

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The School Committee will provide an opportunity for any person to be heard on any subject relevant to and falling within the jurisdiction of the Committee. Public comment may be the first item on the agenda of regular workshop and business school committee meetings. Normally, persons addressing the School Committee will be permitted approximately three minutes for their presentation and a total of 15 minutes for the total comment period. Any member of the public who is allowed to speak before the School Committee must complete the public participation form and state for the record his/her name and address. Additional citizen participation will be at the discretion of the chairperson.

An Open Forum may take place during each workshop. A Public Forum may take place at each business meeting of the School Committee. Said Public Forum shall not exceed a total of twenty (20) minutes. During Public Forum the public may speak to any issue to which they may have concerns and which do not violate any other committee policy or state law. The School Committee may respond and/or take the comments under advisement. Public Forum may take place at the end of the business meeting.

If a large number of individuals are present to comment on a single issue or concern, the Chair may, at his/her discretion, ask that one representative of each point of view, after identifying and acknowledging the group, present the concern of the group.

Complaints concerning individual students or employees will not be subject to public comment. The Chairman of the School Committee will stop any comments on individual students OR employees. Concerns of this nature must be addressed through the School Committee policy KLD (Public Complaints About School Personnel). Complaints must be handled according to Policies and Regulations of the School Committee.

The public is informed that Section 42-46-5 of the General Laws to Rhode Island (known as the Open Meeting laws) prevents school committees from adding additional items to their published agenda.

ADOPTED: January 24, 1994

REVISED: February 26, 2007

LEGAL REF.: 42-46-5

CROSS REF.: BDDC, Agenda Preparation and Dissemination

BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND