



Book	Policy Manual
Section	0000 Bylaws
Title	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS
Code	po0167.3
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0167.3 - **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**

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

Agenda Item

Any person or group wishing to place an item on the agenda shall speak with the District Administrator.

Public-Participation Section of the Meeting

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

The presiding officer of each Board meeting at which public participation is permitted shall administer the rules 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, or at the discretion of the presiding officer.
- B. Citizens may make a brief statement to the board regarding a specific agenda item during either unfinished or new business. The board president will recognize all speakers, as time permits, following the introduction, motion, and initial board discussion. Each speaker will be limited to a brief statement. Total time allowed for statements will be five (5) minutes for each agenda item. Time limits may be extended by the presiding officer as warranted in his/her sole judgment.
- C. Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and will be requested to preface their comments by an announcement of their name and address.
- D. Participants shall direct all comments to the Board and not to staff or other participants.
- E. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no person may address or question Board members individually.
- F. The presiding officer may:
 - 1. interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
 - 2. request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;

3. request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
 4. 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;
 5. waive these rules.
- G. The portion of the meeting during which the participation of the public is invited shall be limited to fifteen (15) minutes, unless extended by the presiding officer.
- H. Recording, filming, or photographing the Board's open meetings is permitted. Recording, filming, or photographing the Board's closed session is only permitted pursuant to Bylaw 0167.2 – Closed Session. The person operating the equipment should contact the District Administrator prior to the Board meeting to review possible placement of the equipment, and must agree to abide by the following conditions:
1. No obstructions are created between the Board and the audience.
 2. No interviews are conducted in the meeting room while the Board is in session.
 3. No commentary, adjustment of equipment, or positioning of operators is made that would distract either the Board or members of the audience or otherwise disrupt the meeting while the Board is in session.

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