



Elgin Math & Science Academy Board of Directors
Public Participation Policy

The following procedures will govern public participation for Board and Committee Meetings:

1. Individuals wishing to address the Board or a Committee are asked to email the Board President 24 hours before the meeting at board@emsacharter.org.
2. When a virtual option is provided for access to a Board or Committee meeting, regardless of if the meeting is held in-person, virtually, or a hybrid of these two, individuals may be given the opportunity to participate in the public participation portion(s) of the meeting virtually.
3. No individual will be allowed to speak for more than **3 minutes**. Public participation will be held for no more than 30 minutes.
4. Members of the public should not use public comment to criticize individual staff members or call out individual students. Instead, comments should be focused on school policy or procedural issues. Problems or concerns with individuals should be addressed through the school grievance policy. If they do rise to the level of the Board, they should be submitted in writing to the Board for consideration. The Board may discuss the matter in Executive Session. Failure to follow this will result in the individual's public comment period being cut off.
5. Boisterous conduct will not be permitted at any Board or Committee meeting, nor will any defamatory or abusive language be tolerated. The Board or Committee chairperson may terminate the privilege of any speaker who violates this procedure.
6. The Board does not respond directly to any public comments. If the public comment warrants a response, the Board will add the topic to a future agenda, discuss it publicly, and vote if warranted.