

BOARD MEETINGS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

BED
(LOCAL)

**Limit on
Participation**

Audience participation at a Board meeting is limited to the portion of the meeting designated to receive public comment in accordance with this policy. At all other times during a Board meeting, the audience shall not enter into discussion or debate on matters being considered by the Board, unless requested by the presiding officer.

Public Comment

Regular Meetings

At regular Board meetings, the Board shall permit public comment, regardless of whether the topic is on an item on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting. The time allotted for public comment shall not exceed 30 minutes.

Special Meetings

At all special called Board meetings, public comment shall be limited to items on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting.

Procedures

Individuals who wish to participate during the portion of the meeting designated for public comment shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee within the 30-minute period allotted for public comment sign-in as specified in the Board's procedures on public comment.

Speakers shall indicate the agenda item or a specific topic on which they wish to address the Board. Any individual who signs up to speak and does not indicate the specific topic or nature of the topic he or she wishes to address shall not be recognized to speak.

Failure to comply with any of the public participation procedures may result in a declaration of forfeiture of the speaker's opportunity to be heard in the meeting by the presiding officer or designee.

Attendees shall not be permitted to use during any meeting:

- USBs, laptops, pen drives, flash drives, or other outside devices to connect to the District's audio/video/media system due to, among other factors, cybersecurity concerns; and/or
- Any audio or video devices.

None of the foregoing devices may be used by any audience participant during any part of any meeting.

Any individual who wishes to distribute printed material to the Board members during a Board meeting shall, at or prior to signing up with the presiding officer or designee for participation during public comment, submit the printed handout materials to the administrative secretary to the Board. Distribution of any materials during any part of the meeting is strictly prohibited.

No speech shall be permitted on behalf of or against an individual running for political office, on behalf of promoting a for-profit organization, or to advertise products or services to the Board or District.

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No literature pertaining to any form of electioneering shall be permitted or distributed during or after the meeting.

Except as permitted by this policy and the Board's procedures on public comment, an individual's comments to the Board shall not exceed three minutes per meeting. The District shall provide a translator to a non-English speaker who requires a translator. The presiding officer shall provide the time allotment in these circumstances.

An individual shall not transfer, assign, allocate, or provide his or her allotted time to speak to any other individual who may participate in public comment. Once a speaker has completed his or her comment, or participated in public comment with another speaker, he or she will be prohibited from addressing the Board at the meeting, on his or her own behalf, or on behalf of another speaker, whether on the same topic or any other topic, no matter the circumstances.

Meeting
Management

When necessary for effective meeting management or to accommodate large numbers of individuals wishing to address the Board, the presiding officer may make adjustments to public comment procedures, including adjusting when public comment will occur during the meeting, reordering agenda items, deferring public comment on nonagenda items, continuing agenda items to a later meeting, providing expanded opportunity for public comment, or establishing an overall time limit for public comment and adjusting the time allotted to each speaker. However, no individual shall be given less than one minute to make comments.

Board's Response

Specific factual information or recitation of existing policy may be furnished in response to inquiries, but the Board shall not deliberate or decide regarding any subject that is not included on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting.

Decorum

Public comment shall not be used for personal attacks by the speaker against District employees, students, or others. Speakers or others who engage in these personal attacks or use insulting, profane, threatening, loud, or abusive language during any Board meeting shall be ruled out of order by the presiding officer and may be escorted from the Board meeting room by District peace officers or security staff.

Disruption

The Board shall not tolerate disruption of the meeting by public comment speakers or members of the audience, or failure to abide by the requirements of this policy. Should the speaker drift from the stated subject, violate this policy, become loud, disruptive, or abusive, or become verbally abusive of District employees, students or

others by name or position, he or she shall be issued a verbal warning.

If the speaker does not heed this warning, he or she shall forfeit the remaining time allotted and may be asked to leave the meeting with or without the assistance from law enforcement officials.

Persons attending Board meetings shall not engage in conduct that disrupts, interrupts, or causes delays in the proceedings of a Board meeting; shall strictly comply with the requirements and procedures of this policy; shall obey the orders of the presiding officer or designee; and shall observe the herein rules of decorum and conduct at Board meetings.

The presiding officer or designee shall take such measures as may be necessary to ensure that decorum is preserved at all times during Board meetings.

Standards of
Behavior

The following behavior standards and other requirements shall apply to persons attending Board meetings:

1. Attendees may not bring signs, posters, banners, or other items that may disrupt the meeting.
2. Any individual who becomes boisterous, disruptive, or uses personal attacks including insulting, profane, threatening, loud, or abusive language while addressing the Board or while attending a Board meeting shall be asked to leave by the presiding officer or designee. If the individual fails to leave, he or she shall be removed from the room by District officers and/or security staff if directed by the presiding officer or designee. If the presiding officer or designee fails to act, any Board member may make a motion to require enforcement of Board policy, and the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board shall require the presiding officer or designee to act.
3. To the extent possible, attendees shall be seated during the meeting. No one shall be allowed to stand on the sides, rear, or in the aisles of the room, and anyone refusing to sit may be asked to leave the meeting.
4. Attendees shall not engage in acts that breach the peace of a Board meeting, such as aggressive or threatening comments or behavior, fights, assaults, exhibitions of firearms, disorderly conduct, disruptive activity, including approaching the Board's platform without permission, or any other criminal conduct that breaches the peace or threatens to breach the peace.
5. An attendee who engages in behavior described in item 4, above, for which he or she is asked to leave shall, if he or she

leaves cooperatively, not be allowed to address a Board meeting for 60 days. If it is necessary to remove such a person, that person shall not be allowed to address a Board meeting for the ensuing 90 days. This person shall also be subject to increased monitoring by District officers and security staff at subsequent Board meetings.

**Complaints and
Concerns**

The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether an individual addressing the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively through resolution channels established by policy. If not, the individual shall be referred to the appropriate policy to seek resolution:

- Employee complaints: DGBA
- Student or parent complaints: FNG
- Public complaints: GF