



## BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC PARTICIPATION RULES

This is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business. It is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated on the agenda. See below for a list of rules regarding public participation.

### **Public Participation Rules:**

To permit fair and orderly public expression, the Board shall provide a period of public participation at every meeting of the Board, and publish rules to govern such participation.

Per District Policy 0167.3, speakers will be required to print their name, address, and the topic to be addressed on the **Public Speaking** form. Forms will be used to call on speakers and to assist in the accuracy of recording the Board's proceedings.

Each registered speaker may address the Board on educational issues and District related matters that concern them. A District related matter is an issue or topic relevant to the operation or governance of the District.

The presiding officer shall be guided by and administer the following rules relating to public speaking:

1. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer and be requested to preface their comments by announcement of their name, or address, and group affiliation, if and when it's appropriate.
2. Each speaker shall be limited to four (4) minutes, unless the time is reduced due to size of the group speaking on the same topic, or because the business of the Board is impeded by lengthy public comment on non-agenda items.
3. Speakers shall direct all comments to the Board, not to staff or other participants.
4. The presiding officer may:
  - a. Interrupt, warn, or terminate a speaker's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
  - b. Reduce the amount of time and/or adjourn public comment on non-agenda items to another meeting whenever the circumstances warrant, including length of a meeting agenda, a large number of persons wishing to speak on the same issue, or other similar reason impeding the business of the Board, or preventing the conclusion of a meeting at a reasonable time;
  - c. Requests any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
  - d. Requests the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
  - e. Call for recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and/or
  - f. Suspend or modify the rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the administration of the Board's business.

### **MATTAWAN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL**

56720 Murray Street, Mattawan, MI 49071 • 269.668.3361 • [info@mattawanschools.org](mailto:info@mattawanschools.org) • [www.mattawanschools.org](http://www.mattawanschools.org)