

REGULATIONS WHEN ADDRESSING THE BOARD

OPEN FORUM:

The public is invited to address the Board during Open Forum at all Regular Meetings. However, there are certain legal requirements of which the public needs to be aware.

All appropriate topics are allowed at Regular Board Meetings – with the Board President having the authority at any time to stop the comments or give directions to the speaker(s). Topics discussed at a Special Board Meeting must be related to an agenda topic and are allowed only if the Board chooses to allow comments.

In most cases, positive comments, inquiries, or suggestions are appropriate. Time limits may be enforced by the Board President.

If any comments are made about any individual that could be considered negative, the Board President will stop the speaker and direct them to contact the Superintendent to request the item be placed on the next agenda. Law requires prior notice to any individual employed in any capacity by the school district who will be discussed in any manner that is not positive. They have the right to be present and hear the comments in person. At that meeting, then the Board will most likely go into Executive Session (unless requested by the individual who is being discussed to remain in Open Session). Note that the Board President – along with the Board - has the right to set the agenda. Therefore, there is not a guarantee that all requested agenda items will be placed on a future agenda. That decision rests with the Board President and Board.

If you have any questions regarding these requirements, please ask them before comments are made publicly. The best practice is to visit with the Superintendent prior to the meeting and indicate that you are planning to attend the meeting – so that there are no misunderstandings as to what is allowable. However, the Board President would be the one to ask at the meeting itself.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE TAPED IN THEIR ENTIRETY BEGINNING WITH THE AUGUST 2009 MEETING ACCORDING TO STATE LAWS ENACTED IN THE 2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.