

Community Relations

Citizen Participation at Board Meetings

Citizens who wish to speak with the Board of Education about a particular subject or concern shall be recognized at the appropriate point on the agenda of the regular monthly Board of Education meeting, and at special meetings except for those exclusively scheduled for executive session. Written communications from citizens requesting permission to speak with the Board of Education are encouraged but not required.

The Board of Education may, if necessary, restrict the time allowed for citizen participation. Visitor participation at the Board of Education meetings shall be only at the designated place on the agenda or upon Board of Education agreement to such participation.

Comments and suggestions made by citizens at a Board meeting are welcomed. Such comments or suggestions may be considered in one of the following ways:

1. Received by the Board but no specific action taken on the comment or suggestion.
2. Through referral to the Superintendent of Schools for appropriate staff review and consideration.
3. Through referral to the appropriate Board committee for review and consideration.
4. Through being placed on a future agenda for the Board of Education for further review and consideration.
5. Other methods of consideration agreed upon by the Board for a specific question or circumstance.

Questions asked by citizens will be answered in the meeting at which they are asked only if, in the opinion of the Chairperson, the question does not require research or further review before being answered. Citizens' questions which do necessitate review or study beyond which is reasonable at the Board of Education meeting may be handled in one of the following ways:

1. Not answered because to answer would be legally or procedurally inappropriate. The questioner will be told this either immediately or upon further investigation.
2. Referred to the Superintendent of Schools for staff response, written or oral, depending upon his/her judgment.

Community Relations

Citizen Participation at Board Meetings (continued)

3. Referred to a Board committee for a committee response, written or oral, depending upon the Committee's judgment.
4. Placed on a future agenda for the Board of Education for Board consideration and response by the Chairman, written or oral, depending upon the Chairman's response.
5. Other method or methods to answer the question which is agreed upon by the Board for a specific question or circumstance.

Decisions on considerations, responses, and referrals shall be made by the Board Chairperson or upon a motion passed by the Board.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

1-225 Meetings of government agencies to be public.

1-226 Broadcasting or photographing meetings.

19a-342 Smoking in public meetings in rooms of public building prohibited.

1-227 Mailing of notice of meetings to persons filing written request. Fees.

1-230 Regular meetings to be held pursuant to regulation, ordinance or resolution.

1-232 Conduct of meetings.

1-206 Denial of access to public records or meetings.

10-238 Petition for hearing by board of education.

Policy adopted: January 14, 2009

ANDOVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Andover, Connecticut