

NEW BOSTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

**NEW BOSTON SCHOOL BOARD
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**

The primary purpose of School Board meetings is to conduct the business of the board as it relates to school policies, programs and operations. The School Board encourages and welcomes public attendance at board meetings so that the public may become more acquainted with the operation and program of the school. All official meetings of the Board will be open to the public. However, the Board reserves the right to meet and to adjourn or recess a meeting at any time. The Board also reserves the right to enter into non-public session at any time, in accordance with the provisions of RSA 91-A:3.

In order to assure that persons who wish to appear before the Board may be heard and, at the same time, may conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the Board adopts as policy the following procedures and rules pertaining to public participation at Board meetings:

1. Persons wishing to be heard by the Board can do so under "Public Comment" at the beginning and the end of the agenda. The section at the beginning is to accommodate visitors who wish to address the Board without staying for the business meeting. The section at the end provides an opportunity for those staying for the business meeting to comment on the work of the Board.
2. The "Public Comment" section of the agenda may not exceed ten (10) minutes unless extended by majority vote of the Board.
3. **Persons wishing to address the board shall state their name, address and group, if any, that is represented.**
4. Presentations will be kept as brief as possible and written remarks are encouraged.
5. Consistent with RSA 91-A:3, the laws pertaining to student and family privacy rights, the Board will not place any matter on the public agenda that is to be properly discussed in a non-public session. Complaints regarding individual employees, personnel or students will be directed to the Superintendent.
6. All speakers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Obscene, unfounded, defamatory or violent statements will be considered out of order and will not be tolerated. The Board Chair or other presiding officer may terminate the remarks of any individual when the speaker does not follow this rule of order as to content or time limitation.

Persons appearing before the Board are reminded that members of the Board are without authority to act independently as individuals in official matters. Thus, questions may be directed to individual Board members, but answers must be deferred pending consideration by the full Board.

Citizens wishing to be placed on the agenda should: Submit a request in writing to the Superintendent of Schools 10 days prior to the date of the School Board Meeting. If appropriate this item will be placed on the agenda.

Legal References:

RSA 91-A:2, Meetings Open to Public

RSA 91-A:3, Public Records and Meetings: Non-Public Sessions

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(continued)

Wendy Lambert, Chair
Glen Dickey, Vice-Chair
Fred Hayes
Kary Jencks
William Schmidt

Brian Balke, Superintendent
SAU #19, 11 School Street
Goffstown, NH 03045 (497-4818)

Adopted: 05/08/03
Revised: 04/12/05
Revised: 06/13/07
Proposed: 03/19/14
Adopted: 05/14/14
PRC Reviewed: 11/17/16

NHSBA Review: 01/23/14