

POLICY 8870
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

The School Board, as a representative body of the District, wishes to provide an avenue for any citizen to express interest in and concerns for the schools. Meetings of the Board shall be open to the public, except executive sessions, and the public shall be cordially invited to attend Board meetings.

Citizens wishing to present requests or views directly to the Board shall be afforded the privilege during the "Views and Comments" portion of the agenda at each regular Board meeting, and at special Board meetings as appropriate. Consistent with the Board's responsibility for conducting the business of the District in an orderly and efficient manner, public presentations may be regulated.

Citizen comments and questions at any Board meeting may deal with any topic related to District issues or concerns and/or the Board's agenda. However in public session, the Board shall not hear irrelevant, repetitive, or abusive speech that causes disruption to the orderly conduct of the meeting. The Board also shall not hear discussion of confidential personnel disputes or grievances involving individual school employees that do not implicate issues of public concern, or individual student disciplinary matters, as there are other channels available in the District that provide for consideration and disposition individuals of such matters. The Board President may set time limits and other administrative requirements as appropriate on the public's participation at Board meetings.

In lieu of speaking during the "Views and Comments" portion of the agenda, timely received written communication shall be read and/or noted in the Board meeting minutes upon the specific request of a citizen. Also, citizens may write to the Board to ask questions, express concerns and make proposals or comments for consideration by the Board. Written communication to the Board should normally be addressed to the Board President. Citizen comments will be limited to three minutes per person and conclude after 45 minutes unless otherwise determined by a motion to extend speaking time approved by a majority vote.

LEGAL REF.: Wisconsin Statutes

Sections 19.83(2) [Board discussion of matters raised during period of public comment]

19.84(2) [Public notice of public comment period]

CROSS REF.: 8710, Regular School Board Meetings

8720, Special School Board Meetings

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS: None

AFFIRMED: December 28, 1990

REVISED: August 26, 1997
July 10, 2001
June 25, 2002
June 24, 2003
December 14, 2010
February 25, 2014
February 24, 2015

RULE 8870
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Presentations to the School Board by members of the public shall be regulated in the following manner:

1. Persons or groups wishing to make presentations to the Board during the "Views and Comments" portion of the Board meeting agenda shall sign up on a sheet provided for this purpose prior to the meeting. Persons wishing to state their views to the Board may also call the Superintendent of Schools' Office prior to 4:00 p.m. on the day of a Board meeting to request that they be placed on the list of speakers.
2. Speakers shall be limited to three minutes and to speaking only once during the "Views and Comments" portion of each meeting. Time for speaking will be allocated only by the Board President, or other presiding officer, and may not be reallocated by speakers to others. The Board President, or other presiding officer, may honor a request to permit a speaker more time than provided, for good reason, hearing no objection from the Board.
3. The "Views and Comments" portion of regular and special meeting agendas shall conclude after 45 minutes at the beginning of the meeting. This time allotment may be extended by a two-thirds vote of the Board.