



Board of Education  
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Dear Parents/Guardians, Residents and Staff,

Thank you for joining us at this evenings' Board meeting. We value your attendance and we understand that you play an important role in establishing a strong academic and social foundation for our students. You may have noticed that the board agenda has changed to a consent agenda, and we hope that this information sheet will help to answer your questions.

### **WHAT IS A CONSENT AGENDA?**

In a consent agenda, different items are bundled together and voted on as a package without discussion. For example, instead of discussing each item separately and voting on each item separately, the Board may vote to approve items “B” through “G” with one motion.

### **WHY IS THE BOARD USING A CONSENT AGENDA?**

The use of a consent agenda promotes good time management. At many Board meetings, at least a few items are part of the agenda that do not need any discussion because they are routine procedures or because none of the Board members have any opposition to those items. With a consent agenda, what may have taken an hour for the Board to review with the traditional agenda, now may take only ten minutes. This leaves time for the Board to focus on issues that may need more in-depth discussion, debate and analysis.

### **WHY ARE CERTAIN ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN THE CONSENT AGENDA?**

If a Board member has a question or wants to discuss an item, he or she can request that the item be removed from the consent agenda. Once the item has been removed, the Board will have an opportunity to discuss that item during the meeting before voting on that item. For example, if Board Member John Doe does not want to approve Item C, he could ask for that item to be removed from the “package of items on the consent agenda. That way, Board Member John Doe has the ability to discuss Item C separately and vote on Item C as an individual item.

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