Bartlett City Board of Education		1009
Descriptor Term: **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**	Descriptor Code: **Board Operations**	Issue Date: **12/02/2013**
	Rescinds:	Revised: **5/28/2015** **08/24/2023** **07/23/26**

Tennessee law makes specific provision for the participation of the public at school board meetings. Public comment is not permitted at Board Work Sessions. Members of the public desiring to address the Board may do so at Regular Business and Special Called Meetings. Only those members of the public who submit "Public Comment Cards/Forms" to the Board Chairman prior to the commencement of Business Meetings or Special Called Meetings shall be permitted to address the Board. Public comments shall be taken in the order in which the "Public Comment Cards/Forms" are received. Members of the public may comment upon 1) matters that are germane to the items on the Board's agenda; and 2) on any matter that is germane to the jurisdiction of the Bartlett City Board of Education, regardless of whether such matter is an item on the Board's agenda.

Not more than thirty (30) minutes of each Regular Business and Special Called Meeting shall be devoted to public comment as provided on the agenda. Public comments shall be limited to up to three (3) minutes per "Public Comment Card/Form", and no recognized speaker may yield his/her time to another speaker. At the discretion of the Chairman, limitations may be placed on the following: 1) a speaker's time to comment; 2) the number of speakers commenting on the same topic; and/or 3) the number of speakers representing the same group or organization.

Speakers will be introduced by the Chairman of the Board at the appropriate time during the agenda. Speakers must state their name, home address, organization he/she is representing, if any, and subject of the presentation before they are permitted to proceed. Speakers may offer objective comments about school operations and programs that concern them. Speakers are asked to refrain from using names of personnel or names of persons connected with the District, particularly when lodging a complaint. Speakers will not be permitted to engage in gossip, make defamatory comments, or use abusive or vulgar language. The Chairman shall have the authority to terminate the remarks of any individual who is disruptive or does not adhere to Board rules.

The Board will take all public comments under advisement, but the Board does not respond during public comment