



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Vol. 34 No. 1 for Board Approval
Title	Revised Policy - Vol. 34, No. 1 - November 2021 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS
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0167.3 - **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**

The Board of Managers recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on Cooperative matters.

[OPTIONAL]

~~[] Any person or group wishing to place an item on the agenda shall register their intent with the Director no later than _____ days prior to the meeting and include:~~

- ~~A. () name and address of the participant;~~
- ~~B. () group affiliation, if and when appropriate;~~
- ~~C. () topic to be addressed;~~

~~Such requests shall be approved reviewed by the () the Board President () Director and the Board President () the Director or the Board President [END OF OPTION] and shall be placed on the agenda only if approved by () the Board President () the Director and the Board President () the Director or the Board President [END OF OPTIONS]. The amount of time for agenda items for any person or group who have been approved for a presentation on the Board agenda shall be limited to _____ () minutes. [END OF OPTION]~~

To permit fair and orderly public expression, the Board may provide a period for public participation (**x**) at every regular meeting of the Board ~~() at those public meetings of the Board during which action may be taken [END OF OPTION]~~ and publish procedures to govern such participation in Board meetings. ~~Public comment is limited to items on the Board's agenda. [END OF OPTION]()~~

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

The presiding officer shall be guided by the following rules:

- A. (☒) Public participation shall be permitted for staff and residents of participating school corporations or parents or guardians of students enrolled ~~(-) only as indicated on the order of business. (-) before the Board takes official action on any issue of substance.~~ (☒) at the discretion of the presiding officer. **[END OF OPTION]** (☒) Provided, however, that public participation may be prohibited at any meeting that must be conducted remotely or virtually due to an emergency declared by Federal, State or local officials. **[end of options]**
- B. ~~(-) Anyone having a legitimate interest in the actions of the Board may participate during the public portion of a meeting.~~
- C. (☒) Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer (☒) and must preface their comments by an announcement of their name, (☒) address. (☒) group affiliation, if and when appropriate. **[END OF OPTION]**
- D. (☒) Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes duration.
- E. (☒) No participant may speak more than once and may not forfeit their three minutes to another person. ~~-on the same topic unless all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard-~~
- F. (☒) All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no person may address or question Board members individually.
- G. (☒) The presiding officer may:
1. (☒) prohibit public comments which are frivolous, repetitive, or harassing;
 2. (☒) interrupt, warn, or terminate a person's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
 3. (☒) request any individual to leave the meeting when that person behaves in a manner that is disruptive of the orderly conduct of the meeting;
 4. (☒) request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's behavior interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting;
 5. (☒) call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action;
 6. (☒) waive these rules. (☒) with the approval of the Board when necessary for the protection of privacy or the administration of the Board's business. **[END OF OPTION]**
- H. (☒) The portion of the meeting during which the participation of the public is invited shall be limited to twenty minutes (20), unless extended by a vote of the Board.

I.C. 5-14-1.5 Open Door Law notice to the public and news media of regular, emergency and special meetings

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