

## Elverado CUSD 196 Board of Education

### **Public Notice: May 21, 2020 Board Meeting**

In light of Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-07, extended by Executive Order 2020-18, the District will be temporarily changing the format of its Board of Education meetings, effective immediately. These format changes are consistent with Executive Orders 2020-07 and 2020-18, as well as CDC guidance. They are intended to help limit the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

The Open Meetings Act requires that a majority of a quorum be **physically present** at all meetings. However, Executive Order 2020-07 (which was extended by Executive Order 2020-18) suspended this OMA requirement. Now, all Board members are permitted to participate in a Board meeting remotely - there is no minimum number of Board members who must physically be present at the meeting site. Executive Order 2020-07 further suspended the conditions the OMA places on when a Board member may participate in a meeting remotely. Consequently, while Executive Order 2020-07 is in effect, all Board members are permitted to participate in a Board meeting remotely, without question.

Therefore, consistent with these new rules, ***the May 21, 2020 Board of Education meeting will be held remotely with all Board Members participating remotely.***

Further, in accordance with Executive Order 2020-10 (extended by Executive Order 2020-18) (the "Stay-at-Home Order") prohibition on public gatherings of ten (10) or more people, and its limitation on individual's leaving their home for purposes other than those deemed "essential," ***the public will not attend the Board meetings in-person.*** Instead, the meeting will be made available to the public via Google Meets. To attend the meeting ***via Google Meets, you may dial-in to the following number; 1-443-399-6377, enter the PIN: 674 479 054 and #.***

This request is consistent with the directive in the Stay-at-Home Order limiting public gatherings to ten (10) people or less and prohibiting individuals from leaving their home for any purpose not deemed an "Essential Activity," "Essential Government Function," or the operation of an "Essential Business Operation," as defined in the Order.

Please also note that the normal order of business for our Board Meetings will be modified on April 16th to accommodate this remote meeting format. While it is normal practice for our meetings to begin with public comment, for the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board will open the meeting and then immediately proceed into Closed Session. For confidentiality purposes, Closed Session will take place on a different Google Meets call-in. Once the Board exits Closed Session (***approximately 6:15 PM***), the public portion of the meeting will begin. Access to the public meeting will be open to anyone interested in attending via the Google Meets dial-in information listed above.

With regard to public comments, the Board will now be accepting public comments via either email or text-message submission. Each comment will be read out loud at the public meeting during the normal "public comment" portion of the meeting. ***Public comments can be submitted via email at [boe@elv196.org] or via text at [618-527-0031].*** We will continue to accept public comments in this medium until the public comment portion of the meeting closes.

Please know, the District will remain dedicated to keeping the public fully apprised of all public business which takes place. Our website and social media platforms will continue to be updated with any new business or school news which comes about.

These changes will be in effect for the May 21st Board meeting. If, per the Executive Orders and the Stay-at-Home Order, these changes need to be continued for future meetings, we will make certain the public is promptly and adequately informed.

Finally, I want to thank you for your continued support of the District, especially during this trying time. Our entire community has been impacted by this virus, and the District thanks you for your understanding as we try to work together as a community to combat the spread of COVID-19.