

TRI-VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Policy 1230 Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings

WELCOME

The Board and Superintendent of Schools welcome you to the Board of Education meeting and encourage your participation. Below are some procedures followed by the Board in conducting district business at the meeting and information for you if you wish to speak. In order for the Board to do its job thoroughly and efficiently, we ask you to observe the procedures below.

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK

Members of the public may speak during the Public Comment portions of the board meeting. The first Public Comment session is for items on the meeting's agenda. A second Public Comment session is held prior to New Business on other matters related to the school district but not on the agenda.

If you wish to speak, please complete the bottom of this sheet and give it to the Board President prior to the start of the meeting. The Board President will call your name to speak. Names will be called in the order in which forms are received. The Board welcomes comments from the public at its meetings, but also needs to ensure that this privilege is managed in a way that allows the Board to complete its agenda. For that reason, the Board has adopted a policy for public comment that sets aside 30 minutes during the meeting for this purpose. There is a five-minute limit per person unless time is extended by the Board. A copy of this policy is provided to the public at each board meeting.

PLEASE NOTE

Comments and issues involving particular students or employees are not permitted at the meeting. If you wish to speak about a specific student or staff issue, please contact the Superintendent directly by calling 845-985-2296 or by email at tompalmer@trivalleycsd.org

Request to Speak at Board of Education Meeting

Board Meeting Date: _____ Item for Discussion on Agenda: Yes No (Please circle)

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email: _____ Representing Self or Organization (Please circle)

Name of Organization (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Topic or Question: _____

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education encourages public participation on school related matters at Board meetings, as outlined in this policy. To allow for public participation, a period not to exceed 30 minutes shall be set aside during the first part of each Board meeting for public comment, with priority given to comments on items on the meeting's agenda. A second 30-minute time period will be set aside at the end of each Board meeting for public comment on matters pertaining to the district but not on the agenda. These periods may be extended by a majority vote of the Board.

Persons wishing to address the Board shall advise the Board President prior to the scheduled starting time of the meeting. The request shall be made in writing on a form provided by the district and shall include the name of the speaker, the address, telephone number, name of organization represented (if any), and a brief description of the topic to be addressed. Any group or organization wishing to address the Board must identify a single spokesperson.

Presentation should be as brief as possible. No speaker will be permitted to speak for longer than 5 minutes. Speakers may comment on (1) any matter related to district business; (2) any agenda item; or (3) matters related to agenda items specifically or district matters generally, depending on the public participation section].

The Board will not permit in public session discussion involving individual district personnel or students. Persons wishing to discuss matters involving individual district personnel or students should present their comments and/or concerns to the Superintendent during regular business hours.

All speakers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Obscene language, libelous statements, threats of violence, statements advocating racial, religious, or other forms of prejudice will not be tolerated.

Persons making presentations at a Board meeting will address remarks to the President and may direct questions or comments to Board members or other district officials only upon the approval of the President. Board members and the Superintendent shall have the privilege of asking questions of any person who addresses the Board.

Questions and comments from the public concerning matters which are not on the agenda will be taken under consideration and referred to the Superintendent for appropriate action. Persons wishing to have matters included on the agenda shall contact the Superintendent in accordance with Policy 2341, Agenda Preparation and Dissemination.

The President shall be responsible for the orderly conduct of the meeting and shall rule on such matters as the time to be allowed for public discussion and the appropriateness of the subject being presented, as outlined in this policy

and applicable provisions of law and regulation, and subject to the Board's parliamentary procedure. The President shall have the right to discontinue any presentation which violates this policy.