Script for Public Comments/Testimony

In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Tex. Gov't Code §551.007, each member of the public who desires to address the Board <u>regarding an item on an agenda for an open meeting</u> shall be allowed to address the Board regarding the item at the meeting before or during the Board's consideration of the item. The Board will decide the order of public comment.

A public member's presentation to the Board shall not exceed 5 minutes, on a given agenda item. In accordance with BED (Local) the Board shall allot a reasonable amount of time to hearing persons who desire to make comments to the Board and may extend time as it deems necessary to give everyone who wishes to speak to the Board an opportunity to do so. This time may be used for a member of the public to address different topics with the Board at the same meeting. In other words, the public speaker may reserve time for different topics if necessary. If a speaker requires an interpreter, the speaker is asked to notify the District in advance of the meeting, so that a reasonable accommodation may be made. If no interpreter is present and/or simultaneous translation equipment is not available, the speaker will be allotted twice the amount of time as a member of the public who does not require the assistance of a translator, on a given agenda item, to address the Board.

In accordance with Board Policy BED (Local) the board will not tolerate disruption of the meeting by members of the audience.