



RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

660 West Daley Street

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Spring Green, Wisconsin 53588

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Phone: 608-588-2551

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Public Participation at Board Meetings

The Board, as a representative body of the district, wishes to provide an avenue for any citizen to express his/her interest in and concerns for the schools. ~~Accordingly~~, the public is invited to attend open sessions of any of the regular or special meetings of the Board.

Who may participate:

~~Members of the audience who wish to address the Board during the Board's public comment or open forum portion of the meeting shall be District residents, taxpayers, parents or guardians of students, students, employees of the district, a firm eligible to do business with the district or anyone acting as a spokesperson for the foregoing individuals or groups.~~

What may be discussed:

~~Comments and questions may deal with any topic related to the Board's management of the schools. However, discussion of matters that impinge on the privacy rights of students and/or employees will not be permitted.~~

~~Anyone desiring to address the Board shall state their name and address. The Board reserves the right to set time limits per group or individual.~~

~~At its meeting, the Board reserves the right to require disorderly or disruptive individuals to leave the premises. The dissemination of information, orally or in writing, during a Board meeting which violates the rules, regulations, and policies or the River Valley School District including, but not limited to, information which is not properly noticed, material which is discriminatory or defamatory, or material which would compromise the privacy of students or staff may result in the Board refusing to receive the information, requiring that a speaker terminate his or her presentation or, in extreme cases, requiring that a person leave the meeting. Similar sanctions may be taken against other persons who are otherwise disruptive of the meeting.~~

~~The Board is constrained by its agenda and laws concerning public meetings, which limit Board discussion and action to only those matters listed on the agenda. This means the Board cannot engage in conversations with the public during the "Public Comments" portion because the nature of those comments would be unknown in advance and thus would not be listed on the agenda, which is a potential violation of the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.~~

~~Public comments will be taken under advisement. If public comments are in regard to an agenda item, when the Board discusses that particular item during the meeting, the Board may or may not address the comments/questions raised by the public.~~

~~Anyone desiring to address the Board during the "Public Comments" portion of the meeting must register on the "Sign Up Sheet for Making Public Comments at River Valley School District Board Meetings."~~

~~Speakers shall address the entire Board as a whole, not individual Board members, and shall remain polite and respectful. The Board can require disorderly or disruptive individuals to leave the premises.~~

The Board has the responsibility to conduct the business of the district in an orderly, efficient manner; therefore, the Board reserves the right to limit comments to three minutes per speaker.

Speakers may comment on the Board's management of the school and offer objective criticism of district operations and programs. However, the Board will not hear complaints concerning individual district personnel. Comments that impinge on the privacy rights of students and/or employees will not be permitted.

Only the Board President may respond to the comments. He/She has the authority to ask another Board member or administrator to respond. Board members will not respond to public comments unless designated by the Board President. The Board President has the authority to cease any conversation, at any time, for any reason.

CROSS REF.: Policy #171.1 - Public Notification of Board Meetings
Policy #171.2 - Agenda Preparation and Dissemination

APPROVED: February 9, 1989
REVISED: October 13, 1994
APPROVED: November 10, 1994
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