

**MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #53  
Burnham – Detroit – Pittsfield**

**Board Declared Vacancy Caused by Absenteeism**

When a member must be absent from a regular meeting of the School Board for any reason, that member shall contact the Superintendent's office or the Board Chair in order to be excused from the meeting. The minutes of each meeting shall reflect the names of the members present, those absent with excuse (if any) and those absent without excuse (if any).

The Board shall take the following action when a member is absent without excuse:

- A. After two consecutive unexcused absences from regular meetings, the member shall be notified in writing by the Board informing him/her that a third consecutive unexcused absence from a regular meeting will constitute cause for the Board to consider declaring his/her seat on the Board vacant.
- B. After three (3) consecutive unexcused absences from regular meetings, the Board shall notify said member in writing that the Board will consider declaring his/her seat vacant at the next regular meeting of the Board or at a special meeting called for the purpose of considering this matter.
- C. At the meeting where the declaration of a vacancy, in accordance with this policy, is being considered, the Board member who is the subject of the action shall be provided the opportunity to present his/her reasons why the Board should not declare a vacancy.
- D. Following the deliberation outlined in sections B and C of this policy, the Board shall vote whether or not to declare a vacancy.
- E. Should a vacancy be declared in accordance with this policy, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the appropriate provisions of MRSA Title 20-A.
- F. An absence for any of the following reasons shall be routinely considered an excused absence: Illness of the member or members of his/her immediate family, death in the member's family, a short-term family obligation or an unavoidable commitment related to the member's employment.

Adopted: December 7, 1998

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA § 124