Adopted March 19, 1981
Revised March 11, 1999
Revised October 7, 2004
Revised January 14, 2019
Reviewed August 12, 2025
Revised XXXXXXXXXXXX

Public Participation at School Board Meetings

All regular and special meetings of the Board shall be open to the public. Because the Board desires to hear the viewpoints of all citizens throughout the district and also needs to conduct its business in an orderly and efficient manner, it shall schedule time during some Board meetings for brief comments from the public. Some public comment periods may relate to specific items on the agenda. The Board shall limit the length of the public participation time to thirty minutes and limit the length of the individual comments to three minutes. A sign-up sheet will be provided before the meeting where guests may turn in requests prior to the meeting as to not disrupt the meeting once it has started.

During times of public comment, comments at a Working Session meeting may deal with any topic related to the Board's conduct of the schools. Business Session meeting public comment must be relevant to action or discussion items on that meeting's agenda. Comments at special meetings must be related to the call of the meeting. . Speakers may offer such praise or criticism of school operations and programs as concern them, but are encouraged to exercise their speech rights responsibly. Discussion of personnel matters is not permitted during public comment with the exception of matters concerning the Superintendent. Personnel matters should be addressed through the appropriate policy directive in KE-R, Public Concerns and Complaints-Regulation. The chair may end any speaker's comments at any time, if deemed by the chair to be inappropriate, intimidating, or threatening.

The Board president shall be responsible for recognizing all speakers who shall properly identify themselves, for maintaining proper order and for adherence to any time limits set. Questions asked by the public that require further investigation may be referred to the superintendent or superintendent's designee for consideration and later response. Members of the public will not be recognized by the president during Board meetings except as noted in this policy.

To ensure that we hear from a variety of participants in board meetings, priority should be given to speakers who have not addressed the board publicly within the prior month.

Speakers should further be prioritized by the chair as follow:

- 1st 10 slots (as needed) reserved for Elizabeth School District (ESD) Students, parents or legal guardians of active ESD students and ESD Staff
- District residents or District Taxpayers regardless of residence.
- All Others

In the case of a combined meeting, if the Working Session 30-minute public comment section concludes early, the chair may move the Business Session public comment section forward to immediately follow the first.
Members of the public wishing to make formal presentations before the Board should make arrangements in advance with the superintendent so that such presentations, when appropriate, may be scheduled on the agenda.

In addition to public participation time during Board meetings, the Board is committed to engaging members of the community on an ongoing basis regarding community values about education during times other than the Board's regular meetings.

LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. 24-6-401 et seq. (open meetings law)

CROSS REF.: BEDB, Agenda
KE, Public Concerns and Complaints
KE-R, Public Concerns and Complaints, Regulation