About California county boards of education

County boards govern California’s 58 county offices of education, which provide services directly to students as well as support nearly 1,000 school districts serving 6.2 million K-12 students.

1. County board members are individually elected by the community they serve

- Each county office of education (COE) is governed by a county board
- The county board represents the community’s diverse beliefs and values
- County school board members are residents of the county they serve and come from all walks of life — doctors, lawyers, homemakers, teachers, architects, truck drivers, professors, business owners, real estate agents and more

2. County boards govern at board meetings

- Adopting courses of study for COE programs including juvenile schools, community schools, and ROC/P programs
- Approving COE Local Control Accountability Plans
- Adopting and monitoring COE budgets
- Setting the salary of the county superintendent
- Taking action on student appeals for discipline and inter-district transfers
- Taking action on charter school petitions and appeals
- Adopting policies to ensure that a safe and appropriate education environment is provided for all its students
- Actively listening to public comments

3. County boards serve the community

- Listening to their ideas
- Collaborating with the superintendent and engaging the community so that the vision, goals and policies of the COE can be implemented
- Making student achievement a priority
- Maintaining a cooperative and supportive working relationship with local school districts, their school boards and the communities
- Advocating on important K-12 policy issues for all students

4. County board members give the gift of time

- Preparing for and attending COE board meetings
- Responding to constituents
- Participating in board training and development
- Attending community events

To learn more about your county board of education or attend an upcoming meeting, contact a county board member or the county superintendent’s office.