

SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENTS AT BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education welcomes public comment and will set aside a specific portion of its agenda for such comments provided, however, the Board President may, at his/her discretion, dispense with the public comment period to enable the Board to address other business, when appropriate. Board of Education ("Board") meetings are held in public, however, they are not public meetings and there is no statutory authority for citizens to make comments or presentations at Board meetings.

Procedure

Parties wishing to have matters considered at a regular Board meeting shall submit, to the Clerk of the Board, at least two (2) days in advance of the next regular meeting a statement setting forth their name, address, contact information, the groups (if any) that they represent, the subject they would like to discuss, and any action that they wish the Board to take. All requests for Board action shall be accompanied by a statement of the anticipated cost of such actions and benefits to the instructional process.

During the first regular meeting of each month, the Board will set aside a maximum of thirty (30) minutes during its Board meetings to receive public comments. The public comment period may be extended by vote of a majority of the Board. Individual speakers will be granted five (5) minutes for their comments. This time limitation may be shortened or extended at the discretion of the Board President or other Board member chairing the meeting in the absence of the President.

Prohibited Conduct

The purpose of School Board of Education meetings is to conduct School Board business. Therefore, undue interruption or other interference with the orderly conduct of Board business shall not be permitted. The use of obscene language, slanderous, or abusive remarks are prohibited. The presiding officer will terminate the speaker's privilege of addressing the Board if the speaker engages in prohibited conduct.

The District's Response

Public comments that are consistent with the requirements and limitations of this policy will receive consideration from the Board. Responses to specific questions will be provided in a timely fashion by appropriate District personnel.

Complaints Regarding Specific Individuals or Curriculum Issues

No person may orally initiate charges or complaints against specific individuals or challenge instructional materials used in the District at a public Board meeting. Any charges, criticisms or complaints regarding an employee or a student of the District will be referred to the Board of Education President or the Superintendent for investigation pursuant to the District's Policy on Public Complaints. Complaints and concerns regarding instructional materials used in the District will be handled according to District policy, rules and regulations.

Adopted: 9/13/10