

Organizational School Board Meeting  
Tuesday, July 20, 2021 4:00 PM

917 Board Room  
130 145th Street East  
Rosemount, MN 55068

## **Agenda**

- I. **Call to Order - Ex-Officio Supt. Dr. Michael Favor**
- II. **Conduct Pledge of Allegiance - Chair**
- III. **Visitors Opportunity to be Heard - Chair**
- IV. **Oath of office administered to newly elected Board members from  
Bloomington and Randolph - Linda Berg**
- V. **Election of officers - Dr. Michael Favor**
  - A. Election of Chair
  - B. Election of Vice-Chair
  - C. Election of Clerk
  - D. Election of Treasurer
- VI. **Establish dates and times for 2021-2022 School Board Meetings - Chair**
- VII. **Designate official newspaper - Chair**
- VIII. **Review and approve District 917 Public Notice**
- IX. **Set level of compensation for School Board Members - Chair**
- X. **Resolution adopting finance and operations procedures - Nicolle Roush**
- XI. **Review Memorandum of Agreement with Member Districts - Dr. Michael  
Favor**
- XII. **Review Board Committee and Representative Assignments - Chair**
- XIII. **Adjournment**

~~2020-2021~~  
**2021-2022**  
**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT 917**  
**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING DATES**

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>MEETING DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
<b><u>2021</u></b>		
July	Tuesday 20	4:00
August	Tuesday 24	4:30
September	Tuesday 7	4:30
October	Tuesday 5	4:30
November	Tuesday 2	4:30
December	Tuesday 7	4:30
<b><u>2022</u></b>		
January	Tuesday 4	4:30
January (Work session)	Tuesday 18	4:30
February	Tuesday 1	4:30
March	Tuesday 1	4:30
April <i>Bloomington TESA</i> <i>2575 W. 88th St., Bloomington</i>	Tuesday 5	4:30
April (Work session)	Tuesday 19	4:30
May	Tuesday 3	4:30
June	Tuesday 14	4:30

Linda Berg  
ISD 917

Linda –

Thank you for the opportunity to bid on the public notice publications for ISD 917.

The Saint Paul Pioneer Press is a Daily Newspaper located in Saint Paul, MN, primarily serving Ramsey, Dakota, Washington, and Anoka counties and Western Wisconsin.

Our Legal Publication rates for all notices for 2021-2022 are as follows:

\$6.30 per column inch per publication \*(this = \$0.45 per line, there are 14 lines per column inch)

Our circulation number below is for Sunday Full Run, however you can publish a notice any day of the week.

Full Run – 150,000

\*All notices will be published full run.

Deadline to submit a standard text notice is 12pm the day prior to the day you'd like your notice to run. Friday at 12pm is the deadline to submit a notice running on Saturday, Sunday, or Monday. If your notice includes a chart, graph, map, or any special formatting, the deadline is 12pm **two** days prior to the publication day, and Thursday at 12pm for a Saturday, Sunday, or Monday publish date. All legal notices should be emailed to Emily Kunz [ekunz@pioneerpress.com](mailto:ekunz@pioneerpress.com) and [legals@pioneerpress.com](mailto:legals@pioneerpress.com) after doing so, you'll be sent an email confirming receipt of your information and you'll be contacted shortly. You will be emailed a proof (which includes the cost). An affidavit will be emailed after the notice publishes.

Thank you for considering the Saint Paul Pioneer Press as the official legal newspaper for ISD 917. Please let me know if you have any questions, we look forward to partnering with you.

Thank you,

Emily Kunz – Advertising  
[ekunz@pioneerpress.com](mailto:ekunz@pioneerpress.com)



ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTICE  
RECORDS AND DATA PRIVACY ISSUES

**1. What is Educational Data?**

- A. Educational Data** - Data on individuals maintained by a public school district or by a person acting for the school district which relates to a student. Minn. Stat. § 13.02, subd. 8; 34 C.F.R. § 99.3.
- B. Private Data** - Most educational data is private data on individuals. The data is not public, but is accessible to the individual subject of the data (parent, guardian, or student). Minn. Stat. § 13.32, subd. 3; Minn. Stat. § 13.02, subd. 12.
- C. Public Data** - Certain educational data is designated as public "directory" information by the school board. See School District policy number 6.4.

Unless a parent/guardian notifies the school district within 30 days after publication of notice that the designated data not be considered public, the school district will release it upon request for such directory information. Other data on students should be shared within the school district *only with those who have a legitimate educational interest* and should be shared with persons outside the school district *only when such person is acting as an agent of the school district* (for example, a psychologist doing an assessment or an attorney reviewing records for purposes of student discipline) or with a written consent to information.

- D. Confidential Data** - Limited information on students (such as a child abuse report) is confidential, meaning neither the parent, guardian, nor student can access the information. (See School District Policy 6.4 for details.)
- E. Desk Drawer Files** - Records of instructional personnel in the maker's sole possession and not accessible to, or received by, anyone other than a substitute teacher which are destroyed at the end of the school year are not educational data. Minn. Stat. § 13.32, subd. 1(a); 34 C.F.R. 99.3.

**2. Rights of the Subjects of Data.**

- A. Right of Access** - Students, parent/guardians, and employees have the right to review data and to have it explained to them. In most cases, requests will be granted within 10 business days. The school district may not limit the frequency of inspection of educational records of a child with a disability by the child's parent/guardian or by the child upon the child reaching the age of majority. School districts may not charge a fee to search for or retrieve educational records. The school district may charge a fee reflecting the costs of reproducing records

except if the fee would impair the parent/guardian's, or child's ability to inspect and review those records. Minn. Stat. §13.04, subd. 5; 34 C.F.R. § 99.6.

- B. Right to Respond and Challenge** - The subject of data may contest the accuracy or completeness of data. Further, individuals may submit a response or rebuttal to any data maintained by the school district.
- C. Right to Control Access by Third Parties** - Persons within the school district will review data only when there is a legitimate reason for doing so. Similarly, the school district will lawfully share data with someone acting as their agent (for example, a psychologist performing an assessment, an attorney, or an insurance carrier). Otherwise, private data will not be shared with a third party unless required by law or pursuant to a written release.
- D. Right to Know Reasons for Collection of Data** - Individuals have the right to know why data is being collected, how it will be used, who will have access to the data, whether the individual can refuse to provide the data, and what the consequences are for supplying or refusing to supply the data.

### 3. Practical Application.

- A. Subpoena** - Student records may not be released pursuant to a subpoena. (Exceptions are subpoenas from the Department of Human Rights or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or a Federal Grand Jury Subpoena.) The school district must receive either a court order or an executed release before disclosing data. The court order must be signed by a judge. The clerk of court cannot effectuate a court order. If presented with a court order, the school district needs to honor the order and provide the requested information.
- B. Law Enforcement** - Law enforcement officials seeking data on students generally must obtain a court order or release in order to access private data.
- C. General Questions About Students** - If questioned by the media or another third party regarding a student, staff should respond simply that the information is private student data and the staff member cannot discuss it. Parent/guardians frequently ask staff about other students. Staff cannot respond to such inquiries, regardless of the reason for the requests, and must respond by saying that any information on students is private and cannot be released.
- D. Information About Others** - A student and/or parent/guardian have no right to information about other students. The law allows access only to those portions of a document involving the data subject. Information about other students or staff must be removed.
- E. Transfer of File to Other School District** - If a school district's policy provides that records can be forwarded without a release, a school district from which a student is transferring can provide information to the new school without a written

release. The compulsory instruction statute requires school districts from which a student transfers to transmit the student's educational records within ten (10) business days to the school district in which the student enrolls. School districts must make "reasonable efforts" to determine the school district in which the student next enrolls. The records transferred must include any information about disciplinary action taken as a result of any incident in which the student possessed or used a dangerous weapon.

- F. Reports to Authorities** - The law does not prevent the school district from reporting child abuse, criminal activity, or other health and safety issues to appropriate authorities. In many cases, school district staff are required to do so.

#### **4. Parental Rights To Access Educational Data.**

- A.** Under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (MGDPA), an "individual" for purposes of educational data is the natural person, or in the case of a minor, a parent/guardian or an individual acting as a parent/guardian in the absence of a parent/guardian. However, the school district must consider withholding certain data from parents or guardians or individuals acting as parents or guardians in the absence of parents or guardians, upon the minor's request if the school district determines that withholding the data would be in the best interests of the minor. Minn. Stat. § 13.02, subd. 8. This determination is made on a case-by-case basis. See policy 006.4 for guidance.
- B.** FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) defines the term "parent" as a parent of a student and includes a natural parent, a guardian, or an individual acting as a parent in the absence of a parent/guardian. 34 C.F.R. § 99.3.
- C.** School districts may not "deny access by parent/guardians to data that is considered an 'educational record.'" Minn. Rule 3525.0500, subp. 4.
- D.** School districts must "presume the parent/guardian has the authority to exercise the rights" to access data unless the school district "has been provided with evidence that there is a state law or court order governing such matters as divorce, separation, or custody, or a legally binding instrument which provides to the contrary." Minn. Rule 3525.0500, subp. 2.
- E.** "Upon request, a non-custodial parent/guardian has the right of access to, and to receive copies of, school records and information, to attend conferences, and to be informed about the child's welfare, educational progress and status" unless a court orders otherwise. The school is not required to hold a separate conference for each party.

- F.** School districts must give "full rights" regarding data to "either parent/guardian" unless the school district "has been provided with evidence that there is a court order, state statute, or legally binding document relating to such matters as divorce, separation, or custody that specifically revokes these rights." 34 C.F.R. § 99.4.
- G.** In a marriage dissolution, separation, or custody proceeding, the court must grant each parent/guardian "the right of access to, and to receive copies of school . . . and other important records and information about the minor children. . . Each party has the right to be informed by school officials about the children's welfare, educational progress and status, and to attend school and parent-teacher conferences. . ." unless the court specifically finds that such access would not be in the child's best interests. Minn. Stat. § 518.17, subd. 3.

*(For a full copy of the policies, go to [www.isd917.org](http://www.isd917.org), About, School Board, Policies..)*

# TO BE REVISED

## 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR MEMBER DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD SALARY INFORMATION (Information Revised June 2021)

DISTRICT	SALARY	POSITION	ADDITIONAL BENEFITS
#191 Burnsville <i>(Burnsville meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 6:30 P.M.)</i>	<del>\$4800</del> <b>\$5400</b> <del>\$5400</del> <b>\$6000</b>	Board Members Chair	PERA defined contribution plan
#200 Hastings <i>(Hastings meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays at 6:00 P.M.)</i>	<del>\$4250</del> <del>\$4750</del>	<del>Board Members</del> <del>Chair</del>	<del>\$50,000 Life Insurance Free, Group Medical/Hospital, Dental Insurance can be purchased at own expense. Receive Board's contribution toward PERA defined contribution plan.</del>
<b>For this year only --- the Board has decided to take \$0.00.</b>			
#6 <i>No change</i> So. St. Paul <i>(So. St. Paul meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 7:15 P.M.)</i>	\$4900 \$5400	All Board Members Chair	
#199 <i>No change</i> IGH <i>(IGH meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 5:30 P.M.)</i>	\$4800 \$5400	Board Members Chair	PERA defined cont. plan.
ISD #197 <i>No change</i>  <i>(West St. Paul meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM (regular meeting) and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday (Board/work session) at 5:00 P.M.)</i>	\$4725 \$5250	Board Members Chair	
#194 <i>No change</i> Lakeville <i>(Lakeville meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, at 7:00 P.M.)</i>	\$6750	All Board Members	\$50/month Chair stipend
#192- <i>No change</i> Farmington <i>(Farmington meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, at 6:00 P.M.)</i>	\$4,578 \$5,696 \$5,137	Board Members Chair Vice-Chair	No stipends.
#195 <i>No changes yet</i> Randolph <i>(Randolph meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, at 7:00 P.M.)</i>	\$720 \$145	Board Members Officers	Only paid for meetings attended & Comt. Mtgs. (\$60 per mtg/12 mtgs a yr)
#271 Bloomington <i>(Bloomington meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays for regular Board meetings and holds the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday for meeting or study sessions. Meetings start at 7:00 PM.</i>	\$7,200	Board Members	<b>Board chair receives an additional \$100/month totaling \$8,400/year.</b>
#917 Intermediate <i>(ISD 917 meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, at 5 P.M.)</i>	\$4400 \$4675	Board Members Chair	<i>A stipend of \$30 for the Personnel and Insurance Committee members only and an additional \$30 if the meeting goes over two hours. May choose to receive Board's contribution toward PERA defined contribution plan.</i>

**2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR  
NON-MEMBER DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
SALARY INFORMATION**

<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>SALARY</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL BENEFITS</b>
#252 Cannon Falls Area Schools	\$1250	All board Positions	Travel and conferences paid according to school district policy.
#659 <i>No change</i> Northfield <i>(Northfield meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 7:00 P.M.)</i>	\$3300 \$3900	All Board Members Chair	Travel and other expenses paid in accordance with school district policy.
#196— <i>No change</i> Rosemount/Apple Valley/Eagan <i>(196 usually meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 6:00 PM)</i>	\$9000 \$9900	All Board Members Chair	Board members may, at their discretion, receive \$125 per diem to be paid in 4 & 8 hour increments for time-consuming committees
#719 <i>No change</i> Prior Lake	\$6000 \$6500 \$6300 \$6300	plus \$20 for special meetings – Board Members Chair Treasurer/Clerk Vice-Chair	Certified Negotiator receives \$50 per meeting

**Intermediate School District #917  
School Board**

**Resolution Pertaining to Business Operations**

Board member \_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the School Board of Intermediate School District 917 accept the following actions pertaining to business operations, as indicated below:

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of Business Services recommends the designation of depositories; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Intermediate School District 917 and the School Board designates Wells Fargo as the General/Building Funds depository and for investments; U.S. Bank of Minneapolis (used for payroll direct deposit only); and Minnesota School District Liquid Asset Fund for investments; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of Business Services is authorized to make short-term investments; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of Business Services is authorized to use facsimile signatures of Board officials and to use existing stamps, if needed, until new ones can be obtained; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of Business Services is authorized to perform the duties of clerk and treasurer as provided in Minn. Stat. § 123.34, Subd. 1; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of Business Services is authorized to make electronic transfer of funds; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of Business Services is authorized to lease/purchase, and contract for goods and services within the Board approved budget. Formal bids must be specifically authorized by the Board in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 123.37, Subd. 1.a.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member \_\_\_\_\_ and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof \_\_\_\_\_ and voting against the same: \_\_\_\_\_. Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted. (Addendum \_\_\_\_.)

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Date Board Approved:

## MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 917

This Memorandum of Agreement was entered into on the dates indicated herein below by and between the following Independent School Districts: Special School District #6, Inver Grove Heights #199, West St. Paul/Mendota Heights/Eagan #197, Randolph #195, Lakeville #194, Farmington #192, Burnsville #191, and Hastings #200, and Bloomington #271 (said parties hereinafter generally referred to as “members”) and Intermediate School District 917 (“District” or “service provider”).

### WITNESSETH THAT:

**WHEREAS**, the members are organized for the purpose of providing public school education, and

**WHEREAS**, each of the members is interested in cooperating with other members in the delivery of educational services and in receiving services from the District; and

**WHEREAS**, the members are eligible to organize a joint school board pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 136D.81 et seq., and Minnesota Statutes § 471.59 for such purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, the members first agreed to cooperate and organize a joint school board in 1970; and

**WHEREAS**, the members have jointly and cooperatively organized a school district referred to as Intermediate District 917 pursuant to the broad authority contained in Minnesota Statutes § 136D.81 et seq. and other applicable statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the members have jointly and cooperatively organized a school board referred to as the Board of Intermediate District 917 pursuant to the broad authority contained in Minnesota Statutes § 471.59 and other applicable statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the member districts wish to renew their commitment to cooperate in the context of current law and practice and to continue to receive services through the District:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, each of the parties to this Memorandum certifies to and agrees with the other parties as follows:

1. **Purpose of Agreement.** To continue to jointly and cooperatively deliver educational services through Intermediate District 917 for the benefit of the member districts and students.
2. **Authority of Members.** Each member signatory to this Memorandum has been duly authorized by its school board to execute this agreement and has complied with Minnesota Statutes § 136D.85 and 136D.93.
3. **Member Representatives.** Each member shall have one representative on the Board who shall be appointed by the school board of such member and shall serve for three years. On or before June 15 of each succeeding year in which its representative’s term shall expire, a member district shall appoint one representative to serve for a three-year term. Each such representative shall be a voter in the school district by which he or she is appointed.

4. Board Powers. The Board has the following rights, powers, and privileges, in accordance with applicable laws, rules and regulations:
  - A. At the Board's annual meeting, the Board will review the Memorandum of Agreement and will elect a chair, a vice-chair, a clerk, and a treasurer who shall serve until the next annual meeting of the Board.
  - B. To adopt bylaws concerning the following: powers and duties of the Board, the date of the annual meeting of the Board, special meetings of the Board, duties of the officers, voting procedures, quorums, filling of vacancies in the position of representative and such other matters of organization, form and procedure which the Board may deem necessary.
  - C. To exercise all of those rights, powers and privileges conferred by statute on the individual members and the Intermediate District.
  - D. To function as an entity separate and apart from any of the members in furtherance of their joint interests and intentions.
  - E. To fulfill the District's mission to serve as the best resource of specialized services to ensure that each member district can meet the unique learning needs of its students.
  - F. Any and all of the powers, duties and functions described herein above may be performed by any committee pursuant to the bylaws of the Board or by specific resolution of the Board.
5. Tuition. Tuition and fees will be charged for services received from the District in accordance with applicable statutes.
6. Liability. Neither members nor member representatives shall have individual liability for the debts and obligations of the District. Member and member representative liability is determined by law.
7. Withdrawal by any Member. Any member may withdraw from the District and cause its representative to cease to function in such capacity upon written notice given to the Clerk of the Board before February 1 of any year, such notice to be accompanied by a certified copy of an appropriate resolution of the school board of such member authorizing and directing such withdrawal of the member from the Intermediate District. Any such withdrawal by a member shall be effective June 30 of the following fiscal year.
8. Additional Members. Any independent school district as defined in Minnesota Statutes 136D.81 and 136D.93, not signatory hereto, may become a member of the District hereafter upon adoption of a resolution of its school board authorizing

such school district to become a member, upon compliance with the requirements of law and upon complying with and executing this Agreement and any amendments thereto. A certified copy of such resolution shall be furnished to the Clerk of the Board, whereupon such school district shall be deemed to be a member of the Intermediate District.

9. Title. The District shall take title in its name to all property acquired by it.
10. Amendment of Agreement. This Agreement may be amended by a written instrument executed by the member districts who are members of the District at the time of the amendment. The proposed amendment shall be recommended by a member and notice of the proposed amendment and copy thereof shall be sent by mail to each member of the Board not less than sixty (60) days before the proposed effective date of such amendment, which date shall be stated in the amendment. If such amendment is not acceptable to any member, such member's written objections shall be sent to the Clerk of the Board at least 30 days in advance of the proposed effective date of the amendment. The proposed amendment shall not become effective until it has been approved and executed by not less than two-thirds of all member districts.
11. Dissolution of Intermediate District. The District shall continue in existence until two-thirds of its members agree upon dissolution at an annual meeting or special meeting called for the purpose of considering dissolution.
12. Distribution of Assets upon Dissolution. Upon dissolution of the District, any assets remaining after payment or reservation for debts and liabilities shall be divided among all members of the District as a majority of the members of the Board at the time of dissolution may determine in their discretion. To the extent possible all assets of the District shall be converted to cash prior to dissolution.
13. Severability Clause. If any provision or provisions of this Agreement shall be held to be invalid, illegal, unenforceable or in conflict with state or federal law, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby, and the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.
14. Effective Date. This Agreement shall become effective on July 1, 2011.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this instrument to be executed on the dates appearing herein below:

Dated: 11/9/2011

**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT 917**

By *Gil & Lewis*  
Chair  
And *Deborah M. Clark*  
Clerk

Dated: 12/15/2010

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200**

By *Jeri G. Nelson*  
Chair  
And *Bradley Stovely*  
Clerk

Dated: 12/13/2010

**SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 6**

By *John Torich*  
Chair  
And *Aun Linnihan*  
Clerk

Dated: 12/20/10

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 199**

By *[Signature]*  
Chair  
And *Keitly*  
Clerk

Dated: 12/6/2010

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 197**

By *[Signature]*  
Chair  
And *Laura Howard*  
Clerk

Dated: 12-20-10

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 195**

By Larry J. Cochrane  
Chair

And Steve Dale  
Clerk

Dated: 12-14-2010

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 194**

By Judy Keliker  
Chair

And Kathy Lewis  
Clerk

Dated: December 13, 2010

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 192**

By V. W.  
Chair

And Julie A. McNaught  
Clerk

Dated: 12-2-10

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 191**

By Michelle Currier  
Chair

And Sandra M. Sloop  
Clerk

Dated: 4/11/2011

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 271**

By Chris Peter  
Chair

And Timothy J. Colver  
Clerk

~~2020-2021~~  
2021-2022

**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT 917  
SCHOOL BOARD  
COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>
BUDGET & FINANCE	Kathy Lewis Cindy Nordstrom Byron Schwab
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	Wendy Felton <del>DeeDee Currier</del> Dave Pemble
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS	Kathy Lewis Byron Schwab
INSURANCE	Tom Bennett
PERSONNEL	<del>*Vanda Pressnall</del> Tom Bennett Dave Pemble Melissa Sauser
POLICY	Wendy Felton Dave Pemble
ECSU Representative	Byron Schwab
MSBA Representative	Kathy Lewis
Relicensure	<del>DeeDee Currier</del>
Sourcewell Representative	Cindy Nordstrom
AMSD	Kathy Lewis

**\*Committee Chair shall:** ...Recommend and approve Committee Agendas  
...Conduct Committee Meetings  
...Report Committee Recommendations to the full Board  
...Act as the Board's "resident expert" on their assigned areas