

Public Participation in Board Meetings

The Board welcomes comments from the public. In order to allow for public comments on items other than public hearings, time has been set aside during the meeting for this purpose. This time is for the public to provide informational testimony to the Board. During this time the Board will not respond to questions but may refer questions to the appropriate staff person.

1. A sign-up sheet will be available for persons wanting to testify before the board during Public Forum. Sign-up sheets will be located on a table near the entrance to the board room. If you have signed up to speak, come forward when the Board Chair calls your name. A group of visitors with a common purpose should designate a spokesman for the group.
2. Discussion or presentation concerning a published agenda item is limited to its designated place on the agenda, unless otherwise authorized by the chair.
3. A visitor may introduce a topic not on the published agenda during designated Public Forum. The Board, at its discretion, 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 for study and to report at a subsequent meeting. The Board shall make a decision at the meeting where information is presented only if the issue is considered an emergency by the Board.
4. At the discretion of the Board chair, when meetings are large or controversial, 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 information to the Board secretary on a sign-in sheet prior to the meeting. This will help the chair provide adequate time for each agenda item.
5. Statements by members of the public should be brief and concise. The chair may, at his/her discretion, establish a time limit on discussion or oral presentation by a visitor on any topic.
6. Speakers may offer objective criticism of district operations and programs but the Board will not hear complaints concerning specific district personnel. The chair will direct the visitor to the appropriate means for Board consideration and disposition of legitimate complaints involving individuals.