



Harriet Tubman School of Science and Technology Public Comment Policy

Purpose

The Governing Board (the “**Board**”) of Harriet Tubman School of Science and Technology, Inc. (the “**School**”) welcomes and encourages public comment at its meetings and is committed to providing meaningful opportunities for members of the public to participate. Time is set aside at each of its regularly-scheduled meetings to allow residents, businesses or organizations, employees, or other stakeholders to address the Board.

The Public Comment period is designed to gain input from the public and not for immediate responses by the Board. While the Board cannot assure each speaker of a specific or individualized response, the Board will consider the public comments and any supporting materials provided by speakers.

Duration

This policy is permanent.

Policy

SECTION 1. Procedure

- a. Each Board meeting agenda shall have a time designated for “public comment” as time permits. The total time for public comment shall not exceed thirty (30) minutes but will end sooner if all speakers signing up to speak have been heard. The Board Chair has the discretion to lengthen or shorten this period.
- b. Speakers should begin their comments by stating their name, connection, or interest in the School and if so authorized, the organization they represent.
- c. Speakers should be courteous and professional. The Board Chair may terminate public comments that are profane, vulgar, or defamatory.
- d. Speakers will be heard in the order in which they signed up.

- e. Speakers have four (4) minutes each and must stop speaking promptly when signaled.
- f. Speakers may not address confidential student or personnel matters. Any such concerns should be submitted to the Executive Director, or where applicable, the Board in writing.
- g. Speakers may provide the Board with a written copy of their comments and other appropriate supporting documentation.
- h. An organization may sign up to speak by designating a spokesperson.

Approval

Policy Approval Date: 3/18/2021

Policy Effective Date: 3/18/2021