

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

POLICY STATEMENT

- A. The School District of New London encourages constructive, orderly contributions from the public at all regular and special meetings. The board recognizes that citizens of the district are entitled to this input and that citizens can provide the Board with a unique and important perspective on district affairs. The board further believes that it is desirable for citizens of the district to understand the process by which their school district is governed. Citizens wishing to contribute to Board meetings will follow the procedure as outlined below.

POLICY PROCEDURE

- A. Copies of the agenda will be available prior to the meeting. Citizens are asked to fill out the form (Exhibit 1), stating their name and the topic on which they wish to contribute. Ten minutes before the meeting, the President of the Board of Education will collect the forms and organize them in terms of agenda topics or general comments. Citizens wishing to speak will be recognized at a public forum.
- B. Each person, when called, will give their name and address, and the name of any group they represent. Citizens should limit the length of their remarks from two to five minutes unless an extension is granted by the chair.
- C. Comments and/or concerns, if not in reference to any item(s) found on the agenda, will be referred to an administrator for a response at a later date, or to a study of the matter with a response to come at a later date. The Board of Education may not, under interpretation of statute, respond at the meeting to concerns of the public unless the item is noted on the open meeting portion of the agenda.
- D. Staff members may be heard during this time, but only in their private capacity as taxpayer, parent, or citizen.
- E. Citizens' contributions to special meetings called by the Board of Education will be limited to the topic of that meeting; general comments should be reserved for regular meetings.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

CROSS-REFERENCE: Exhibit 1, Public Participation at Board Meetings Form