

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS POLICY (Approved 4/15/13)

1. Purpose

The Board recognizes the value to school governance of public comment and the importance of involving members of the public in Board meetings.

2. Authority

In order to permit fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board will provide a period for public comment at the beginning of meetings and will formulate rules to govern such public participation in Board meetings.

3. Delegation of Responsibility

The presiding officer at each public Board meeting will follow the rules of the Board for conduct of public meetings in accordance with this policy.

4. Guidelines Public Comment Period

The presiding officer shall be guided by the following rules:

- a. The Board requires that public participants be parents of school's students, employees or other interested individuals of the charter school.
- b. Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer prior to the participant addressing the Board.
- c. Whenever issues identified by the participant are subject to remediation under policies and procedures of the Board, they shall be dealt with in accordance with these policies and procedures.
- d. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually. Participants are not entitled to and shall not expect any response or dialogue with the Board during the public comment period.
- e. Participants are limited to three minutes to present their comments.
- f. Personnel issues, particularly student concerns, and other sensitive matters are not appropriate for public comment. The Board reserves the right to restrict the nature of public comment offered.
- g. Teachers and employees of the School shall not use the public comment period to discuss individual personnel issues or other matters related to employment function and performance. The Board considers such discussion to be inappropriate for the public

forum and directs that such matters be addressed with the Administration, in private or, when available, pursuant to the Employee Complaint procedures.

The presiding officer may:

- a. Interrupt or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, irrelevant, or otherwise unprofessional or inappropriate for a public forum.
- b. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum.
- c. 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.
- d. Call a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action.
- e. Information that is to be presented in the form of statements or charges that might be considered derogatory or of another serious nature, must be presented in writing, specifically stating the charges and made in affidavit form.