

**Public Participation at Board Meetings**

The School Board shall reserve at every official meeting a period for public comment, limited at the Board's discretion as to the time allowed for each topic and the total time allowed for public comment, but not so limited as to provide for no public comment. Public comment is not required at official meetings held solely for the purpose of meeting in executive session, an inauguration, swearing in of newly elected officials, or presentation of an annual report to the School Board.

In order to assure that citizens who wish to appear before the Board may be heard, and, at the same time, conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the following procedures have been adopted:

1. Any individual who desires to speak about an item on the agenda, is asked to present the "request to speak" to the superintendent, the Business Manager, or the Board President. The request may be communicated orally prior to the meeting or in written form or by a raised hand during the meeting. The Board President reserves the right to recognize or not to recognize citizens raising their hand during the formal School Board meeting.
2. Persons who wish to speak about an item that is not on the agenda are asked to present such request to the superintendent or the Board President, prior to the beginning of the meeting. Persons who present such a request will be allowed to speak about the topic at the "delegations" or "public forum" part of the formal School Board meeting.
3. Citizens who desire Board action on an item not on the agenda, will submit the item to the superintendent's office, at least 10 working days prior to the meeting of the Board, at which they wish for the item to be considered.
4. Presentations to the Board should be as brief as possible. Unless an extension of time is granted, a speaker is limited to three minutes.

The Board vests in its president or other presiding officer, authority to terminate the remarks of any individual when they do not adhere to the rules established above.

Legal References: SDCL 1-25-1; 1-25-1.1

Adopted: July 2000

Revised: February 9, 2009; March 11, 2024