

PUBLIC COMMENTS BEST PRACTICES:

- The Board Chair has full discretion over the Public Comment period, including the ability to manage speaking time to allow for additional comments.
- The school board' goal for the public comment period is to hear your opinions, comments and concerns, and supports public comments at the discretion of the chair.
- Public comments are welcome at regular board business meetings and ask that you respectfully follow the meeting guidelines.
- Public comments at work sessions are not a consistent practice, therefore if the agenda does not have a public comment period, none is required. However, the board chair may still encourage the public to submit comments to the district office if you like.
- Address your testimony to the board members, not the audience.
- Do not address questions to the board.
- Prepare an outline of your testimony so that it is well organized and avoids repetition.
- If a number of public comments are received on the same topic, the board limits the time devoted to a single topic to 3-5 minutes.
- The board may not respond to your testimony this evening, it may be referred to the Superintendent for response.
- Audience time is not intended as a forum for public debate.
- Recognize that the board does not discuss personnel (staff) matters at board meetings.
- Do your homework and understand the basic facts of the issue before addressing the board.
- No inappropriate comments or behavior will be tolerated. Inappropriate behavior is defined as attempting to engage individual board members in conversation, insults, complaints against staff members, obscenities or profanity, attacks against any person in their personal capacity, and/or physical violence or threat thereof.
- Questions raised may require further investigation, or referred to the Superintendent for response.
- Normally, the board will wait until its next meeting before responding to concerns raised.
- If you have hand-outs or materials for the Board, please present them to the Board's Executive Assistant who will distribute them to the Board members after the meeting