

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

To provide for full and open communication between the public and the Board of Education, the board authorizes the following avenues for the exchange of information, ideas and opinions.

### *Grievance through Established Policy and Procedure*

Students, employees and any members of the public are encouraged to use established procedures as specified by policies for offering suggestions or addressing concerns and complaints prior to bringing issues to the Board. The Board believes that many issues can be resolved by communication with teachers, administrators and other staff and may refuse to address an issue if the individual presenting it has not first attempted to resolve the matter through established policies and procedures.

### *Written Correspondence*

Written correspondence may be directed to the Board, through the superintendent, for consideration at a meeting. Copies of all correspondence directed to the Board will be made available to all Board members. Statements of two or less pages are encouraged but not required.

### *Agenda Items*

Any member of the public who wishes to have an item placed on the agenda will present the request in writing to the superintendent or designee; specific procedures are in Policy BDDB.

### *Public Hearings*

From time to time, the Board will schedule a public hearing to receive input on matters of concern to the community or as required by statute. The public will be provided notice of such hearings as required by law.

### *Public Comment*

A specifically designated time will be set aside for public comments at regular Board meetings. The following rules will apply to the public comment portion of the meeting:

1. The Board will establish a time limit for the public comment period.
2. No individual will be permitted to speak more than once during this period.
3. The Board will establish a uniform time limit for each speaker.
4. Only items that are a legitimate part of the business of the Board may be discussed.
5. Persons addressing the Board will identify themselves by name, address and group, if any, they represent.
6. Comments must exclude personal complaints against District staff or those associated with the District. Other procedures are available to dispose of such complaints.

Adopted: February 14, 1984  
March 14, 1995  
January 23, 2001  
October 8, 2002

Revised: April 12, 2011

Cross Refs.: BDDB – Agendas  
KC – Community Involvement in Decision Making  
KK – Visitor to District Property/Events  
KL – Public Complaints  
KLB – Public Questions, Comments or Concerns Regarding District  
Instructional/Media/Library Materials

Legal Refs.: § 610.010.035 – RSMo.