
District and School Operations Rule 0520-01-02-.11 School Board Training

The Background:

T.C.A. § 49-2-202(a)(6) requires that local school board members be properly trained during their service on the board of education and that the State Board shall establish minimum annual training requirements for local board members. State Board Rule 0520-01-02-.11 outlines training requirements for local school board members and includes the establishment of a School Board Academy Advisory Committee responsible for evaluating training programs.

Revisions to this rule were identified as part of the State Board staff's ongoing rule revision and updating processes. Since first reading, the following changes have been made to the rule:

- Define a timeline for implementation of the training requirements outlined in the rule. Applications for course approval will be due to the Advisory Committee in February 2022, presented to the State Board for approval in May 2022, and beginning on July 1, 2022, local school board members will have to comply with the revised training requirements outlined in the rule.
- Allow a new board member who has been elected to a local board of education with a break in service of more than four (4) years to substitute any other approved training course for any of the orientation training courses.
- Amend the definition of experienced board member to include a board member who has a break in service of 4 years or fewer.

State Board staff received feedback from the Tennessee School Boards Association in drafting this rule. A rulemaking hearing was held in December 2020. No comments were offered at the hearing.

The Recommendation:

The SBE staff recommends approval of this item on final reading.