



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC: Approval of First and Final Reading of BED (LOCAL) Board Meetings Public Participation

SUBMITTED BY: Gloria S. Rendon **OF:** Office of the Superintendent

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: August 21, 2019

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: August 21, 2019

RECOMMENDATION:

RATIONALE:

BUDGETARY INFORMATION:

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

**Limit on
Participation**

Public participation shall be permitted at ~~regular~~ the beginning of all Board meetings ~~beginning at 6:00 p.m.~~ Audience participation at meetings is limited to the public comment portion of the meeting designated for that purpose and to specific agenda items, student recognitions, or charitable causes. At all other times during a Board meeting, the audience shall not enter into discussion or debate on matters being considered by the Board, unless requested by the presiding officer.

Public Comment

~~At regular meetings the Board shall allot one hour to hear persons who desire to make comments to the Board.~~ Persons who wish to participate in the public comment portion of the meeting shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins and shall indicate the agenda item for the present ~~regular~~ Board meeting about which they wish to speak. Comments shall be limited to current Board agenda items, student recognitions, or charitable causes.

Board's Response

No speaker's presentation shall exceed three minutes, except that presentations by persons per any side of an issue, nor shall the time per subject exceed ten minutes. The ten minute rule may be waived by the Board as appropriate. non-English speakers who require a translator shall not exceed six minutes. Time limits may be waived or modified by the presiding officer as appropriate. ~~Delegations of more than three persons shall appoint one person to present their views before the Board.~~

Specific factual information or recitation of existing policy may be furnished in response to inquiries, but the Board shall not deliberate or decide regarding any subject that is not included on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting.

**Complaints and
Concerns**

The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether a person addressing the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively through resolution channels established by policy. If not, the person shall be referred to the appropriate policy (see list below) to seek resolution:

Employee complaints: DGBA

Student or parent complaints: FNG

Decorum

Public complaints: GF

Public comment shall not be used for personal attacks by the speaker against ~~Board members,~~ District employees, or students. Speakers or others who engage in these personal attacks, or use insulting, profane, threatening, or abusive language during any Board meeting shall be ruled out of order by the presiding officer and may be escorted from the Board meeting room by District peace officers or security staff.

Disruption

The Board shall not tolerate disruption of the meeting by members of the audience. If, after at least one warning from the presiding officer, any person continues to disrupt the meeting by his or her words or actions, the presiding officer may request assistance from law enforcement officials to have the person removed from the meeting.

Persons attending ~~regular, special, or subcommittee~~ Board meetings shall not engage in conduct that disturbs, interrupts, or causes delays in the proceedings of the meeting. Further, all persons attending ~~regular, special, or subcommittee~~ Board meetings shall obey the orders of the presiding officer, and observe appropriate decorum. An attendee who engages in conduct that disrupts, interrupts, or causes delays in the proceedings of a ~~regular, special, or subcommittee~~ Board meeting, or who engages in behavior described in item 1 below during these meetings, shall be subject to increased monitoring by District peace officers and security staff at subsequent ~~regular, special, or subcommittee~~ Board meetings.

All persons attending ~~a regular, special, or subcommittee~~ Board meetings shall exhibit the following behavior standards:

Attendees shall not engage in acts that breach the peace of a Board meeting, including, but not limited to, fights, assaults, exhibiting a firearm, disorderly conduct, or disruptive activity.

Any person who becomes boisterous or disruptive while addressing the Board or while attending a ~~regular, special, or subcommittee~~ Board meeting shall be asked to leave by the presiding officer. If the person fails to leave, the person shall be removed from the room if directed by the presiding officer. If the presiding officer fails to act, any Board member may make a motion to require enforcement of Board policy, and the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board shall require the presiding officer to act.

An attendee who engages in behavior described in item 1 above for which he or she is asked to leave and does so in a cooperative manner shall not be permitted to address the Board at a meeting for 60 days. An attendee who is removed from a meeting or who fails to leave when directed to do so shall not be permitted to address the Board at a meeting for 90 days.

Hearing of Citizens

Should any citizen wish to distribute printed handout materials to the Board or audience, this shall be done either before or after the public comment but not during. No speech shall be permitted on behalf of or against a person running for political office, and no literature pertaining to any form of electioneering shall be permitted during the meeting. No speech shall be

permitted on behalf of promoting a for-profit organization or to otherwise advertise products or services to the Board.

Should the speaker drift from the stated subject, become disruptive or abusive, or become verbally abusive of District employees or students, ~~or Board members~~ by name, he or she shall be given one warning; if a second warning is required, then the speaker shall forfeit his or her remaining time allotment.

Speakers who sign up to speak on a topic not listed as a Board agenda item or who do not indicate which agenda item they wish to address shall not be recognized to speak.

Signs

Signs or placards brought to a Board meeting shall not be allowed inside the Board room.

Additional Public Forum

In the event these provisions for public comment do not, as determined by the Board, meet the needs of the community, the Board may schedule a public hearing as soon as practicable for the purpose of hearing from additional speakers.

**Public Forum—
Business /
Instruction Meetings**

Individuals interested in speaking on any matter agenda items during the business or instruction committee meetings shall fill out a public comment form prior to the meeting. The form must be filled out completely, and the topic(s) the speaker wishes to address must be identified. Each speaker shall be allowed three minutes for their presentation, except that presentations by non-English speakers who require a translator shall be allowed six minutes. Time limits may be waived by the presiding officer as appropriate. Any concerns or complaints regarding employees, ~~public officials~~, students, or parents must be resolved via the appropriate complaint process, as stated in this policy.

~~No presentation shall exceed three persons per any side of an issue, nor shall the time per subject exceed ten minutes. Delegations of more than three persons shall appoint one person to present their views before the Board.~~