All regular and special meetings of the Board shall be open to the public. Because the Board desires to hear the viewpoints of citizens throughout the district, it shall offer suitable time at all meetings for citizens to be heard.

Recognizing its responsibility for proper governance of the schools and therefore the need to conduct its business in an orderly and efficient manner, the Board shall schedule a period during each meeting for public comment. At times, it shall set a time limit on the length of this period and a time limit for individual speakers. The Board president shall be responsible for recognizing all speakers, who shall properly identify themselves, and for maintaining proper order and obtaining adherence to any time limits set.

Comments and questions at meetings dealing with topics not on the agenda may be heard after the meeting has been adjourned. Questions asked by the public shall, when possible, be answered immediately by the president or referred to Board or staff members present for reply. Questions requiring investigation shall be referred to the Board or administrative staff for consideration and later response.

Members of the public will not be recognized by the president as the Board conducts its official business except when the Board schedules in advance an interim public discussion period on a particular agenda item.

All individuals, speakers, and observers may not engage in behavior that disrupts the meeting, such as shouting, interrupting others, blocking the free movement of others, or obstructing the views of others. In the event of such disruption, the President will remind those in attendance of the rules under this policy. Any Board member may request a brief recess of the meeting. The President may order the removal of those who are a threat to the safety of others or who disrupt the orderly conduct of the meeting. If appropriate, law enforcement may be called to remove disruptive individuals.

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