

SECTION: COMMUNITY
 TITLE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BOARD MEETINGS
 ADOPTED: September 26, 1979
 REVISED: August 25, 1987
 April 27, 1999
 October 26, 2004
 April 23, 2019

LINE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

903. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS	
<p>1. Purpose 65 P.S. 701 et seq</p>	<p>The Board recognizes the value to school governance of public comment on educational issues and the importance of involving members of the public in Board meetings. The Board also recognizes its responsibility for proper governance of the district and the need to conduct its business in an orderly and efficient manner.</p>
<p>2. Authority 65 P.S. 710 65 P.S. 710.1</p>	<p>The Board adopts this policy to govern public participation in Board meetings necessary to conduct its meeting and to maintain order.</p> <p>In order to permit fair and orderly expression of public comment, the Board shall provide an opportunity at each open meeting of the Board for residents and taxpayers to comment on matters of concern, official action or deliberation before the Board prior to official action by the Board.</p> <p>If the Board determines there is not sufficient time at a meeting for public comments, the comment period may be deferred to the next regular meeting or to a special meeting occurring before the next regular meeting.</p>
<p>3. Delegation of Responsibility Pol. 006</p>	<p>The presiding officer at each public Board meeting shall follow Board policy for the conduct of public meetings. Where his/her ruling is disputed, it may be overruled by a majority of those Board members present and voting.</p>
<p>4. Guidelines PA Statute 65 P.S. 271 et seq Board Policy 006</p>	<p>Whenever issues identified by the participant are subject to remediation under policies and procedures of the Board, they shall be dealt with in accordance with those policies and procedures and the organizational structure of the district.</p> <p>The Board requires that public participants be residents or taxpayers of this district or anyone representing a group in the community or school district, any representative of a firm eligible to bid on materials or services solicited by the Board, any district employee or any district student.</p> <p>Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address, and group affiliation if applicable. Presentations to the Board shall be limited to a duration of three (3)</p>

minutes unless prior arrangements have been made and an extension of time has been granted. The presiding officer may extend the time limits at his/her discretion.

Comments on agenda items and other public comments shall be directed to the presiding officer. Members of the public shall not be permitted to participate in debate regarding issues before the Board nor to question school staff regarding Board and administrative issues and procedures during meetings of the Board unless permitted by the presiding officer.

The presiding officer may:

1. Interrupt or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant.
2. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum.
3. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers to remove a disorderly person when his/her conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting.
4. Call a recess or adjourn to another time when the lack of public decorum interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting.
5. Waive these rules with the approval of the Board.

The portion of the meeting during which the public is invited to speak shall be limited to thirty (30) minutes.

Electronic recording devices and cameras, in addition to those used as official recording devices, shall be permitted at public meetings under guidelines established by the Board.

No placards or banners will be permitted within the meeting room.

The meeting agenda and all pertinent documents shall be available to the press and public at the meetings.

Legal

1. 24 P.S. 407
2. Pol. 006
3. 65 Pa. C.S.A. 710
4. 65 Pa. C.S.A. 710.1
- 65 Pa. C.S.A. 701 et seq