

MILLINOCKET SCHOOL BOARD POLICY
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

All regular and special meetings of the Board shall be open to the public and the media. Only those executive meetings, which by law where private sessions are required or permitted by law, shall be closed to the public and the media. However, all decisions reached during such executive sessions require public action at a regular or special Board meeting.

Because the Board desires to hear the viewpoints of citizens throughout the school district, and also needs to conduct its business in an orderly and efficient manner, it may set a time limit on the length of this period and/or a time limit for individual speakers. To be eligible to address the Board, an individual should reside within the school unit, be an employee of the school unit, or be invited by the Committee or superintendent to speak.

If a presentation requires more than such time limit allows, the superintendent shall be notified in advance so that the presentation may be considered for inclusion as a formal agenda item.

Comments and questions at a regular meeting may deal with any topic related to the Board's conduct of the schools. Comments at special meetings must be related to the call of the meeting.

The length of time scheduled for public comment will be limited to 3 minutes. Public comment will be held at the beginning of the agenda.

The Board chairperson shall be responsible for recognizing all speakers (who shall properly identify themselves), for maintaining proper order, and for adherence to any time limits set.

The Board shall give due attention to comments and contributions from the audience, but shall not be expected to respond or take action immediately. Audience inquiries, other than simple questions, shall be referred to the superintendent who shall investigate or consider the matter and report to the citizen and to the Board. If Board action is indicated, the item may be included in the agenda for a subsequent meeting.

Adopted: 01/27/87

Reviewed: 4/10/96

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