

Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings**Page 1**

The regular and special meetings of the Board are open to the public and representatives of the press except that a part of any meeting may be designated an executive session as provided by law. (see 9324 for details)

The Board welcomes participation of interested organizations and individuals. Advance announcement of all regular and special meetings of the Board is made through posting the agenda, through notices to newspapers, and directly to citizens, community and professional organizations that specifically request such notification. The Board will have three business days from the time it receives a special request for an advance announcement of any regular or special meeting from any citizen, community or professional organization to provide such notification.

Board meetings are meetings held in public. Board meetings are not open hearings. Once the Board moves into regular agenda, the public may participate as allowed by the chairperson or designee, and with the following restrictions:

1. Questions and/or comments are to be restricted to the specific agenda item being discussed;
2. Board members shall be recognized first for comments and/or questions;
3. Questions and/or comments by the public may be restricted by the Board chairperson; and
4. The chairperson may, at his/her discretion, curtail public discussion at any time.

Any citizen may appear before the Board to express his/her opinion concerning the educational program of the district. The public is advised that any discussion of specific Board employees will not be allowed at any meeting and should be addressed to that employee's immediate supervisor. The Board agenda provides opportunities for comments and questions from persons attending the meeting. Persons wishing to address the Board should give their names and addresses.

Board Relations with Community Organizations. It is the intention of the Board to cooperate fully with appropriate officials, boards, committees, or other agencies of the town, and with organized groups of interested citizens of the town. Any such individual or group requesting a meeting with the Board should present its request to the chairperson of the Board, or the Superintendent, in ample time to allow for proper preparation of agenda items, notification of Board members, and establishment for a mutually agreeable meeting time and place.

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Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
1-225 Meetings of government agents to be public. Recording of votes. Schedule and agenda of meetings to be filed. Notice of special meetings. Executive sessions.
1-226 Broadcasting or photographing meetings.
19a-342 Smoking in public meetings in rooms of public building prohibited.
1-227 Mailing of notice of meetings to persons filing written request. Fees.
1-230 Regular meetings to be held pursuant to regulation, ordinance or resolution.
1-232 Conduct of meetings.
1-205 Denial of access to public records or meetings.
10-238 Petition for hearing by board of education.

Board Adopted: November 13, 2013