RULES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

1. Public participation shall be permitted as indicated on the order of business, before the Board takes official action on any issue of substance, and/or at the discretion of the presiding officer.

2. Anyone having a legitimate interest in the actions of the Board may participate during the public portion of a meeting.

3. If a delegation is present to address the Board, the delegation may select up to five (5) spokespersons to speak on its behalf, for a total of not more than fifteen (15) minutes.

4. Attendees must register their intention to participate in the public portion of the meeting upon their arrival at the meeting.

5. Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and will be requested to preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address, and group affiliation, if and when appropriate.

6. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes duration.

7. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic unless all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard.

8. Participants shall direct all comments to the Board and not to staff or other participants.

9. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no person may address or question board members individually.

10. Board of Education members may question speakers, but are not obligated to answer questions or make statements or commitments in response to issues.

11. The presiding officer may

   a. interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant’s statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;

   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 for 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. waive these rules.
12. Tape or video recordings are permitted. The person operating the recorder should contact the Superintendent prior to the Board meeting to review placement of the equipment and agrees to abide by the following conditions:

a. No obstructions are created between the Board and the audience.

b. No interviews are conducted in the meeting room while the Board is in session.

c. No commentary, adjustment of equipment, or positioning of operators is made that would distract either the Board or members of the audience while the Board is in session.