



Book	Policy Manual
Section	0000 Bylaws
Title	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS
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0167.3 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

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

Such requests shall be approved by the Superintendent and the Board President.

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

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

The presiding officer shall be guided by the following rules:

- A. Public participation shall be permitted as indicated on the order of business before the Board takes official action on any issue of substance at the discretion of the presiding officer.
- B. Anyone having a legitimate interest in the actions of the Board may participate during the public portion of a meeting.
- C. Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and will be requested to preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address, group affiliation, if and when appropriate.
- D. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes duration.
- E. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic unless all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard.
- F. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no person may address or question Board members individually.
- G. The presiding officer may:
 1. prohibit public comments which are frivolous, repetitive, or harassing;
 2. interrupt, warn, or terminate a person's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
 3. request any individual to leave the meeting when that person behaves in a manner that is disruptive of the orderly conduct of the meeting;

4. request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's behavior interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting;
5. 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;
6. waive these rules with the approval of the Board when necessary for the protection of privacy or the administration of the Board's business.

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- Legal
- I.C. 20-26-4-3 Notice of meetings to Board members
 - I.C. 5-14-1.5 Open Door Law notice to the public and news media of regular, emergency and special meetings