

Policies of the Board of Education

Section B: School Board Governance and Operations

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

200.25

Page 1 of 2

All meetings of the Board will be open to the public, with the exception of Executive Sessions, as called for by the Board to discuss specific issues in accordance with Wisconsin law, which are not open to the public.

Regular meetings of the Board are for the purpose of providing the Board an opportunity to discuss and respond to issues and to take action in public view. Therefore, the procedures described herein will govern public participation at all regular Board meetings and will be strictly followed.

The Board welcomes public comment at its meetings and is committed to providing meaningful opportunities for the public to participate. The Board encourages the public to offer comments and express opinions on both specific actions to be taken by the Board, as well as any other issue directly related to the operation of Lake Country School. However, speakers are strongly encouraged to discuss their comments and concerns with appropriate school staff members, school principal, or superintendent, before directing such comments to the full Board during a meeting.

The public will have the opportunity to speak at Board meetings in the following ways:

1. Regular Board Meetings.
 - a. Citizen Comments/Requests for Future Agenda Items. The Board will designate a period during each monthly regular meeting for public participation under the agenda item, Citizen Comments. Comments may deal with any topic (not on the agenda) related to the Board's governance of the school. Requests for future agenda items may also be made. All agendas for monthly regular meetings will list a Citizen Comment section. During the Citizen Comment section each participant will be limited to an appropriate amount of time determined by the Board President, or other presiding officer. The President will also be responsible for maintaining proper order, for adherence to any time limits, and for recognizing as many speakers as time allows, who will be asked to properly identify themselves and their place of residence. Personal criticism and/or derogatory remarks will not be tolerated. The Board will listen to all comments, but will not engage in active discussion or take action. The Board can only address an item if it appears on the agenda.

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Page 2 of 2

- b. Agenda Comments. An individual or group may request to speak to an item on the Board agenda at the time it comes up for discussion. The Board vests in its President, or other presiding officer, authority to recognize as many speakers as time allows and maintain proper order. Each speaker, when recognized, should state his/her opinions briefly and concisely. The presiding officer may limit the time allowed for such presentations.
2. Special Board Meetings.

Special Board meetings have an announced agenda to accomplish a specific task by the Board. Public comment at a time during the meetings, as deemed appropriate by the President, or other presiding officer, will be limited to an agenda item only and follow the procedure in 1b above.

Adopted by School Board – August 23, 2005