

Audience Participation

The board recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of involving members of the public in its meetings. Audience participants are to direct their comments to the board rather than the audience. In order to permit fair and orderly dialogue, the board will provide a period during its regular meetings when visitors may comment on agenda items prior to board action seek clarification or discuss non-agenda items.

The following guidelines shall govern the conduct of audience participation:

1. Individuals wishing to be heard shall be asked to provide in writing their name, address and issue(s) to be discussed to the secretary of the board.
2. Individuals wishing to be heard shall first be recognized by the president.
3. Individuals wishing to address the board shall begin by stating their name and the school district in which they reside.
4. Individuals will be given an estimated time period for the comments, taking into consideration the complexity of the topic, the number of other persons wishing to be heard and similar practical considerations. When necessary, the board president will set a maximum time for each speaker's presentation. The board president may interrupt or terminate an individual's statement when it is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive or irrelevant.
5. The board as a whole shall have the final decision in determining the appropriateness of all such rulings by the presiding officer.

Individuals with disabilities who may need a modification to participate in a meeting should contact the superintendent's office no later than three days before a regular meeting and as soon as possible in advance of a special meeting so that arrangements for the modification can be made.

Legal References:	RCW 42.30.030	Meetings declared open and public
	RCW 42.30.050	Interruptions — Procedure
	42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213	Americans with Disabilities Act

Adoption Date: 07.08.02
Former Policy Number: 1304
Clover Park School District
Revised: 09.13.04; 06.11.12
Priority