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POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

01.421

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

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Each regular meeting shall include a public comment period of at least fifteen (15) minutes. Any Board rules and policies regarding conduct during school board meetings shall apply during the public comment period.<sup>2</sup>

Persons wishing to address the Board must register with the Board secretary prior to the meeting. At the time of registration, the subject of the presentation shall be stated. All groups shall have a designated spokesperson. Anyone addressing the Board must be recognized by the chairman.

Presentations shall be limited to five (5) minutes but may be extended by the Superintendent when preparing the agenda or by the Board as it hears the individual presentation.

Issues presented should pertain to Board business. Individuals with complaints or issues concerning a local school should exhaust all measures at the school level with the school principal and/or SBDM Council before addressing the Board. The Board's main purpose is to establish policy for the entire district – not to settle disputes that could be resolved through other channels.

The Board shall not hear complaints about school personnel or other persons during a public session because the Board is not involved in the hiring, firing, or disciplining of District personnel.

### **TOPICS NOT ON THE MEETING AGENDA**

~~The Board will not take official action on non-agenda items in the meeting at which the items are first introduced unless an issue is presented in a non-agenda item is deemed an emergency by the Board. Persons wishing to address the Board on a topic not on the meeting agenda must file a Request to Address the Board form with the Superintendent no less than five (5) days prior to the scheduled Board meeting~~

~~For special-called meetings, the public may comment only on items specifically on the agenda.~~

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### **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 shall have the authority to terminate the remarks of any individual who does not adhere to the guidelines set forth in policy.

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01.421  
(CONTINUED)

**Public Participation in Open Meetings**

**FINAL ACTION**

<sup>1</sup>KRS 61.840

<sup>2</sup>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