

Mounds View Public Schools Board Governance Policy

BG-0201 Public Participation at School Board Meeting

At least fifteen minutes prior to each meeting, a sheet will be available at the meeting site for citizens to sign up to address the School Board. Citizens must provide their name, address and the topic to be addressed. At the beginning of each meeting the Chair will state the number of speakers listed on the sign up sheet and the time to be allotted. Only those whose names appear on the sign-up sheet at the time the meeting is called to order will be permitted to address the School Board. Speakers will not be allowed to verbally attack individual School Board members, employees or students or use vulgar or profane language. Speakers unwilling to conform to the rules or time constraints set by the Chair may be removed from the meeting. Generally speakers will be given three minutes each. Citizen input should not subrogate the regular business of the School Board. School Board members need not engage in debate with members of the audience and will generally listen but not respond to comments.

Once the speakers have been heard or the time has expired, the Chair will proceed with the agenda. The business of the School Board is conducted by the seven elected School Board members and audience comments are no longer in order. The Chair retains the right to call on staff and audience members for information to assist the School Board in its deliberations. If items are brought to the School Board's attention during the audience input portion of the meeting which merit further study, follow up or a written response, School Board members may request such action by the administration and/or a committee of the School Board.

Patron complaints may most appropriately be addressed by the staff of the Mounds View Public Schools rather than by the School Board. Generally the School Board acts only after all other avenues of appeal have been utilized.

Rationale:

School Board meetings are business meetings held in public - not public forums. It is therefore advisable that guidelines be established so that public input is orderly and productive and so that special interest groups are not allowed to dominate the proceedings of the School Board.

References:

Notes:

1200 Public Participation in Board Meetings (Replaced)

Adopted: June 25, 2002