## School Law 33<sup>rd</sup> Edition NYS School Boards Association // NYS Bar Association

Section 3 School Board Meetings and School District Records

3:17; 3:18; 3:20 Executive Session

**Executive Session** is a portion of the meeting that is not open to the public. It can take place only upon a majority vote of the total membership of the Board taken at an open meeting. The motion should specify the subject or subjects to be discussed. With limited exception (i.e., voting charges against a tenured teacher), no official action can be taken on issues in an Executive Session.

Executive Sessions are permitted only for the purpose of discussing one or more of the following subjects:

- Matters that will imperil the public safety if disclosed;
- Any matter that may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer;
- Information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed;
- Proposed, pending or current litigation;
- Collective negotiations pursuant to article 14 of the Civil Service Law;
- ❖ The medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation;
- The preparation, grading or administration of exams;
- The proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition, sale or exchange of securities, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value of these things.

Confidentiality rules apply to matters properly discussed in Executive Session. Board members must maintain confidential information they acquire in Executive Session. Disclosure of such information would subject a school board member to removal from the Board.