

## Welcome Visitors / Communication

### **Board Policy:**

Board policy 213, Public Participation in Board Meetings, last reviewed by the Belmond-Klemme School Board on October 18, 2018, states the following:

“The board recognizes the importance of citizen participation in school district matters. In order to assure citizens are heard and board meetings are conducted efficiently and in an organized manner, the board will set time aside for citizen participation, either at a specific time during the meeting or during the discussion of agenda items. Citizens wishing to address the board on a certain agenda item must notify the superintendent prior to the board meeting. Citizens wishing to present petitions to the board may do so at this time. The board however, will only receive the petitions and not act upon them or their contents. The board has the discretion to limit the amount of time set aside for public participation.

“If the pressure of business or other circumstances dictate, the board president may decide to eliminate this practice. The board president will recognize these individuals to make their comments at the appropriate time. The orderly process of the board meeting will not be interfered with or disrupted. Only those speakers recognized by the board president will be allowed to speak. Comments by others are out of order. If disruptive, the individual causing disruption may be asked to leave the board meeting.

“Individuals who have a complaint about employees may bring their complaint to the board only after they have followed board policy addressing citizens' complaints. Students who have a complaint may only bring their complaint to the board after they have followed board policy addressing students' complaints.”

### **Appropriate Conduct for a Person Addressing the Board:**

A person addressing the Board shall refrain from the following:

- (1) attempting to engage individual board members in conversation;
- (2) insults;
- (3) obscenity or profanity;
- (4) attacks against any person in his or her personal capacity;
- (5) physical violence or threat thereof;
- (6) comments that are not relevant to matters on the agenda or to matters of administrative concern;
- (7) comments that are unduly repetitious;
- (8) comments that exceed the five-minute time limit, or other such comments or conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of any board meeting;

*Iowa law prohibits school boards from discussing specific employees or their job performance at a public board meeting.*