

Dayton School District 8

Code: **BDDH**
Adopted: 1996
Readopted: 8/11/15
Orig. Code(s): BDDH

Public Participation in Board Meetings

Requests of Persons or Groups for Consideration

The Board shall receive and consider all suggestions, requests, and complaints directed to it through, and by, established lines of communication. Parents and patrons of the district or staff members may appear at any Board meeting, be recognized, and given an opportunity to present their views orally.

The Board chair may limit the time of any citizen appearing before the Board in order that the business of the Board may be accomplished.

Individuals wishing to be heard at a Board meeting shall be encouraged to advise the superintendent in advance. The agenda, however, shall always allow for recognition and introduction of guests, together with remarks for the good of the district by any Board member.

It is the intent of the Board to ensure communications with individuals with disabilities are as effective as communications with others. Individuals with hearing, vision or speech impairments will be given an equal opportunity to participate in Board meetings. Primary consideration will be given to requests of qualified individuals with disabilities in selecting appropriate auxiliary¹ aids and services.

Auxiliary aids and services for persons with disabilities will be available at no charge to the individual.

All Auxiliary aids and/or service requests must be made with appropriate advance notice. Should the Board demonstrate such requests would result in a fundamental alteration in the service, program or activity or in undue financial and administrative burdens, alternative equally effective means of communication will be used.

Procedure for Public Participation

Any interested citizen, or group of citizens, who desires to implement suggestions for changes in policy or seems to initiate a new policy in the school system may present the request to the Board in the form or a written proposal at a regular Board meeting. The petitioner will be notified through the mails of action taken.

Any person who is invited by the Board chair to speak to the Board at a meeting should state his or her name and residence and, if speaking for an organization, the name and identity of the organization. A group of people with a common purpose should designate a spokesperson to speak for the group.

¹Auxiliary aids include, but are not limited to such services and devices as qualified interpreters, assistive listening systems, note takers, readers, taped texts; Brailled materials; and large print.

Statements by members of the public should be brief and concise. The Board chair may exercise discretion to establish a time limit on discussion or oral presentation by a visitor on any topic.

Questions asked by the public will, when possible, be answered immediately by the Board chair or referred to other Board members or staff members present for reply. Questions requiring investigation may, at the discretion of the Board chair, be referred to the superintendent for response at a later time.

At the discretion of the Board chair, anyone wishing to speak before the Board, either as an individual or as a member of a group, on any agenda item or other topic, may do so by being recognized by the Board chair.

Petitions

Petitions may be accepted at any meeting of the Board. No action will be taken in response to a petition before the next regular meeting. Petitions will be referred to the superintendent for consideration and recommendation of appropriate action.

Criticisms of Staff Members

Speakers may offer objective criticism of school operations and programs, but the Board will not hear personal complaints concerning school personnel nor against any person connected with the school system. The Board chair will direct the visitor to the appropriate means for Board consideration and disposition of legitimate complaints involving individuals.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 165.535](#)

[ORS 192.610 - 192.690](#)

[ORS 332.057](#)

[ORS 165.540](#)

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213; 29 C.F.R. Part 1630 (2006); 28 C.F.R. Part 35 (2006).
Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008.

Cross Reference(s):

BDDA - Notification of Board Meetings

BDDC - Board Meeting Agenda

BDDF - Conduct of Board Meetings

KC - Community Involvement in Decision Making