

# POC # 23 Bylaws

**Reviewer: Destiny Grant** 

### Instructions:

Please use the checklist below to ensure that your bylaws comply. Submit the most recent copy of the signed, board-approved bylaws.

# Bylaws MUST...

Describe the authority of the Board to develop policies, make decisions, and execute responsibilities.
State the number of Board members. (Must consist of at least 7 or more members)
State that all board members are residents of the state of South Carolina
State that 50% of board members have a K-12 education or business background. The parent body and staff elect at least 50%. The other 50% can be appointed.
<ul> <li>Describe the election process of the governing board, including</li> <li>when elections will occur and the voting procedures</li> <li>parents/legal guardians will have one vote for each student enrolled in the school.</li> </ul>
Describe the terms for board members (May have up to 2-year terms and may run for more than one term)
Include a statement recognizing that a person convicted of a felony must not be elected to a board of directors.
Discuss intended compliance with the required training for governing board members within one year of taking office.
Explain required qualifications, officer positions, and duties for board members.
Explain the quorum and decision-making process.
Explain the procedure for the removal of board members.
Explain the process for the resignation of board members.
Describe the relationship of the governing board to the school's administrators, staff, parents and students.
Include an explanation of the proposed board meeting frequency and focus.
Must include a statement that the proposed charter school and its governing body will comply with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and specifically address policies regarding student records, administrative records, and meetings.



## Bylaws SHOULD...

Discuss the roles and responsibilities of any and all board-established committees or advisory councils. Include their authority, the process for electing and appointing members, and other pertinent details.
Reference a stand-alone code of conduct policy outside the bylaws that address board norms and expectations for board member conduct. Require that board members review and sign the code of conduct policy annually.
Reference a stand-alone conflict of interest policy outside the bylaws that ensure all conflicts are disclosed and adequately addressed.
It is recommended that a lawyer and/or CPA knowledgeable about nonprofit tax law review your bylaws and application for tax exemption before final submission.
List clear and specific attendance requirements for board members.
Describe board meeting protocols to be enacted (Robert's rules, Democratic Rules of Order, etc.)
Describe types of board meetings (regular, special, emergency, executive session)
Establish a procedure for public comment in accordance with FOIA.
Ensure systems are in place for periodic bylaw review and make amendments as needed (Material changes must be district approved).

#### **Resources:**

FOIA information, see http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t30c004.php South Carolina Charter School Act of 1996 <u>https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t59c040.php</u>