

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
STUDENT EXPRESSION
BOARD OPENING CEREMONIES

FNA
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

SELECTION OF
CAMPUSES

The Superintendent's administrative assistant or designee shall assign one school per month to lead the opening ceremonies for each regularly scheduled board meeting. The opening ceremonies consist of recitation of the U.S. and Texas pledges, and opportunity for student-led presentation or remarks.

SELECTION OF
STUDENT SPEAKERS

A month prior to the selected month for presentation, teachers on each grade level (elementary schools) or in each subject area (middle and high schools) will nominate one student based on academic performance, good citizenship, or any other student achievement. Teachers may not nominate any student who has had a disciplinary referral, such as in-school suspension, on-campus suspension, or DAEP, in the month prior to the nomination of students for that campus. The campus principal will then select the final candidates for recitation of the U.S. and Texas pledges, and to make a presentation or remarks of the student's choice. Race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or disability may not be considered in the final selection of the student to lead the opening ceremonies.

RULES FOR
STUDENTS MAKING
PERSONAL REMARKS

Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD has created a limited public forum for selected students to speak or make presentation during school board meetings. Students are selected based on viewpoint-neutral criteria to deliver a message of the student's choice.

Speakers are required to comply with EMS ISD policies and procedures in all respects. Please review the attached Board Policies FNA(LEGAL) and FNA(LOCAL). In addition to Board policy, speakers must also comply with the following:

1. The topic of the presentation must reflect the mission of the district and be directly related to one of the following: the opening of the meeting; honoring the occasion, the participants, and/or those in attendance; or the student's perspective on purpose, achievement, life, school, or looking forward to the future.
2. The presentation must be appropriate for board members, the general public, parents/guardians, children, district employees, and/or media who may attend board meetings.

3. Texas Education Code section 25.151 protects the right of students to express religious viewpoints without discrimination. A student's voluntary expression of a religious viewpoint on an otherwise permissible subject shall be treated in the same manner as a student's voluntary expression of a secular or other viewpoint on another otherwise permissible subject
4. Obscene, vulgar, lewd, or indecent speech is not permitted.
5. Speakers may not plagiarize, will properly attribute material authored by another person and will respect copyright, trademark, and other applicable state or federal laws.
6. Speakers may not advertise or promote any product, practice or service not permitted to minors by law or district policy, such as tobacco, alcohol, contraceptive products, firearms, fireworks, prescription drugs, drug-related paraphernalia, etc.
7. Speakers may not use insulting or fighting words, the very expression of which injures or harasses other people (e.g., threats of violence, defamation of character or of a person's race, religion, or ethnic origin).
8. The district does not permit speech that, because of its content, presents a clear and present likelihood that it will cause material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities or will cause the commission of unlawful acts or the violation of lawful school procedures.
9. Speakers may not promote illegal drug use.
10. Texas Education Code section 25.152 requires that EMS ISD ensure that speakers do not engage in obscene, vulgar, offensively lewd, or indecent speech. If a student's speech presentations fail to comply with EMS ISD policies and procedures when delivered during the board meeting, administrative action may be taken. Such action may include, but is not limited to, turning off the microphone.

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In the event a scheduled student speaker is unable to attend the meeting, a moment of silence will be held in their place.

DISCLAIMER

In accordance with law, the following disclaimer shall be read aloud and/or printed on the board's agenda: "Student speakers are speaking as individuals, their speech does not reflect the endorsement, sponsorship, position, or expression of the district." The district will also provide the disclaimer at another other public district event at which a student speaks if the district considers it necessary to clarify to the audience that the student does not speak on behalf of the district.

Acknowledgment for Middle School and High School Speakers

I volunteer to speak at the Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD Board Meeting. I have received a copy of the Procedures for Board Opening Ceremonies, and Board Policies FNA(LEGAL) and FNA(LOCAL). I understand the policies and procedures, and I agree to comply with them.

Speaker, Printed Name

Signature

Date

Parent of Speaker, Printed Name

Signature

Date

Parent of Speaker, Printed Name

Signature

Date