

# Memo



**To:** JTHS Board of Education

**From:** Dr. Karla J Guseman

**Date:** January 20, 2026

**Re:** Public Comment Follow-up from December 16, 2025, Board of Education Meeting

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Whenever individuals speak at Public Comment during a Board meeting, the Joliet Township High School District 204 Board of Education has directed the Superintendent to follow up with those members of the public to address their questions, investigate their concerns, and seek further input. Either the Superintendent or their designee do so on behalf of the Board primarily because Board members recognize that a 3-minute limit to each speaker's public comment is an efficiency designed to allow for comment while ensuring continuity of the entire meeting agenda.

Follow up to public comment is designed to create more time and opportunity for dialogue. The Board has requested a monthly follow-up on Public Comment from the previous Board meeting.

At the December 16, 2025, JTHS Board meeting, there was 1 individual who spoke at Public Comment, Mike O'Connell. Mr. O'Connell shared concerns regarding the current membership for the district's athletic conference. I spoke to Mr. O'Connell that evening to let him know that I would follow up with him and was able to talk to him on January 14, 2026. I let him know that our Athletics and Activities Directors are gathering information regarding student opportunities available within our current conference and other conferences in the region. I let him know that Mr. Fitzgerald and I will set up a time to meet with him this spring to share the information gathered.

Mr. O'Connell was appreciative of JTHS looking into this concern.