

Public Participation at Board Meetings

All regular and special meetings of the Board shall be open to the public. Because the Board desires to hear the viewpoints of citizens throughout the District, it shall offer suitable time at all meetings for citizens to be heard.

Recognizing its responsibility for proper governance of the schools and therefore the need to conduct its business in an orderly and efficient manner, the Board shall schedule a period during each meeting for public participation. At times, it shall set a time limit on the length of this period and/or a time limit for individual speakers.

The Board president shall be responsible for recognizing all speakers, who shall properly identify themselves, and for maintaining proper order and obtaining adherence to any time limits set.

Comments and questions at a regular meeting may deal with any topic related to the Board's conduct of the schools. Comments at special meetings must be related to the call of the meeting. Questions asked by the public shall, when possible, be answered immediately by the president or referred to staff members present for reply. Questions requiring investigation shall be referred to the Board or administrative staff for consideration and later response. Complaints about district employees or programs are to be addressed through the Public Complaints Policy (870). The Board may discuss matters raised by the public during the Community Viewpoint portion of the meeting provided Community Viewpoint was included on the meeting agenda notice.

Members of the public will not be recognized by the president as the Board conducts its official business except when the Board schedules in advance an interim public discussion period on a particular agenda item.

Members of the public wishing an item be included on the agenda shall notify the district administrator through the process described in Policy 187.1.

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