

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS

0167 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS

The Clinton Township Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

In order to permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board shall provide a period for public comment at every Board meeting. Public participation shall be permitted at the discretion of the presiding officer.

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules:

1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate;
2. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes' duration;
3. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard;
4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually;
5. *In advance of the public meeting, the Board shall allow public comments to be submitted to the Board Secretary by electronic mail and in written letter form by 12:00 PM on the date of an announced Clinton Township Board of Education meeting date. Written comments submitted to the board will not be read during the public comment sections of public meeting but will be shared with the board members*
6. The presiding officer may:
 - a. Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
 - b. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;



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- c. Request 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;
- d. Call for a 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
- e. Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the Board's business.

N.J.S.A. 2C:33-8
N.J.S.A. 10:4-12

Adopted: 26 July 2010
Revised: 16 December 2013
Reviewed: December 2015
Revised: 25 July 2016
Revised: 29 April 2019

