

Public Participation at School Board Meetings

The Board will allocate at least 30 minutes during each regular and special open meeting during which any person may make comments to the Board regarding agenda or non-agenda items related to the District, subject to the reasonable constraints established and recorded in this policy. It shall be the Board's practice not to directly engage in discussion or ask or answer questions during public comment. The Board listens to comments or questions during public participation; responses to comments to or questions of the Board are most often managed through policy 3.30, *Chain of Command*. If members of the public violate this policy and it requires the Board to take time to address such non-compliance, including the Board calling a recess, that time will be considered part of the total duration for public comment.

To preserve sufficient time for the Board to conduct its business, any person appearing before the Board is expected to follow these guidelines:

1. Sign in on the designated public comment form, which requests each speaker to provide their name, address, topic, and whether the individual is a resident of the District. Individuals that provide they are residents will be permitted to speak before individuals that do not identify themselves as residents.
2. Address the Board only at the appropriate time as indicated on the agenda and when recognized by the Board President or designee. This includes following the directives of the Board President to maintain order and decorum for all.
3. Identify oneself and be brief. Each person may address the Board for up to three minutes.
4. Conduct oneself with respect and civility toward others and otherwise abide by Board policy 8.30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property or Involving School Personnel*. Specifically, individuals should display mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct. Individuals shall not:
 - a. Strike, injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, Board member, or any other person.
 - b. Use vulgar or obscene language.
 - c. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with a Board meeting (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner).
 - d. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the District or a Board meeting.
 - e. Violate other District policies or regulations, a directive from an authorized security officer, or a District employee or Board member.

The Board President shall have authority to:

1. Shorten the time for each person to address the Board to conserve time and give the maximum number of people an opportunity to speak.

2. Limit the duration of public comment on any one subject to 20 minutes. If several individuals wish to address the Board on the same subject, the group is encouraged to appoint a spokesperson.
3. Extend the 30-minute time limit for public participation.
4. Extend the three-minute time limit for individual speakers.
5. Determine procedural matters regarding public participation not otherwise covered in Board policy.