

Policy Type: District

Policy Title: Procedure by Which Citizens Will Address Trustees at Board Meetings

Whom Does this Policy Affect: All District Staff

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a procedure by which citizens will address trustees at board meetings.

Policy Statement

The Open Meetings Act provides an individual or group an opportunity to address the Board and is not intended to offer a forum for debate among individuals or groups. Therefore, in order to ensure an orderly procedure, the trustees shall permit citizens to address the Board during the portion of the meeting set aside for C. 1. - Delegations. A delegation is defined as an individual or a group. A delegation shall be permitted to address a public meeting under the following conditions and subject to the following limitations:

- A. A person shall state on a card provided by the Secretary his/her name, address and subject matter upon which he/she wishes to speak;
- B. A person shall be permitted to speak at C. 1. - Delegations, of the agenda;
- C. A person may speak on an agenda matter, or at any time during the meeting when a majority vote of the trustees grants permission; otherwise the public is limited to stated times on the agenda;
- D. A person shall be limited to three (3) minutes on one subject and in the event more than one person wishes to speak on the same subject, the time allocated shall be divided among the number of persons wishing to speak on the subject;
- E. If the subject matter is not within the jurisdiction of the governmental body, the presiding officer may rule that the person will not be permitted to address the meeting;
- F. The presiding officer shall limit the person addressing the meeting to the subject matter stated in the request;
- G. The presiding officer shall not permit the public meeting to be used for a personal, abusive, vulgar or defamatory attack on any person;
- H. A person must be recognized, speak at the podium provided, and address the presiding officer on the subject matter;
- I. In order to facilitate planning for time allotments during the meeting, an advance notice of a person or group's request to speak is desirable but not mandatory;
- J. In the event that a group of more than twenty persons is planning to attend the board meeting, the group is required to give at least three (3) days advance notice to the District so

that prior arrangements can be made to accommodate the meeting, as the Board Room is limited in seating capacity. The President's Office should be notified by no later than the Friday preceding the scheduled meeting.

These rules may be waived in whole or in part upon a majority vote of the members present of the body.

PROCEDURE BY WHICH CITIZENS WILL ADDRESS TRUSTEES AT BOARD MEETINGS

Individual

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Phone No. _____

Topic _____

* * * * *

Group Spokesman

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Phone No. _____

Topic _____

Name of Group _____

Address _____

City _____

(Attorney General Opinion #5183, 3/8/77, p. 6)
