

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Barre City Elementary & Middle School**  
**Barre Town Middle Elementary School**  
**Spaulding High School**  
**Central Vermont Career Center**

**January 9, 2020**  
**PROCEDURE**  
**Public Comment at Board Meetings**

As stated in BUUSD Policy A21; Public Participation at Board Meetings, it is the policy of the Barre Unified Union District Board to encourage public participation at its meetings. The policy states that reasonable rules of participation may be used to ensure that meetings are conducted in an orderly fashion and that the business at hand is completed in a timely manner. Such rules may take into consideration such things as length of each speaker's presentation and the number of times each speaker may comment.

Persons Who May Address the Board include:

- Any district resident
- School staff members, students and parents
- Individuals who have been requested by the superintendent or the board to present a given subject
- Persons who are directly affected by matters on the board agenda
- Others at the discretion of the board

When the number of people wishing to speak is large, the board may authorize the chair to use a speakers' list. Members of the public will be given an opportunity to sign the speakers' list, indicating which agenda item will be addressed.

The board meeting agenda includes an item for "Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda". Any person who would like to make brief public comment may use this time for that purpose, while respecting the following guidelines:

- The person commenting will sign the Visitor List managed by the board recorder or clerk.
- The time allotted to each person commenting will be assigned by the Chair of the School Board.
- The person commenting will not hand out any printed materials that have not been previewed by the chair in advance of the meeting. If this happens, the Chair will stop the meeting to preview the materials.
- The person commenting will use respectful and appropriate language.
- The person commenting will not breach the privacy or other rights of students, parents or school employees, including using any personally identifiable information in public session.
- If the comment is a complaint against a student, a parent, an employee, a school, or the district, the person commenting shall have already completely followed the board procedure on complaints, shall not breach the privacy or other rights of individuals as specified above, and/or shall have already requested an executive session in advance through the Chair.
- The Chair shall rule out of order any comment to the board which does not follow these guidelines.

For items that are included on the agenda, any person interested in commenting should hold comments until that agenda item is discussed. The chair will ask for public comments on that agenda item before action is taken by the board.