

Bylaws of the Board

Citizen Participation at Board of Education Meetings

School district citizens who wish to speak with the Board of Education about a particular subject or concern shall be recognized at the appropriate point in the agenda of the regular monthly Board of Education meeting. In unusual circumstances and with the approval of the Board of Education this courtesy may be extended to special meetings of the Board of Education. Written communications from citizens requesting permission to speak with the Board of Education are encouraged but not required.

The Board may permit any individual or group to address the Board concerning any subject that lies within its jurisdiction during a portion of the Board's regular [or special] meetings so designated for such purpose. The Chairperson may, if necessary, restrict the amount of time allowed for citizen presentation. Visitor participation in Board of Education meetings shall only be at the designated place on the agenda or upon Board of Education request.

- (1) Three (3) minutes may be allotted to each speaker and a maximum of Fifteen (15) minutes to each subject matter. The Board may modify these limitations at the beginning of a meeting if the number of persons wishing to speak makes it advisable to do so.
- (2) A Board member shall be appointed by the Chairperson prior to the meeting to act as timekeeper for the meeting, if deemed necessary by the Chairperson.
- (3) In the event that a Board meeting is interrupted by any person or group of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of such meeting unfeasible and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meetings, the Chairperson may order the room cleared and continue in session.
- (4) All speakers must identify themselves by name and address.

Adequate Information to Precede Action

In deciding upon any question before it, the Board of Education shall examine and evaluate all available information which they consider essential. The Superintendent of Schools shall be given an opportunity to examine and to evaluate all such information and to recommend action before the Board of Education attempts to make a decision.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
1-200 Definitions
1-210 Access to public records

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Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes (continued)
 1-225 Meetings of government agencies to be public
 1-226 Recording, broadcasting or photographing meetings
 19a-342 Smoking prohibited in certain places. Signed required. Penalty
 1-231 Executive sessions
 1-232 Conduct of meetings (re disturbances)
 1-206 Denial of access of public records or meetings. Notice. Appeal
 10-224 Duties of the Secretary

Bylaw adopted by the Board: May 27, 1999
Bylaw revised: May 23, 2024

MARLBOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Marlborough, Connecticut