

Dear Parents/Guardians/Community Members:

In recognition of the tremendous value to promote community awareness and open lines of communication, the Piner-Olivet Union School District (POUSD) Board has created a policy regarding the implementation of regular, open-door engagement opportunities or “office hours” with the intention of providing an opportunity beyond the portion of the Board’s monthly agenda set aside for public comment. During these office hours, the larger District community will be able to connect with and share ideas, concerns or express a point of view on topics that may be useful to the individual Board members and potentially the Governance Team as a whole. Given the constraints imposed by the Brown Act, the Board policy outlines that at no time will there be more than two Board Members be present at any scheduled office hour session and that no Board decisions/actions will be taken or committed to.

Schedule for the coming year is as follows:

Date: 9/21/17	Time: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Location: Schaefer Charter School Room 26
Date: 10/19/17	Time: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Location: Jack London/POCS School Room B 7
Date: 11/16/17	Time: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Location: Olivet Elementary Charter School Room 3
Date: 1/18/18	Time: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Location: NWP Charter School MP Room

General Expectations and Guidelines:

To ensure compliance with the Brown Act, Board members will not communicate the content of these meetings to other Board members, but will report out to the Board as a whole during a new portion of the agenda for just this report during a duly agendized Board meeting.

The Board asks that the public will be mindful that action can only be taken through a majority vote of its members in a duly agendized Board meeting. Therefore, statements made by individual Board members only represent the view of that Board member, and not the Governance Team as whole. Likewise, statements or information provided to individual Board members are also only made to the individual Board member, and not to the Board as a whole.

Additionally, the Board asks that all participants of these office hour sessions understand that all personnel matters are confidential. All participants are expected to respect confidentiality; the School Board member cannot comment, nor offer their individual opinion, on such matters. Any individual Board member’s lack of response or silence should not be treated as indication of any particular position on the matter.

The community will not submit individual-specific grievances, rather all comments and input should be made using generic – non-specific language so as to bring issues to light without exposing, disclosing or calling attention any single person/student/staff.

Every effort will be made by all participants to adhere to authentic, public appropriate communication while engaging.

We are excited to have this new way to hear from the POUSD community and look forward to office hours at a site near you soon!