

187 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.

The board may schedule a period during each meeting for public participation. Ordinarily, the board shall accept comments and questions from the public during the designated agenda time each meeting. At times, it shall set a time limit on the length of this period and/or a time limit for individual speakers. The length of the public discussion period and the proposed time limit for individual speakers may be extended by action of the board. The 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 operation 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 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. The Board may discuss matters raised by the public during the public participation portion of the meeting provided such period of public comment was included on the meeting agenda notice.

The president will not recognize members of the public as the board conducts its official business except when the board schedules an interim public discussion period on a particular agenda item in advance.

Reviewed, revised, and approved by the Board of Education on March 21, 2005