

RANCHO SANTA FE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Bylaw No. 9002: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

- A. The Board acknowledges that Education Code section 35145.5 authorizes members of the public to place matters directly related to business of the District on the agenda of open Board meetings, and also authorizes members of the public to address the Board regarding any such items as they are taken up by the Board at an open Board meeting. Any member of the public who desires to place a matter on the agenda of an open Board meeting shall notify the Superintendent in writing at least seven (7) calendar days before any regular meeting. The written notification shall identify the matter and include any relevant background information. The Superintendent shall determine whether the specific matter is directly related to the business of the District or is appropriate for an open Board meeting. Any decision by the Superintendent not to place a requested matter on the agenda may be appealed in writing to the Board.

A member of the public who wishes to address the Board on any such matter is limited to three (3) minutes unless the time limit is waived by a majority vote of the Board. In order to ensure that non-English speakers receive the same opportunity to directly address the Board, any member of the public who utilizes a translator shall be allotted six (6) minutes. The Board by a majority vote of the Board may limit the total amount of time to be allowed on any matter, except that any member of the public who utilizes a translator shall be provided at least twice the allotted time.

- B. The Board acknowledges that Government Code section 54954.3 requires that every agenda for regular meetings shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the Board on any item of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board and any item on the agenda before or during consideration of the item. At special meetings, members of the public shall be provided with the opportunity only to address those items described in the notice before or during consideration of the item(s).

A member of the public who wishes to address the Board on any such matter is limited to three (3) minutes unless such time limit is waived by a majority vote of the Board. The Board by a majority vote may limit the total amount of time to be allowed on an item.

- C. The Board President or the chair of any Board meeting may terminate a presenter's address if a presenter persists, after a warning, to engage in improper conduct or remarks that threaten to disrupt the meeting.
- D. No action or discussion shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda of a regular Board meeting, except that Board members may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their public testimony

rights under Government Code section 54954.3. In addition, Board members on their own initiative, or in response to questions posed by the public, may ask a question for clarification, refer the question to the Superintendent or other resource(s) for factual information, or request the Superintendent to report back to the Board at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter. Furthermore, the Board may take action to direct the Superintendent to place a matter of business on a future agenda.

Legal Reference: Education Code section
35145.5 Government Code section 54954.3

Date Bylaw Adopted By The Board: September 6, 1990
Dates Bylaw Revised By The Board: March 12, 1997; March 20, 2002; August 18, 2004; June 5, 2008; June 22, 2017