

GP-11: PUBLIC COMMENT

Adopted: 08/08/63

Revised: 09/28/78; 04/05/79; 10/11/79; 07/24/80; 05/13/82
06/01/89; 04/14/92; 06/22/93; 09/14/93; 01/25/94
08/22/95; 12/17/96; 03/09/00; 09/28/00; 12/14/00
01/24/02; 03/13/03; 11/13/03; 01/22/04; 08/09/07
01/14/10; 11/08/12; 03/26/15; 09/22/16; 05/25/17

Board of School Trustees

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Board of School Trustees recognizes that its deliberative process benefits greatly from public input and perspective. At the same time, it wishes to organize its agendas and use its meeting time effectively, and ensure an equitable allocation of time to speakers.

It is the policy of the Board that members of the public shall be provided the opportunity and shall be encouraged to be heard at Board meetings. Public comment at Board meetings is particularly appropriate for matters dealt with directly and exclusively by the Board (e.g. District policy, Board Vision, Strategic Imperatives, Pledge of Achievement, and other support strategies).

Additionally, in order to be responsive to more personal and specific public concerns, the Board will encourage issues to be first directed to the appropriate staff members and worked through the organizational chain-of-command prior to bringing matters to the Board. In order to honor the seriousness of individual concerns, the Board will ask the Superintendent to report back to the individual Board member on the outcome of the issue in a timely manner.

Board members who believe the Superintendent has not reported back to them in a timely manner or with an acceptable response the complaint or concern shall address their concern using the Balanced Governance™ Progressive Response process as described in item 7 of GP-4.2: Board Members' Principles of Operation.

Personnel, student discipline, and other matters will be reported in a closed session per NRS.

Public comment may be exercised in the following way:

1. There will be two public comment periods offered—one at or near the beginning of the meeting, before any substantive action items, and one at the close of the public section of the meeting. Should members of the public wish to speak on matters within the jurisdiction of the Board but not listed as an action item on the agenda, they may speak during either of these two public comment periods. During the first Public Comment Period, the Board will allocate twenty minutes. Speakers will be given two minutes to address the Board during this first time period. No additional time will be given during this period. If there are still members of the public wishing to address the Board after the allotted time of twenty minutes, they will be able to address the Board on action items as indicated in paragraph 2 below, or during the closing Public Comment Period. The public should be aware that the Board is unable, by law, to deliberate or take actions on items not listed on the agenda.
2. In addition to the public comment periods described above, members of the public are allowed to speak on each action item after the Board's discussion and prior to its vote. Since approval of the consent agenda may be approved in one motion, members of the public wishing to speak on a consent agenda item may speak prior to the vote. Those members of the public who are speaking on four or more consent items will be allowed a total of no more than ten minutes. Customarily, speakers will be called in the order in which they signed up. No person may sign up for another individual. No person may yield his or her time to another person. Generally, a person wishing to speak on action agenda items will be allowed three minutes to address the Board.
3. Once the agenda has posted, those wishing to address the Board may sign up to speak by calling the Board Office at 702-799-1072 during regular business hours and at least three hours prior to the scheduled start of the meeting. Alternatively, speakers may sign up in person immediately prior to the beginning of the meeting. Speakers are invited to submit extended remarks in writing.
4. During the closing Public Comment Period, if a speaker requests additional time, any Board member may request that the President recognize a speaker for, at most, an additional one minute. Recognizing a speaker for additional time does not set a precedent for other speakers and should be requested and granted with restraint.

5. In those situations where large groups of people desire to address the Board on the same matter, the chair may request that those groups select only one or two speakers from the group to address the Board on behalf of the group.
6. The Board reserves the right to waive or alter this procedure if in the opinion of the Board, it is warranted by the circumstances of any particular meeting.
7. At each meeting, the chair may read speaker guidelines prior to receiving public input.

Citizens are not required to address the Trustees in person in order to express their concerns. The Trustees also receive communication via e-mail, fax, US Mail, and by phone. Contact information is provided as follows:

Clark County School District
Office of the Board of Trustees
5100 W. Sahara Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89146
702-799-1072 (phone) 702-799-0257
<http://ccsd.net/trustees/contact/all>

Each Trustee may host monthly Parent Advisory Committee (PAC), or Community Education Advisory Board (CEAB) meetings. All meeting dates, times, and locations can be found on the Trustees' Web page at: <http://ccsd.net/trustees/> or by contacting the Board Office at 702-799-1072.