Special Meeting of the Ravenna Board of Education MASB - Open Meetings Act Workshop High School Bulldog Room March 10, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

- A Special Meeting of the Ravenna Board of Education was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by President Joshua Emery. Present: Bob Becklin, Becki Deater, Joshua Emery, Mark Jacobs, Ryan Jawor, Mike Pierson and Fred Rosel.
- 2. MASB's Brad Banasik conducted an Open Meetings Act workshop for Board members. Below is a synopsis of the Open Meetings Act.
- 3. All meetings of a public body (i.e., school board) must be open to the public.
 - a. A meeting is defined as the convening of a public body at which a quorum is present for the purpose of deliberating toward or rendering a decision on a public policy.
 - b. The Act does not apply to a social or chance gathering or conference where a quorum is present as long as the board members in attendance do not collectively discuss matters of public policy.
 - c. An advisory committee composed of less than a quorum of the full board can sometimes be a public body subject to the Act's requirements.
- 4. All decisions of a public body must be made at a meeting open to the public.
- 5. All discussions of a public body constituting a quorum of its members must take place at a meeting open to the public unless a closed meeting exception applies.
- 6. Closed meeting exceptions to the open deliberations requirement;
 - a. Considering the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of an employee or student if a closed meeting is requested by the employee or student;
 - Hearing complaints or charges brought against an employee or school board member per their request for a closed meeting;
 - Considering a periodic personnel evaluation of an employee if they request a closed session;
 - d. Conducting strategy and negotiation sessions connected with a collective bargaining agreement (does not cover individual contracts);
 - e. Considering the purchase or lease of property (two-thirds roll call vote);
 - f. Consulting with legal counsel regarding pending litigation (two-thirds roll call vote);
 - Reviewing applications for employment or appointment when the applicant requests confidentiality (two-thirds roll call vote);
 - Considering material exempt from discussion or disclosure by law (two-thirds roll call vote); and

- i. Considering security planning to address existing threats or prevent potential threats to the safety of the students and staff (two-thirds roll call vote).
- 7. A public body cannot hold a meeting without first giving public notice of the meeting at its principal office and on its website if it's a special or rescheduled regular meeting.
- Minutes must be kept of all meetings, whether open or closed, and regardless of whether the meeting is identified as a regular or special meeting, study session, committee of the whole, or by some other name.
- 9. Members of the public have the right to attend all open meetings and to address the board during the meeting according to rules adopted by the board.
- 10. Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent. 6:30 p.m.

Joshua Emery, Presid

Michael Pierson, Secretary