

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**

The Board of Education values input from community members. Public participation at Board meetings provides an important mechanism for this communication and will be permitted as follows:

### **Public Comment**

1. The Board of Education will allot up to 30 minutes for public participation at each Board meeting. A 15-minute segment will be provided at the beginning of the meeting, and a 15-minute segment will be provided at the conclusion of the meeting.
2. Citizens are encouraged to resolve school-related concerns through appropriate school personnel prior to raising such matters during Board meetings. In instances where issues have not been resolved through the administrative process, speakers will indicate efforts undertaken to achieve a resolution. The presiding officer will make every effort to recognize speakers in the order in which requests are received. Each speaker will state their name and identify whether they are speaking as an individual or on behalf of an organization.
3. The primary purpose of public participation is to provide the Board of Education with input regarding improvements to the educational program and to the processes, including communication, by which such improvements may be achieved.
4. Personnel matters will not be addressed during regular Board meetings. To ensure compliance with the First Amendment, the Board will not permit extended public comment in favor of or against individual staff members. Any remarks that are defamatory or that infringe upon the privacy rights of a student or employee, may subject the speaker to personal liability.
5. Members of the public whether speaking as individuals or as representatives of an organization will be allotted up to three (3) minutes, to address the Board. If all individuals wishing to speak cannot be accommodated within the allotted time, a sign-up sheet will be provided. Individuals registered on the sign-up sheet will be given priority recognition at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.
6. A method for the public to remotely attend and provide public comment at school board meeting will be provided, in accordance with applicable state law and District procedures.

### **Agenda Accessibility**

To permit community members to be heard, and at the same time to conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the Board establishes the following procedures for individuals requesting placement on the agenda of a regular meeting.

1. Individuals will notify the Superintendent of their request at least eight (8) days prior to the meeting. The request shall include the topic, a brief description, and any group or organization the individual represents.

2. Individuals will be allotted up to 15 minutes for their presentation. An extension of time may be granted by the Superintendent or Board President when scheduling the agenda, or by the Board during the meeting.
3. Speakers may present objective criticism of school operations and programs. The Board will not entertain complaints regarding school personnel or individuals in public session, as established procedures exist for consideration of such matters.

Adopted 1/25/88

Revised 1/28/92, 10/26/92, 2/22/94, 8/23/94, 2/26/08, 9/9/14, 2/1/16, 4/25/22, 3/25/24, 11/24/25