

RULES OF DECORUM AT BOARD MEETINGS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Public participation at board meetings is allowed in accordance with policy BCBA. The privileges granted under this policy may be revoked under at least the following circumstances.

~~Board policy BCBA--Public Participation at Board Meetings provides allocated time on the board agenda for public participation. Any person wishing to address the Board who has not made previous arrangements to be on the agenda must make a written request prior to the scheduled meeting time. The written request shall be provided to the board secretary who will provide the request to the Board President. Each individual is typically limited to four (4) minutes with not more than thirty (30) minutes total time allocated to comments from those attending. The Board reserves the right to eliminate or further restrict the time allowed for public participation.~~

~~Any group addressing the same agenda item may be asked to designate a spokesperson. Comments at special and regular meetings may only address topics appearing on the prepared agenda.~~

~~To speak about an item on the agenda, the presiding officer will recognize the speaker and ask the speaker to state his/her name and the agenda item to be addressed.~~

~~Speakers may offer comments relating to school operations and programs. The Board will not hear complaints against any school district personnel.~~

The speaker's remarks:

- a. Attack an individual's ethnicity, race, religion, or other class protected by law;
- b. Promote violence, terrorism, or other illegal activities;
- c. Are obscene or pornographic as defined by community standards;
- d. Are reasonably forecasted to materially or substantially disrupt the board meeting, school district operations, or the educational environment;
- e. Pose a direct threat to the physical safety of the school population;
- f. Infringe on the rights of others, such as (but not limited to) speech that is potentially slanderous or invades an individual's privacy;
- g. Are governed by a district complaint policy and the complainant has not followed the procedure contained in policy and/or the policy prohibits the public from bringing the complaint before the Board;
- h. Concern a topic that is prohibited by law from disclosure to the public.

If the presiding board officer declares an individual out of order, the speaker **[may] [shall]** be requested to relinquish the podium. If the person does not do so, the board meeting may be recessed, and the speaker may be subject to removal from the meeting room or school building. Policy BCBA allows removal

from the board meeting if an individual is persistently disruptive. Law enforcement may be contacted to assist in this process.

Rules of Decorum for Audience Members

Clapping, applauding, heckling or verbal outbursts in support or opposition to a speaker are discouraged, and the presiding officer has authority to recess the board meeting when such behavior becomes disruptive to the order of the meeting.

Persons entering and exiting the board meeting room must do so quietly.

Signs, placards, banners, or items used to display an audience member's message shall not disrupt the meeting or interfere with others' visual rights.

Audience members shall be prohibited from approaching the board table unless directed to do so by the presiding officer.

[The Board has adopted additional rules governing news coverage of board meetings.]

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