

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**

School District residents and staff (only in their private capacity as taxpayer, parent or citizen) may address the Board at a regular open Board meeting during the public participation forum period of the meeting.

Anyone else who has been requested by the District Administrator or Board of Education to present a given subject may also address the Board.

Persons or organizations who wish to have an audience with the Board must submit a request in writing at least 72 hours before the time of the meeting so that such request may be placed on the agenda. Any person attending a Board meeting without such previous arrangements may be heard during the public participation forum as outlined below.

Public Participation Forum

The Board holds a 15-minute public participation forum at the beginning and conclusion of each regular open Board meeting. During these 15-minute periods, any individual or group may express concerns or opinions about school operations or programs or may speak to a particular agenda item, within the following guidelines:

- Each person or group must sign up to speak at either forum.
- Each person or group may speak for a maximum of three minutes.
- Comments may only pertain to operations and programs. No discussion, complaints, or charges regarding any school employees are allowed.
- The Board is not required to respond to any of the comments. The Board may ask questions of the individual or group and may decide to refer the matter to a school employee (principal, administrator, etc.) or a Board committee for research and review.
- The time limits for each speaker or for the public participation period in general may be extended upon a majority vote of the Board members present for a particular meeting.
- The Board President may exercise authority in limiting who talks, and for how long, if the individual does not adhere to these guidelines.

CROSS REF.: 171.2, Agenda Preparation and Dissemination

APPROVED: January 12, 2000

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