

PRESENTATIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF 3 MINUTES

PUBLIC COMMENT AT BOARD MEETINGS

Per Policy 0167.3

The Board recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on District matters.

The Board, as a representative body of the District, wishes to provide an avenue for any citizen to express his/her interest in and concerns for the schools. Accordingly, the public is cordially invited to attend any and all open sessions of the Board.

Meetings of the Board are conducted for the purpose of carrying on the business of the schools, and therefore are not public meetings, but meetings held in public.

Public Comment Section of the Meeting

To permit fair and orderly public expression, the Board may provide a period for public comment at any regular meeting of the Board and publish rules to govern such comment in Board meetings.

The presiding officer of each Board meeting at which public comment is permitted shall administer the rules of the Board for its conduct.

The Board clerk shall serve as timekeeper or, in his/her absence, the Board treasurer shall serve in this capacity.

The presiding officer shall be guided by the following rules:

1. Public comment shall be permitted as indicated on the order of business.
2. Anyone having a legitimate interest in the actions of the Board may comment during the public portion of a meeting.
3. Attendees must register their intention to comment in the public portion of the meeting prior to the start of the public comment agenda item.
4. Order of presentation shall be given preference to district residents and determined by order of persons submitting the appropriate form to the presiding officer or the order in which the requests to speak are picked up from the secretary.
5. Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and will be requested to preface their comments by an announcement of their name, and whether they reside in the district, having filed a Privilege of the Floor form stating their full address, and state whether they represent a group when present at the meeting.
6. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes duration.
7. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic unless all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard.
8. In the interest of avoiding repetitive testimony, the chairperson may want to encourage persons with the same viewpoint to appoint a spokesperson.
9. Participants shall direct all comments to the Board and not to staff or other participants.
10. Participants shall address only topics within the legitimate jurisdiction of the Board.
11. Presentations are not to be designed for purposes of engaging others in a debate in this forum.
12. Discussion about certified, classified or professional personnel or individual Board of Education members shall not be considered an appropriate topic for this forum and the speaker will be ruled out of order.
13. The presiding officer may:
 - a. interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
 - b. request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
 - c. request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
 - d. call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action.
14. The portion of the meeting during which the comment of the public is invited shall be limited to thirty (30) minutes.

By submitting this form, the speaker acknowledges reading and agreeing to abide by the rules listed above.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR REQUEST

Name _____ District Resident? Yes _____ No _____

Address _____

Group you represent, if applicable _____

What is the subject of your comments? _____

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS COMPLETED FORM TO THE BOARD SECRETARY OR PRESIDING OFFICER