Public Comment at Board Meetings

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

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 auxiliary 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 at least 48 hour 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 as determined by the district.

In order to assure that persons who wish to appear before the Board may be heard and, at the same time, conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the Board adopts the following procedures and rules pertaining to public comment at Board meetings:

1. Anyone wishing to speak before the Board, either as an individual or as a member of a group, may do so by following the district’s guidelines for public comment. These printed guidelines are available at each Board meeting;

2. Any individual desiring to speak will submit their name, address and the group, if any, that is represented; and

3. A speaker should give their name, and the group, if any, that is represented and should limit his/her presentation to three minutes. Time may be extended at the discretion of the Board chair.

Comments

Speakers may offer objective criticisms of district operations and programs that are of a concern to them. The Board is restricted from hearing, and will not consider complaints regarding any individual district staff member or any person connected with the district.

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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.
The Board vests in its chair or other presiding officer authority to terminate the remarks of any individual when those remarks do not adhere to the rules established in this policy.

**Petitions**

Petitions may be accepted 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.

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

ORS 165.535  
ORS 165.540  
ORS 192.610 to -192.690  
ORS 332.057  
ORS 165.540


**Cross Reference(s):**

KC - Community Involvement in Decision Making