

Northshore School District

BOARD POLICY

No. 1441

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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. In order to permit fair and orderly expression of such comment, the board will provide a period at each regular meeting during which visitors may address the board. The board president may also choose to allow individuals to express an opinion prior to board action on agenda items.

Individuals or groups wishing to make formal presentations to the board should contact the superintendent and/or board president. The board will determine if they wish to add the item to their agenda or if it should be appropriately addressed under the "Public Comments" portion of the meeting.

Individuals wishing to be heard by the board shall first be recognized by the president. After identifying themselves, individuals should proceed to make comments as briefly as the subject permits. Patrons of the district or community members shall be given speaking time priority over other members of the public who do not receive services from the district. The president retains the right to interrupt or terminate an individual's statement when it is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, irrelevant, etc. The board as a whole shall have the final decision in determining the appropriateness of all such rulings.

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.

Cross Reference:
WSSDA Policy No. 1430, Audience Participation

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

Adopted by the Board: October 26, 1992
Reaffirmed: 11/27/01
Revised: 2/27/07; 2/28/12