Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
August 17, 2023	B-1 (S)

Title

CCSD Administrative Procedures Regarding Expected Behavior and Decorum of Visitors to Meetings

Requested Action

School Board Approval of CCSD Administrative Procedures Regarding Expected Behavior and Decorum of Visitors to Meetings

Summary Explanation and Background

O.C.G.A. § 20-2-58 (c) 3-5, which was created by Senate Bill 588 (2022), required that by October 1, 2022, and by August 1 each year thereafter, each local board of education in Georgia adopt rules of conduct for public meetings and publish these rules of conduct in a prominent manner on its website. These rules must include provisions for the removal of members of the public for disrupting public meetings.

The School Board previously approved these rules in September 2022 and again when the associated policy was modified in April 2023.

The attached administrative procedures reflect application of the statute, and upon approval by the School Board, will be posted with School Board Policy (BCBI) Public Participation in Board Meetings on the School District's website.

Priority Area

Organizational and Operational Effectiveness

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

Administrative Procedures

Source of Additional Information

Kyla Cromer, School Board Chair 770.479.1871
Abby Roach, School Board Attorney 770.479.1406

CCSD Administrative Procedures Regarding Expected Behavior and Decorum of Visitors to Meetings

Pursuant to the School Board's Public Participation at School Board Meetings Policy (BCBI) these administrative guidelines are to be utilized by CCSD staff in policy application:

The Cherokee County Board of Education, pursuant to State law, conducts monthly public business meetings during which there is a public participation segment and opportunity for the public to address the School Board relative to business agenda items. While these monthly meetings are open to the public, they are not meetings with the public. In this public setting, comments from the audience are confined to the individuals who signed up to speak during the time designated for citizens to address the Board.

This School District is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of everyone attending meetings of the School Board. As part of this commitment, CCSD continues to implement safety and security measures. Meeting attendees will pass through a metal detector and a security screening prior to entering the meeting. Meeting attendees are encouraged to arrive early to provide ample time to go through the security check-in and find seating prior to the beginning of the meeting.

Below you will find information about expected behavior and decorum of visitors as well as consequences for those who choose to disrupt proceedings:

- Visitors should silence their cell phones and electronic devices before the meeting begins.
- Visitors and speakers should not bring signs and posters into the building.
- Only the speakers who signed up to participate in the meeting will address the Board (Policy BCBI). The topic addressed must be identical to the one submitted CCSD Public Participation Speaker Sign-up Form. Speakers should not expect School Board Members to respond at this meeting to public comments or questions.
- Those in attendance should extend courtesy to School Board Members and to all speakers by listening respectfully and by refraining from making comments or sounds while others are speaking.
- Those in attendance must comply with the School Board Policy BCBI. Disruptive comments and conduct that interfere with the conduct of official business are prohibited.
- Any individual causing an actual disruption is subject to removal from the meeting as permitted by OCGA § 20-2-58.