

**B-2150 © BEDH
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT
BOARD MEETINGS**

All regular and special meetings of the Board shall be open to the public.

The Board invites the viewpoints of citizens throughout the District and considers the responsible presentation of these viewpoints vital to the efficient operation of the District. The Board also recognizes its responsibility for the proper governance of the schools and therefore the need to conduct its business in an orderly and efficient manner. The Board therefore establishes the following procedures to receive input from citizens of the District:

- Any individual desiring to address the Board shall complete a form (Request to Address Board) and give this form to the Superintendent **24 hours** prior to the start of the Board meeting.
- The Board President shall be responsible for recognizing speakers, maintaining proper order, and adhering to a time limit of thirty (30) minutes for all presentations and a maximum of five (5) minutes per speaker. In order to ensure that each individual has an opportunity to address the Board, the President may also set a time limit of less than five (5) minutes for individual speakers based upon the length of the comment period and number of requests received.
- The public may submit written questions to the central office at any time, to be read aloud and answered by the Board President or the Superintendent during the public forum of each monthly board meeting. Only questions that were submitted within 24 hours prior to the board meeting will be read and answered. Any additional questions will be read and answered at the next board meeting.
- Questions of fact asked by the public shall, when appropriate, be answered by the President or referred to the Superintendent **or the correct Director in the meeting** for reply. No action ~~or discussion~~ shall transpire among Board members regarding such questions or comments. Questions requiring investigation shall be referred to the Superintendent for later report to the Board. Questions or comments on matters that are currently under legal review will ~~not receive a response~~ will earn a response similar to **"This matter is currently under legal review, therefore we cannot comment at this time."**
- Members of the public or invited guests may be ~~recognized~~ **referred** by the President **or Superintendent to the appropriate district employee in the chain of command**, assist the Board with information for the conduct of its official business.
- Personal attacks upon Board members, staff personnel, or other persons in attendance or absent by individuals who address the Board are Prohibited. Presenters are cautioned that statements or representations concerning others that

convey an unjustly unfavorable impression may subject the presenter to civil action for defamation. Policies KE, KEB, KEC, and KED are provided by the Board for disposition of legitimate complaints, including those involving individuals.

Beginning July 1, 2024, live audio and video webcasts of local school board meetings shall be accessible through the District's website [via a link](#) and shall include a user interface that allows members of the public to submit written or verbal comments [during the meeting](#). [A member of the public may sign up for public comment 24 hours prior to the meeting, and attend the recorded meeting. They must sign in, will be muted until it is their time to speak and then will be muted by the meeting host again.](#) The Superintendent may develop regulations or procedures related to the public's submission of written or verbal comments through the webcast medium.

Adopted: July 11, 2024

LEGAL REF.: [10-15-1 NMSA](#)
22-5-4.16 NMSA

CROSS REF.: [BDB](#) - Board Officers

[BE - School Board Meetings](#)

[BHC - Board Communications with Staff Members](#)

~~[BHD - Board Communications with the Public](#)~~

[KEB - Public Concerns/Complaints about Personnel](#)