

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.¹

EXCEPTION

The chairman may impose conditions upon attendance at a given meeting only if such conditions are required for the maintenance of order.¹

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Each regular meeting shall include a public comment period of at least fifteen (15) minutes, but not to exceed 45 minutes. However, the Board chairperson may permit public comment in excess for good cause shown. Any Board rules and policies regarding conduct during school board meetings shall apply during the public comment period.²

The chairperson shall also establish the procedures to be followed at specific meetings, including whether Roberts' Rules of Order are to be followed.

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

SPEAKERS

The chairman may require the name and address of the speaker. The chairman may rule on the relevance of the topic to the Board's agenda. The chairman may also establish time limits for speakers as may be required to maintain order and to ensure the expedient conduct of the Board's business.

The chairperson may:

1. Interrupt, warn, or terminate a speaker's public comment time when they make comments that are repetitive, obscene, and/or are comments that constitute a true threat (i.e., statements meant to frighten or intimidate one (1) or more specified persons into believing that they will be seriously harmed by the speaker or someone acting at the speaker's behest);
2. Request any individual to stop speaking and/or leave the meeting when that person behaves in a manner that is disruptive of the orderly conduct and/or orderly process of the meeting;
3. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting; or
4. Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the conduct and/or orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action.

NON-AGENDA ISSUES FROM THE PUBLIC

Non-agenda issues from the public which fall within the Board's purview, such as proposals suggesting changes in policies or operation, shall be submitted in writing to the Board and entered into the minutes of the meeting. However, unless it is deemed an emergency in accordance with Kentucky law, the Board will not take official action regarding any non-agenda issue in the meeting at which the issue is first introduced.

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At the discretion of the Board chairperson, proposals may be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled Board meeting for a first reading and public discussion. If they are accepted in principle by the Board, proposals shall then be placed on the agenda of a subsequently scheduled meeting for final action.

REFERENCE:

¹[KRS 61.840](#)

²[KRS 160.270](#)

Ison v. Madison Local School District BoE, 3 F.4th 887, (6th Cir., 2021)

RELATED POLICIES:

01.42; 01.45; 10.2

Adopted/Amended: 7/11/2022

Order #: II A