heard (if using telephonic conferencing) or seen and heard (if using video conferencing) by members of the public.
4. **Remote Public Participation.** When at least one member of the School Committee participates remotely in accordance with Section 1 of this policy, members of the public shall be afforded a meaningful opportunity to attend and participate in the meeting by remote methods, i.e. by telephonic or video conferencing. Members of the public shall be restricted to remote participation only when there is an emergency or urgent issue that requires the School Committee to meet remotely under 1(a) of this policy. Reasonable accommodations may be provided when necessary to provide access to individuals with disabilities. Public participation during School Committee meetings shall be governed by Policy BDDH.



Legal Reference: 1 M.R.S.A. § 403-B
1 M.R.S.A. § 406

Cross-Reference: BDDA – Notification of School Committee Meetings
BDDF – Voting Method
BDDH – Public Participation at School Committee Meetings

Adopted: September 10, 2021
Reviewed: February 22, 2023

