

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Audience Participation

All meetings of the board, except for executive sessions, are open to the public. The board welcomes the attendance of citizens to observe the board in action.

As the elected representatives of the school district with authority and responsibility for the operation of the public schools, the board seeks the opinions of the citizens on matters of importance to the community, the staff, and the students.

It is the policy of the board to invite expressions of opinion on issues under consideration or to bring concerns to the attention of the board through the following channels:

- a. Letters directed to the board president whose official address is that of the district.
- b. Letters to the superintendent for referral to the board.

The board shall also provide time during the board meeting when any citizen of the district may express his or her views on any matter directly relating to the school district and its educational program, subject to time limits established by the board for each such speaker. Citizens cannot expect the board to respond or take action in such instances. All matters requiring follow-up will be referred to the Superintendent. It is the board's expectation that citizens will raise any concerns about employees directly with them or through administrative channels. Due to applicable legal constraints, citizens who want to express concerns to the board about employees are encouraged to do so privately with the Superintendent. Following presentation to the Superintendent, citizen complaints about a district employee or public officer will be received and considered by the board in an executive session unless the affected employee or officer specifically requests a public hearing in accordance with applicable law.

At all other times the board conducts its business as provided for in state statutes and may not be interrupted by an observer.

**Legal References:**

RCW 42.30.030 Meetings declared open and public  
RCW 42.30.050 Interruptions—Procedures  
RCW 42.30.110(1)(f)

**Classification:** N/A

Adoption Date: April 10, 1985  
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