

**Public Participation in Open Meetings**

**PUBLIC ATTENDANCE**

The public and the news media are permitted to attend all open meetings of the Board. No person may be required to identify himself in order to attend any such meeting.<sup>1</sup>

**EXCEPTION**

The chairperson may impose conditions upon attendance at a given meeting only if such conditions are required for the maintenance of order.<sup>1</sup>

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Persons wishing to address the Board must first be recognized by the chairperson.

**SPEAKERS**

Public participation shall be conducted as explained in 01.421 AP.1.

**REFERENCE:**

<sup>1</sup>[KRS 61.840](#)

**RELATED POLICIES:**

01.45; 10.2

Adopted/Amended: 03/19/2013

Order #: ———23

**Remarks by Citizens (Persons Who Have Signed Up To Speak)****PURPOSE**

The ~~Scott~~ Marion County Board of Education strives to work with students, staff, families, and communities of ~~Scott~~ Marion County in order to create a collaborative culture that ensures student learning.

**PERSONAL CRITICISM/COMPLAINTS**

Speakers will not be allowed to make any disparaging or critical remarks about individuals or employees of the District. Critical comments or complaints are processed through the District's complaint procedures, which afford the individuals to whom comments or complaints are directed, the opportunity for response and due process.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A special time and place is reserved on each regularly scheduled meeting agenda for public comments. The Board Chairperson, in consultation with the Superintendent and other Board members, may or may not place public comments on the agenda for Board work sessions.

1. Those wishing to address the Board through public comments should notify the Board of their desire to speak by:
  - a. Calling the Superintendent's Office at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the Board meeting to have their name and topic for public comment placed on the public comment list; or
  - b. Signing up on the public comment list (Name and Topic) prior to the start of the Board meeting.
2. If the topic does not pertain to an area under Board purview, the requester will be directed to speak with the appropriate District personnel.
3. Prior to public comments beginning, the Board Chairperson shall remind all present that comments should be about Board meeting agenda items or other items under Board purview. Except as permitted by Kentucky state law, Board members are prohibited from discussing individual personnel actions. The Board does not allow comments on matters regarding a specific school's School Based Decision Making (SBDM) policies. On SBDM matters, the school Principal or the District SBDM Coordinator should be contacted. The Board is also legally prohibited from discussing individual student situations in public, even if it is the speaker's child. Issues relating to a student should be addressed with the appropriate administrator. The Board Chairperson may rule on the relevance of the topic to the Board's agenda. The Chairperson may stop discussion if not related to current Board agenda or under Board purview.
4. A maximum of ~~thirty (30)~~ **twenty (20)** minutes shall be allotted for public comments during the Board meeting.

**Remarks by Citizens (Persons Who Have Signed Up To Speak)****PUBLIC COMMENTS (CONTINUED)**

5. Each person wishing to speak shall be allowed ~~five (5)~~ **three (3)** minutes for comments. A group promoting the same position on an issue should pick one (1) spokesperson and shall be allowed ~~seven (7)~~ **five (5)** minutes for comments.
6. If the number of people wishing to make public comments will result in exceeding the ~~thirty (30)~~ **twenty (20)** minute allotment for public comments, the Board Chairperson may either lessen the time for each speaker or lengthen the total time for public comments.
7. The Board may ask questions or engage in discussion regarding public comments but may not take action regarding public comments during the Board meeting.

The Board welcomes and appreciates constructive feedback when such is motivated by a sincere desire to improve the effectiveness of the District. Feedback towards the Board should be focused on Board policies, decisions, and agenda items.

**RELATED POLICIES:**

01.42

01.45

Review/Revised:5/6/14