
POLICY ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

Compliance with the Brown Act Board of Directors (“Board”) meetings are called, held, and conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and other applicable laws.

Public Participation

Members of the public are encouraged to attend Board meetings and to address the Board concerning any item on the agenda or within the Board’s jurisdiction. Meetings are generally open for in-person attendance, and the Board may also provide opportunities for remote participation at its discretion or as required by law.

Addressing the Board

In order to conduct Board meetings and business in an orderly and efficient manner, the Board requires that public comments comply with the following procedures:

1. Members of the public will have an opportunity to address the Board on any agenda item either before or during the Board's consideration of the item.
2. At a regular meeting, members of the public may also address the Board any matter within the Board’s jurisdiction, even if not on the agenda. At a special meeting, public comments are limited to matters listed on the agenda.
3. The Brown Act limits Board members’ responses to public comments at any public meeting.
4. The Board cannot take action on items not listed on the agenda except as authorized by law.
5. Individual speakers are generally allowed up to three (3) minutes per item.
6. The total time for public input on each item is limited to 20 minutes.
7. The total time for non-agenda public comment is 10 minutes.
8. The Board president may adjust time limits depending on the topic and the number of speakers.

To ensure equity, members of the public using a translator shall be provided at least twice the allotted time, unless simultaneous translation equipment is available.

Disruptions

The Board president shall not permit any disturbance or willful interruption of Board meetings. Individuals who do not promptly cease their disruptive behavior (e.g., engaging in behavior that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting) during a meeting may be removed after a warning from the Board president or their designee.

If order cannot be restored, the Board president may clear the room, **provided** members of the media not involved in the disturbance are allowed to remain. When such disruptive conduct occurs, the Superintendent/CEO or designee may contact local law enforcement as necessary.

POLICY ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**Recording by the Public**

Members of the public may record an open Board meeting using an audio or video recorder, still or motion picture camera, cell phone, or other device, provided that the noise, illumination, or obstruction of view does not persistently disrupt the meeting. The Superintendent/CEO or designee may designate locations from which members of the public may make such recordings without causing a distraction. If the Board President finds that noise, illumination, or obstruction of view related to these activities would persistently disrupt the proceedings, these activities shall be discontinued or restricted as determined by the Board President.