Public Participation at Board Meetings  Policy: BEDH

All regular and special meetings of the Board shall be open to the public. Because the Board desires to hear the viewpoints of all citizens throughout the BOCES and also needs to conduct its business in an orderly and efficient manner, it shall schedule time during some Board meetings for brief comments and questions from the public not to exceed three minutes per speaker. Some public comment periods may relate to specific items on the agenda. The Board shall set a time limit on the length of the public participation time and a time limit for individual speakers.

During times of general public comment at a regular meeting, comments and questions may deal with any topic related to the Board's conduct of the BOCES. Comments at special meetings must be related to the call of the meeting. During times of public comment on specific agenda items, comments shall be confined to the topic of the agenda item being considered by the Board. All speakers must treat each other and the Board and District staff with civility. Speakers are welcome to offer constructive criticism motivated by a sincere desire to improve the quality of the educational program or to equip Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning to do its tasks more effectively. The Board encourages citizens to exercise their free-speech rights in a responsible manner and to refrain from personal attacks against individuals.

The Board encourages the discussion of all personnel matters to be conducted in executive session.

The Board president shall be responsible for recognizing all speakers who shall properly identify themselves, for maintaining proper order and for adherence to any time limits set. Questions asked by the public that require further investigation may be referred to the executive director or executive director’s designee for consideration and later response.

Members of the public will not be recognized by the president during Board meetings except as noted in this policy.

The Board President may interrupt, warn or terminate a speaker’s comments that are unrelated to the business of the school district, inappropriate for PK-12 students, or disruptive to an orderly, productive meeting. If disruptive, the citizen causing the disruption may be directed to leave the Board meeting.

Members of the public wishing to make formal presentations before the Board should make arrangements in advance with the executive director so that such presentations, when appropriate, may be scheduled on the agenda.

Adopted: December 3, 2019
LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. 24-6-401 et seq. (open meetings law)

CROSS REF.: KE, Public Concerns and Complaints