



Book	Policy Manual
Section	0000 Bylaws
Title	Copy of PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS
Code	po0167.3
Status	Second Reading
Last Revised	July 5, 2022
Last Reviewed	June 6, 2022

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS
PO0167.3**

The Board of School Trustees of the School City of East Chicago recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school corporation matters.

This policy governing public participation shall be applied in accordance with I.C. 5-14-1.5-1.

Agenda Comments

Members of the public may comment on individual agenda items. When the identified item is brought up for consideration and prior to the board discussion on the agenda item, the Board President will allocate time not to exceed 2 (two) minutes each to the individuals who have requested an opportunity for comment and will determine and announce the time limit for public comments on each agenda item.

Persons who wish to address the Board must state the following:

- a. *name and address;*
- b. ***students, residents, and parents with children in the school corporation***
- c. *group affiliation, if any; and*

Persons who have residency within the boundaries of the school corporation and/or who have children enrolled in the school corporation will be given first priority to address the school board.

The Board President shall administer the procedures of the Board and shall be guided by the following rules:

1. A person must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address, and group affiliation, if any.
2. No person may speak more than once on the same agenda item.
3. All statements shall be directed to the Board; no person may address or question Board members individually.
4. Persons making comments shall not debate statements made by other persons.

5. Boisterous conduct will not be permitted; nor will any defamatory remarks be tolerated.

The Board President may terminate any person addressing the Board for persistent violations of rules or disruptive conduct.

The Board President may:

1. Interrupt, warn, or terminate a person's statement when the statement is too lengthy, obscene, or irrelevant;
2. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum or engages in disruptive behavior;
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; or
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.

Public Comments

Public Comments shall be permitted under the agenda item entitled "Public Comments" and be restricted to items appearing on the agenda of the Board meeting.

Public comments shall be limited to 3 (three) minutes or longer based up the number of persons signed up to speak and the length of the agenda, as determined by the Board President.

A person who desires to speak to the board must sign in at least 5 (five) minutes before the start of the meeting. A registration sheet shall be available at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the meeting. Required registration information shall include the name and address of the person providing the comments, the organization represented (if applicable).

The provisions in this policy will apply at the collective bargaining public hearing, *the tentative agreement meeting*, and at the time during a meeting when the school board will vote to ratify the tentative collective bargaining agreement. All public comments made at the collective bargaining hearing will be recorded in a manner which will be shared with every member of the school board.

The Board President shall administer the procedures of the Board and shall be guided by the following rules:

1. *A person must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address, and group affiliation, if any.*
2. *No person may speak more than once on the same agenda item.*
3. *All statements shall be directed to the Board; no person may address or question Board members individually.*
4. *Persons making comments shall not debate statements made by other persons.*
5. *Boisterous conduct will not be permitted; nor will any defamatory remarks be tolerated.*

The Board President may terminate any person addressing the Board for persistent violations of rules or disruptive conduct.

The Board President may:

1. *Interrupt, warn, or terminate a person's statement when the statement is too lengthy, obscene, or irrelevant;*

2. ***Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum or engages in disruptive behavior;***
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; or***
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.***

© Neola 2011 ISBA 2022

Legal

I.C. 5-14-1.5-1

Last Modified by Diane Bigham on July 5, 2022