

Gresham-Barlow SD 10

Code: **BDDH**
Adopted: 5/01/97
Revised/Readopted: 2/04/99; 5/02/02; 6/06/13;
2/02/17; 1/04/18
Orig. Code(s): BDDH

Public Comment at Board Meetings

All Board meetings, with the exception of executive sessions, will be open to the public. The Board invites community members to attend Board meetings to become acquainted with the program and operation of the schools. Members of the public also are encouraged to share their ideas and opinions with the Board when appropriate.

The district will make reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities. All meeting locations are wheelchair accessible. To request other accommodations such as but not limited to: interpreters, large-print documents, sign language, assistive listening devices, note-takers, readers, braille materials, etc., please call the district office at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

At the discretion of the Board chair, anyone wishing to speak before the Board during an open session of the Board, either as an individual or as a member of a group, on any agenda item or other topic, may do so by providing the Board secretary with a completed registration card prior to the agenda item in order to allow the chair to provide adequate time for each agenda item.

Request for an Item on the Agenda

A member of the public may request the superintendent consider placing an item of concern on the agenda of a regular Board meeting. This request should be made in writing and presented to the superintendent for consideration at least 10 calendar days prior to the scheduled meeting.

Procedures for Public Comment at Meetings

The Board will establish procedures for public comment in open meetings. The purpose of these procedures will be to inform the public how to effectively participate in Board meetings for the best interests of the individual, the district and the patrons. The information will be easily accessible and available to all patrons attending a public Board meeting.

A visitor speaking during the meeting may introduce a topic that is not on the published agenda. The Board Chair, may require that a proposal, inquiry or request be submitted in writing, and reserves the right to refer the matter to the administration for action or study.

Any person who is invited by the Board chair to speak to the Board during a meeting should state their name and whether they reside in the district and, if speaking for an organization, the name and identity of the organization. A spokesperson should be designated to represent a group with a common purpose.

Statements by members of the public should be brief and concise. The Board chair may establish a time limit, normally three to five minutes, on discussion or oral presentation by visitors.

Questions asked by the public will be referred to the superintendent for response at a later time.

Petitions

Petitions may be submitted at any Board meeting. 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.

Comments Regarding Staff Members

Speakers may offer objective criticism of school operations and programs. The Board will not hear comments regarding any individual district staff member. The Board chair will direct the visitor to the procedures in Board policy KL - Public Complaints for Board consideration of a legitimate complaints involving a staff member. A commendation involving a staff member should be sent to the superintendent.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 165.535](#)

[ORS 192.610 to -192.690](#)

[ORS 332.057](#)

[ORS 165.540](#)

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213 (2017); 29 C.F.R. Part 1630 (2017); 28 C.F.R. Part 35 (2017).

Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008.

Baca v. Moreno Valley Unified Sch. Dist., 936 F. Supp. 719 (C.D. Cal. 1996).

Leventhal v. Vista Unified Sch. Dist., 973 F. Supp. 951 (S.D. Cal. 1997).

Cross Reference(s):

BDDC - Board Meeting Agenda

KC - Community Involvement in Decision Making