

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education encourages public participation on school related matters at Board meetings. To allow for public participation, a period not to exceed 20 minutes shall be set aside at the beginning and end of each regular Board meeting. These periods may be extended by a majority vote of the Board.

Any person wishing to address the Board must be recognized by the chair of the meeting and shall state for the record his/her name and address, or, in the case of an employees or business representative, his/her positions. All comments shall be addressed to the chair and shall be limited to not more than five minutes.

The Board will not permit in public session discussion involving individual district personnel or students. Persons wishing to discuss matters involving individual district personnel or students should present their comments and/or concerns to the Superintendent during regular business hours.

All speakers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Obscene language, libelous statements, threats of violence, statements advocating racial, religious, or other forms of prejudice will not be tolerated.

Board members and the Superintendent shall have the privilege of asking questions of any person who addresses the Board.

Questions and comments from the public concerning matters which are not on the agenda will be taken under consideration and referred to the Superintendent for appropriate action. Persons wishing to have matters included on the agenda shall contact the Superintendent in accordance with Policy 2342, Agenda Preparation.

The President shall be responsible for the orderly conduct of the meeting and shall rule on such matters as the time to be allowed for public discussion and the appropriateness of the subject being presented, as outlined in this policy and applicable provisions of law and regulation, and subject to the Board's parliamentary procedure. The President shall have the right to discontinue any presentation which violates this policy.

Cross-ref: 2342, Agenda Preparation and Dissemination

Ref: *Matter of Martin*, 32 EDR 381 (1992), *Appeal of Wittenben*, 31 EDR 375 (1992) *Matter of Kramer*, 72 EDR 114 (1951)

NYS Department of State, Committee on Open Government,

OML-AO-#2696 (Jan. 8, 1997), OML-AO-#2717 (Feb. 27, 1997) and

OML-AO-#4292 (Dec. 6, 2006)

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