

ORANGE COUNTY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

Meeting Date: February 25, 2013

AGENDA ITEM No. 13-02-(2)-09

ACTION ITEM: (Y/N) Y

SUBJECT: Public Participation at Board Meetings Policy #2310 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Approval

INFO. CONTACT: Marcie Holland/Patrick Rhodes PHONE: 919-732-8126

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Public Participation at Board Meetings Policy #2310.

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**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the board an opportunity to approve on 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Approval revisions to Board Policy #2310, Public Participation at Board Meetings.

**BACKGROUND:** The Board of Education Policy Subcommittee met on January 11 and February 1, 2013. Upon recommendation of subcommittee members Donna Coffey, Brenda Stephens, Debbie Piscitelli, administration and legal counsel, this policy was approved by the full board on February 11, 2013 and is being brought back for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Approval.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** There is no financial impact associated with this agenda item.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education approve the revised Policy #2310, Public Participation at Board Meetings, on 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Approval.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**    *Date Reviewed/Approved: 10/04/2004*    *Policy Number: 2310*

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*Rescinds Policy Number: BCBI, BCBI-R, BCBA, KCA*    *Issued: 02/28/1979, 02/28/1979, 02/28/1979, 02/28/1979*

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Board meetings are conducted for the purpose of carrying on the official business of the school district. The public is cordially invited to attend board meetings to observe the board as it conducts its official business. However the board reserves the right to meet in closed sessions, according to the provisions of the Open Meetings Law, and to adjourn or recess a meeting at any time to discuss such matters as are properly considered in closed sessions.

The Board of Education, as an elected representative body of the school district, also wishes to provide a forum for citizens to address the Board with public comments. To provide an opportunity for input while conducting an orderly meeting, individuals or groups may be heard by the Board in accordance with this policy.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**

The Board will provide an opportunity in open session every regularly scheduled meeting for the community members, students and employees to address the Board. Public comments should not address any specific student or personnel matter. Complaints concerning any specific employee or student are not permissible during public comments.

No profane or vulgar language will be permitted or personal abuse against any person. The Board vests in its Chairman or other presiding officer authority to terminate the remarks of any individual when he/she does not adhere to the rules established above.

A person wishing to address the Board on an open session item on the agenda for that meeting must sign up prior to the Board's regular meeting by signing his/her name and address and the agenda item on which he/she wishes to speak.

The Board Chair will recognize the speaker. Comments will be limited to three minutes. When the three minutes end, the speaker must stop speaking immediately. Yielding time to another speaker will not be permitted. The Board will not have a discussion with any speaker.

Citizens may not interrupt, disturb, or disrupt a Board of Education meeting and will be subject to the provisions of G.S. 143-318.17.

Nothing in this policy shall prevent the Board from limiting public comment at any Board meeting.

Legal References: G.S. 143-318.10, -318.17, and 115C-36