

2400 Public Participation Comment at Board Meetings

2410 Guidelines

The presiding officer shall be guided by the following rules:

1. ~~Public participation~~ **comment** shall occur: ~~as scheduled on the agenda and at the discretion of the presiding officer on a given issue.~~
 - a. **as scheduled on the agenda,**
 - b. **prior to the Board's discussion on a new motion that is not on the agenda, and**
 - c. **at the discretion of the presiding officer on a given issue.**
2. Whenever issues identified by the participant are subject to remediation under policies and procedures of the Board, they shall be dealt with in accordance with these policies and procedures. The Board ~~requires~~ **requests** that public participants be residents of this district or ~~anyone representing~~ **represent** a group in the community or school district.
3. ~~In circumstances where time will permit, the~~ **The** presiding officer will allow for **at least** two (2) periods of public ~~participation~~ **comment**.

The first period shall be a maximum of thirty (30) minutes in length; individual speakers addressing the Board during this first period shall be limited to ~~five (5)~~ **three (3)** minutes duration each. **Priority will be given to comments concerning an agenda item.** Those wishing to address the Board during the first period will sign a roster before the meeting convenes. ~~The five (5) minute duration may be reduced at the discretion of the presiding officer depending upon the number of persons enrolled on the roster.~~ The roster will include the following:

- a. name,
- b. address,

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3 c. group affiliation, if applicable, and
4 d. ~~topic~~ **the agenda item that they are addressing**
5 **or the topic.**
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7 The order of roster registration will dictate the speaking
8 order.
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10 The second period will generally occur at the end of the
11 regular meeting. The second period shall be a
12 maximum of fourteen (14) minutes in length; individual
13 speakers addressing the Board during this second
14 period shall be limited to two (2) minutes duration each.
15 **This period will be for general comments.** There
16 shall be no roster for the second period and speakers
17 shall be recognized by the presiding officer.
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- 19 **4. Public groups should assign one designated speaker**
20 **to address an issue. All people being represented**
21 **may be acknowledged by either standing where they**
22 **sit or by approaching the podium with the speaker.**
23 **This will allow the Board to know how many people**
24 **are represented by the speaker.**
25

- 26 **5.** Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer
27 and must preface their comments by an announcement
28 of:
29 a. their name,
30 b. address, and
31 c. group affiliation, if applicable.
32 **d. agenda items**
33

- 34 **6.** All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer;
35 no participant may address or question Board members
36 **or Administration** individually. Neither the Board nor
37 the Administration will field questions directly from the
38 floor.
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- 40 **7.** The presiding officer may:
41 a. Interrupt or terminate a participant's statement
42 when the statement is too lengthy, personally
43 directed, abusive, obscene or irrelevant.
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3 b. Request any individual to leave the meeting when
4 that person does not observe reasonable decorum.
5 c. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers
6 in the removal of a disorderly person when that
7 person's conduct interferes with the orderly
8 progress of the meeting.
9 d. Call for a recess or an adjournment to another
10 time when the lack of public decorum so
11 interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting
12 as to warrant such action.
13 e. Waive these rules.
14

15 **8. The presiding officer will remind the public at each**
16 **meeting of the rules and procedures for public**
17 **comment.**
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19 **9. Public participation comment** at Special Board
20 meetings and Committee meetings shall be at the
21 discretion of the presiding officer.
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24 Second Reading/Adoption Date - September 13, 1999
25 Revised -
26 Practice -
27 Legal Reference - Pennsylvania School Laws & Rules