

ATTLEBORO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Attleboro, Massachusetts

File: BEDH

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All regular and special meetings of the Attleboro School Committee shall be open to the public. Executive sessions will be held only as prescribed by the statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The School Committee desires citizens of the district to attend its meetings so that they may become better acquainted with the operations and the programs of our local public schools. In addition, the Committee would like the opportunity to hear the comments and ideas of the public.

In order that all citizens who wish to be heard before the Committee have a chance and to insure the ability of the Committee to conduct the district's business in an orderly manner, the following rules and procedures are adopted:

1. During the Open Forum of each regularly scheduled School Committee meeting, individuals or group representatives will be given the opportunity to address the Committee on matters within the scope of the Committee's authority. These matters include the school department's budget, the educational goals and policies of the school department, and the performance of the Superintendent of Schools.
2. All remarks will be addressed through the Chairperson of the meeting.
3. The Chairperson may establish a time limit for speakers to present their material as necessary.
4. Written comments longer than three minutes may be presented to the Committee before or after the meeting for the Committee members' review and consideration at an appropriate time.
5. Speakers may offer criticisms of the school operations and programs which concern them, but are reminded that the Committee will not hear personal complaints about school personnel or any member of the school community not under the Committee's scope of responsibility. Comments involving staff members or students must concern the educational goals, policies, or budget of the Attleboro Public Schools, or the performance of the Superintendent.
6. All speakers are encouraged to present their remarks in a respectful manner. The Chairperson reserves the right to terminate the remarks which are obscene, vulgar, threatening, or likely to provoke violent reaction, or which have been found by the court of law to be defamatory.

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