

Book	Board Policies
Section	Section I Board of Education
Title	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS
Code	Policy I-E.4
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Last Revised	April 10, 2023

I-E.4 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

Public participation of District residents and employees at Board meetings is invited during the "Communications" item on the posted agenda. Non-residents may participate at Board meetings only at the discretion of the Board. Procedures for public participation shall be in accordance with state law and interpretation of open meetings laws.

- A. Citizens wishing to speak must sign a citizen comment sheet and turn it in to the Board President before the start of the meeting. Alternatively, citizens are also welcome to turn in written comments and may do so by completing a [Citizen Comment Form](#) accessible on the District website by 2 p.m. the day of the meeting, or in person at the meeting by 7 p.m.
- B. Residents or staff members of the District may provide in-person or written comments.
- C. Non-residents of the District may only provide written comments.
- D. Citizens wishing to make comments must begin by sharing their address and any affiliation they have to any school or group within the District.
- E. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes, with exceptions made at the discretion of the Board President.
- F. The Board cannot engage in dialogue with members of the community during citizen comments. If desired, the citizen can request a follow-up conversation from the Superintendent or Board President.
- G. Criticism of an employee, student, or Board member is not appropriate for a Board meeting and is considered a personnel issue. When necessary, the Board President will remind speakers of the process in place (Procedure 870) to communicate the issue.
- H. Written communication received by the Board prior to the meeting is acknowledged during the "Correspondence" section of the meeting, while oral communication is designated for the Board Communications" section.

The following will be read to the public prior to "Communications,":

"The Citizen Comment section is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on matters of interest or concern. Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes or less. The Board cannot engage in dialogue with members of the community during the Citizen Comment section of the meeting.

All individuals who comment during the public comment period are reminded that the information provided is intended to provide information to the Board so that it can fulfill its role. In that vein, all parties are reminded that all information offered be truthful and honest. False statements or stigmatizing charges may subject the individual making such statements to legal repercussions, including, but not limited to, defamation claims.

Comments that identify students shall be subject to the Wisconsin pupil records law and FERPA. As such, student information that is not directory data as designated by the Board, for example individual student behavioral or progress records, shall not be discussed in this forum. Comments that identify personnel are subject to the applicable personnel records statutes in Wis. Stat. §19.36(10). The Board may inform the speaker that the citizen's comments are not permitted if in the opinion of the Board it is not subject to release under the above applicable standards.

Residents or staff members of the District may provide in person or written comments.

Non-residents of the District may only provide written comments.”

Adopted: 2/27/12

Revised: 4/10/23

Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District