

Internal Board Policies - Methods of OperationOpportunity for Public Expression

The Board of Education as a representative body, recognizes the importance of the public's viewpoint relative to the direction of the educational programs in Springfield Platteview Community Schools. Therefore, the following guidelines have been established for patrons to efficiently and effectively give expression to their suggestions, concerns, and grievances:

- A. Each regular and work session Board meeting shall have on its agenda a specific time or times entitled "Items from Patrons," during which time the public may address the Board on matters of general concern. Patrons wishing to address the Board during the Items from Patrons will be allowed five (5) minutes to express their view. Board of Education members will refrain from expressing personal opinions during the Items from Patrons unless asked a direct question by a patron recognized by the Board President as having the floor. The Board imposed time limit may be extended by a majority vote of the Board following a request to do so. Board action may not be taken on matters discussed during the Items from Patrons unless the matter specifically appears on the prepared agenda. In the discretion of the Board President, the Items from Patrons may be omitted or bypassed at some, but not all, meetings of the Board of Education.

- B. Concerns and Complaints - Board action shall not be taken regarding a concern or complaint unless the following procedure has been followed:
 - Step 1. All complaints concerning a particular school situation shall be submitted to the Principal of the building. They should be submitted in writing when practical. If the party involved is other than an individual, then the organization or persons represented shall be identified. If the problem involves other than an individual building, then the matter shall be directed to the Superintendent.
 - Step 2. Should the matter not be resolved to the satisfaction of the parties involved, they may appeal to the Superintendent.
 - Step 3. If the initiating party is not satisfied with the response of the Superintendent, said party may address a written appeal to the Board of Education through the Secretary of the Board.

- C. Speak to Agenda Item – Any person who desires to have an item placed on the monthly Board meeting agenda and speak on that item should make their wishes known to the Superintendent prior to the distribution of the monthly agenda. Upon receipt of a request to be heard the Superintendent may, in the discretion of the Superintendent, place the item on the agenda. The Board President shall then allow the person to address the Board at the appropriate time. A person's presentation may proceed for up to fifteen (15) minutes. The time limit may be extended by a majority vote of the Board following a request to do so.

- D. Persons who wish to speak to an agenda item will not be required to have their name be placed on the agenda prior to the meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda. However, any member of the public who wishes to address the Board will be required to identify himself or herself at the meeting.

Legal Reference: §84-1412

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