

Public Participation in Board Meetings

All Board meetings, with the exception of executive sessions, will be open to the public. The Board invites citizens of the district to attend Board meetings to 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.

Requests by Individuals or Groups for Consideration

Persons or groups making requests should, whenever possible, notify the superintendent's office of their request prior to the Board meeting. The request will then become a part of the agenda and will be heard at the earliest appropriate time on the agenda. In the event time has prevented agenda placement, the Board may hear the request if determined appropriate by the chairman.

Any person who is invited by the chairman 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.

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 chairman, be referred to the superintendent for response at a later time.

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 district personnel or against any person connected with the school system. The chairman 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 165.540](#)

[ORS 332.057](#)

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).