

# Series 200 – Board of Directors

Policy Title: **Public Participation in Board Meetings**

Policy Code No. 213

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The board recognizes the importance of citizen participation in school district matters. In order to assure citizens are heard and board meetings are conducted efficiently and in an organized manner, the board will set time aside for public comment.

Citizens wishing to address the board on a certain agenda item may notify the board secretary prior to the board meeting. The board president will recognize these individuals to make their comments at the appropriate time during public comment. Citizens wishing to present petitions to the board may do so at this time. The board will only receive the petitions and not act upon them or their contents.

The board has the discretion to limit the amount of time set aside for public participation. Normally speakers will be limited to 3 (three) minutes. However, the board president may modify this time limit, if deemed appropriate or necessary. Public comment is a time set aside for community input. The board will not discuss or take any action on any matter during public comment.

A public comment shall be limited to regular board meetings and will not be routinely held during special board meetings.

The board has a significant interest in maintaining the decorum of its meetings, and it is expected that members of the public and the board will address each other with civility. If the pressure of business or other circumstances dictate, the board president may decide to eliminate the practice of public comment. The board president will recognize these individuals to make their comments at the appropriate time. The orderly process of the board meeting will not be interfered with or disrupted. Only those speakers recognized by the board president will be allowed to speak. Comments by others are out of order. If disruptive, the individual causing disruption may be asked to leave the board meeting. Defamatory comments may be subject to legal action.

Date of Adoption	08/14/1989
Review Date	06/24/2019
Revision Date	06/24/2019

Legal Ref.: Iowa Code §§ 21; 22; 279.8.

Cross Ref.:

- 205 Board Member Liability
- 210.8 Board Meeting Agenda
- 214 Public Hearings
- 301 Administrative Structure
- 307 Communication Channels
- 401.4 Employee Complaints
- 402.5 Public Complaints About Employees
- 502.4 Student Complaints and Grievances