

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**

The President of the Board will recognize persons requesting to be heard. If the topic to be discussed is not on the Board agenda, it will be discussed under public commentary. If the topic is on the agenda, members of the audience desiring to speak must request time. Members of the audience granted time to speak may do so following the introduction of the topic by the President of the Board and then recognition to address the Board.

It is suggested, although not required, that persons or delegates desiring to be heard before the Board regarding topics not on the prepared agenda, notify the Superintendent and/or Board President of the topic no later than seven (7) calendar days in advance of the meeting.

The presiding officer of each Board meeting at which public participation is permitted shall administer the rules of the Board for its conduct.

Where his/her ruling is disputed, it may be overruled by a majority of those Board members present and voting.

The presiding officer shall be guided by the following rules:

- A. A maximum of thirty (30) minutes of public participation will be permitted at each meeting.
- B. Any group appearing before the Board shall select a spokesperson to address the Board. Other members of the group shall not address the Board except with the permission of the presiding officer;
- C. A speaker must be recognized by the presiding officer and shall present his/her name, address, group affiliation, if any, and topic to be discussed on a card provided, and said card shall be presented to the Treasurer before the start of the meeting;
- D. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to no more than three (3) minutes. If several people wish to speak, each person will be allotted three minutes until the total time of thirty (30) minutes is used. At the discretion of the presiding officer, more or less time, per person, may be allocated;
- E. All presentations must be done in an orderly fashion and must not impede the meeting either before, during, or after the presentation;
- F. Generally speaking, individuals will be recognized to speak once on a given topic;
- G. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members or administrators, individually;

- H. Board members may ask the speaker questions or make comments in order to clarify the discussion;
- I. Public statements on work session topics will not be taken unless the Board adopts a resolution regarding a topic at that meeting.
- J. The presiding officer has the right and power to control the meeting and may take whatever actions are necessary to ensure an orderly meeting.

LEGAL REFS: O.R.C. §3313.20

Adopted: August 12, 2014