

# Grants Pass School District 7

Code: **BDDH**  
Adopted: 6/14/88  
Revised/Readopted: 2/24/04  
Orig. Code(s): BDDH

## **Public Participation in Board Meetings**

All meetings of the Board, with the exception of executive sessions, are open to the public. The Board invites citizens of the district to attend Board meetings so that they may become acquainted with the program and operation of the schools. Members of the public are also encouraged to share their ideas and opinions with the Board, when appropriate.

### 1. Public or Patron Request for an Item on the Agenda

A member of the public may request the superintendent to place 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 seven working days prior to the scheduled meeting.

### 2. Procedures for Public Participation in Meetings

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

Discussion or presentation concerning a published agenda item is limited to its designated place on the agenda, unless otherwise authorized by the chairman.

Any person who is invited by the chairman to speak to the Board at a meeting should state his/her name and address 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.

Statements by members of the public should be brief and concise. The chairman 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 chairman or referred to other Board members or staff members present for reply. Questions requiring investigation may, at the discretion of the Board, be referred to the superintendent for response at a later time.

At the discretion of the Board chairman, 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 providing the Board secretary with a complete registration card prior to the Board meeting.

3. 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.

4. Criticisms of Staff Members

Speakers may offer objective criticism of district operations and programs, but the Board will not hear personal complaints concerning individual district personnel. The chairman will direct the visitor to the appropriate means for Board consideration and disposition of legitimate complaints involving individuals.

END OF POLICY

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Legal Reference(s):

ORS 165.535  
ORS 165.540

ORS 192.610 - 192.690  
ORS 332.057

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. Sections 12101-12213; 29 CFR Part 1630 (2000); 28 CFR Part 35 (2000).

Cross Reference(s):

KLD - Public Complaints about District Personnel