

Audience Participation

The board recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of involving members of the public in its meetings. Formal presentations by the public and staff must be scheduled seven days prior to meeting so that the subject may be added to the agenda. The board cannot take action on items not on the agenda for that meeting. Other public comments may be heard at the beginning of the meeting or at a time determined by the chairman.

The board welcomes opinions prior to board action on specific agenda items. Written and oral comment will be accepted by the board before the adoption or amendment of policies not expressly or by implication authorized by state or federal law, but which will promote the education of kindergarten through eighth grade students or will promote the effective, efficient or safe management and operation of the district. Individuals wishing to be heard by the board will first be recognized by the chair/president.

Individuals, after identifying themselves, will proceed to make comments within the time limits established by the board. The chairman may interrupt or terminate an individual's statement when it is too lengthy. Generally it should be 3-5 minutes on both agenda and non-agenda items. The chair will respond to specific questions and/or comments from non-board members where appropriate throughout the meeting. If statements are personally directed, abusive, or irrelevant they will be terminated by the chairman. The board as a whole shall have the final decision in determining the appropriateness of all such decisions. Any representative of a firm eligible to bid on materials or services solicited by the board will also be entitled to express an opinion.

Comments or presentations which present complaints or charges against a director or staff member may be made only in executive session unless specifically authorized by the director or staff member concerned. These comments must be scheduled in advance as an agenda item by the superintendent or chairman so the staff member or director can decide on preference of open or executive session unless the chairman considers it a matter of immediate concern.

Individuals with disabilities who may need a modification to participate in a meeting should contact the superintendent's office no later than three days before a regular meeting and as soon as possible in advance of a special meeting so that arrangements for the modification can be made.

Cross References: 1400 – Meeting Conduct, Order of Business and Quorum

Legal References: RCW 42.30.030 Meetings declared open and public
 RCW 42.30.050 Interruptions — Procedure
 42 U.S.C. 12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act

Management Resources: 2012 – June Issue

Adoption Date: 05.11.04
Shaw Island School District
Classification: Priority
Revised Dates: 02.12.08; 01.12.16