

Public Participation At Board Meetings

The public shall have an opportunity to make presentations to the Board. Staff members, appearing as individuals or as members of an employee organization and not in any official district capacity, shall also be allowed to address the Board at Board meetings. The Board shall not obligate itself to act on any request or proposal presented to it, however.

The Board shall reserve the right to limit presentations and to refuse to hear those coming from the floor of a Board meeting without advance notice to the president. Valid and intelligent decisions on important and complex matters are made only through possession of complete information. For this reason as well as to permit mature deliberation, the Board shall not act on items which are not on the agenda or on which its members do not have full information.

The superintendent is authorized to publish guidelines outlining how the public may obtain a hearing or make a presentation before the Board.

Persons who have made advance requests shall be recognized at the time designated on the agenda. As a general rule, requests to be heard made during the course of a meeting will not be granted until all items on the agenda have been covered. If a visitor desires to speak on a subject being considered by the Board, however, he shall seek recognition before the Board takes action.

Recognition from the floor may be made at the discretion of the Board president. Such factors as time, agenda and the urgency of the proposed request will be considered by the president in making this determination. Such requests should be sought by sending word to the president indicating the desire to be heard and the subject matter to be presented if at all possible.

When recognized, one should rise, state his or her name and address, the subject of the remarks to be made and as briefly but as fully as possible, make his or her presentation. The person making remarks to the Board should remain in the room long enough to ascertain whether there are questions that members of the Board or the superintendent desire to ask.

Persons speaking to the Board shall not be interrupted except by the president or designated time keeper to advise them of time limitations. If the presentation is out of order or not factual and this is known to someone present in the meeting room, a note should be sent to the president who may interrupt to clear up a point.

The president may impose time limitations on the length of presentations either before or during the presentation.

Comments and questions at a regular meeting may deal with any topic related to the Board's conduct of the schools.

Comments made from the audience at special meetings shall relate directly to the reason for call of the meeting.

Adopted: 1971
Revised: May 2, 1977
Revised: August 2000
Revised: February 28, 2006

CROSS REF.: KE, Public Complaints