

# Jefferson County Board of Education

## Statement Concerning Public Participation/Speakers

In accordance with Board Policy 01.421, the Board expects that persons who have signed up to address the Board will limit their remarks to the subject that they listed at the time they signed up – that their presentation will not include any defamatory or abusive remarks about that subject – and that they will present their remarks in a manner that is consistent with the orderly conduct of the meeting. Also, in accordance with Board Policy, the Board reserves the right to limit, extend or terminate discussion on any subject.

- Discussion of personnel matters is not permitted as the Board has no legal authority regarding such matters, and such discussion is not appropriate. Personnel matters are within the authority of the Superintendent. If a speaker begins to discuss a personnel matter, the Chair shall immediately terminate the speaker's remarks.
- A speaker may not initiate charges or complaints against an individual District employee. Discussion of a District employee by name or position is not permitted, in order to ensure confidentiality and fairness for the employee. If a person discusses a District employee by name or position in their remarks to the Board, the Chair shall immediately terminate the speaker's remarks.
- Speakers before the entire Board are not allowed to use props, displays, or any other objects during the presentations. However, informational handouts may be given to the Assistant Secretary to the Board for distribution prior to or following the meeting.
- Each speaker is allowed three minutes to address the Board and may not share these minutes with any other speaker; however, a person with a disability requiring a reasonable accommodation may request and shall be given additional time of at least one minute to speak.
- At the end of 2-1/2 minutes, a bell will sound once. You will then have 30 seconds to finish your statement.
- At the end of three minutes, the bell will sound twice, indicating that your time is up.
- The superintendent will look into the speakers' issues, and if necessary, represent the Board in following up or recommend action to the Board.
- Board Policy 01.45 establishes that:
  - Persons speaking regarding items on the Board Agenda shall be permitted to do so prior to persons speaking regarding non-agenda items.
  - A maximum of forty-five (45) minutes shall be allocated for speakers immediately after the Superintendent's Report. Speakers who were unable to be accommodated due to that time limitation may address the Board later in the meeting, immediately after the Board Reports.

The full Board policy concerning public participation in open meetings is available for viewing on our website and at our sign-in sheet.