

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

The Board desires citizens of the District to attend its sessions so that they may become better acquainted with the operation and programs of the schools and that the Board may have opportunity to hear the wishes and ideas of the public. All official meetings of the Board shall be open to the press and public. However, the Board reserves the right to meet privately for work sessions and to adjourn or recess a meeting at any time to discuss such matters as are properly considered in executive session.

In order to assure that persons who wish to appear before the Board may be heard and, at the same time, conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the Board adopts as policy the following procedures and rules pertaining to public participation at Board meetings.

1. Before the meeting begins, patrons shall indicate that they wish to address the Board on the sign-up sheet provided. Patrons shall list their names, the topic they wish to address, and whether they are representing themselves or a group.
2. If several individuals are concerned with the same issue, they shall select a spokesperson to address their views. In the interest of time, the Board will limit cumulative and repetitive information.
3. Individuals shall be allotted a maximum of 5 minutes to address the Board. Group representatives shall be allotted a maximum of 10 minutes.
4. Patrons presenting highly detailed or complex information shall, before the meeting, provide a written copy or a synopsis of their comments for the Board.
5. Patrons may offer such objective opinions of school operations and programs as concern them. The Board, in public session, will not hear personal complaints concerning school personnel. Other channels provide for Board consideration and disposition of legitimate complaints involving individuals.

The Board vests in its President, or other presiding officer, authority to terminate the remarks of any individual when they do not adhere to the rules established above.

Persons appearing before the Board are reminded, as a point of information, that members of the Board are without authority to act independently as individuals in official matters. Thus, questions may be directed to individual Board Members, but action by the Board is necessary to resolve such questions.

Approved 8-9-95