

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The public is invited to attend Board meetings. At meetings, the Board will make every effort to create a welcoming environment where the work of the Board is conducted in a manner that is open and understandable to the public.

The Board values community input and encourages public comment on matters of concern, subject to the guidelines set forth below:

Time for Public Comment. At business meetings, the Board ordinarily provides up to forty minutes for public comment prior to the Board's consideration of action items. Each speaker may address the Board for up to three minutes during the comment period. Board work sessions normally do not include a public comment period unless Board action is anticipated.

Who May Address the Board. Individuals wishing to address the Board must complete a Request to Speak form prior to the start of the business meeting, returning it to the designated recipient together with any other material the speaker wishes to present to the Board.

Items for Discussion. The Board Chair may arrange the order of speakers based upon the item being discussed. Those speaking on items scheduled for action may be called upon before those speaking on non-action items. Issues raised by the public during the public comment period will be recorded along with the District's response to the concern.

Conduct and Remarks. Undue interruption or other interference with the orderly conduct of Board business cannot be allowed. Defamatory or threatening remarks are always out of order. The Board Chair may terminate the speaker's privilege of address if the speaker, after being called to order, continues to violate the time, place or manner guidelines in this policy.

The Board Chair may revise these guidelines during a meeting as the Chair determines necessary for the efficient and effective completion of Board business.

The Board understands that some members of the community are unable to attend Board meetings or would prefer to communicate with the Board in other ways. In recognition of this, the Board welcomes community participation and feedback through a variety of means including community meetings, letters, e-mail messages, and telephone calls. Information on how to contact the Board, a schedule of the Board's meetings, and minutes from recent meetings are posted on the District website and available in the Board office.

[Adopted: October 4, 2001]; [Revised: May 26, 2009]; [Reviewed October 22, 2019]

LEGAL REFERENCES

ORC 121.22 and 3313.20

CROSS REFERENCES

Board Policy BCE, Board Committees

Board Policy BD, School Board Meetings

Board Policy BDDC, Agenda Preparation and Dissemination