FILE: BDDH

MEDFORD AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

DATE ADOPTED:	March 20, 1979	FILE SECTOR:	BOARD GOVERNANCE &
DATE REVISED:	December 18, 1990		OPERATIONS
DATE REVISED:	August 17, 1995	POLICY TITLE:	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
DATE REVISED:	October 22, 1997		AT BOARD OF EDUCATION
DATE REVISED:	July 20, 2000		MEETINGS
DATE REVISED:	March 21, 2002		
DATE REVISED:	August 21, 2003		
DATE REVISED:	May 20, 2010		
DATE REVISED:	April 25, 2016		
DATE REVISED:	December 20, 2021		

Medford Area Public School District (MAPSD) Board of Education (BOE) desires citizens of the district to attend its meetings so that they may become better acquainted with the operations and programs of MAPSD and so that the BOE may have opportunity to know the wishes and ideas of the public. All official meetings of the BOE shall be open to the press and public. However, the BOE reserves the right to adjourn, recess to or meet in closed session as authorized by law.

CROSS REFERENCE: AA, AB, BCF, BD, BDC, BDDH-R, IIA, IIA-R KL, & KLD LEGAL REFERENCE: Wis. Statutes 19.83, 19.84, 19.85

FILE: BDDH-R

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FILE SECTOR: BOARD GOVERNANCE & OPERATIONS POLICY TITLE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

In order to assure that people who wish to appear before the BOE may be heard and, at the same time, conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the BOE adopts as rule the following procedures pertaining to public participation at BOE meetings.

Procedures to Address the BOE

There are three ways for the public to address the BOE at a meeting.

- When a citizen of the district wishes to comment to the BOE under the standing agenda item "Period of Public Comment" they need only request recognition to be heard at the beginning of the meeting. Any individual desiring to speak shall give their name, address and the group, if any, that is represented. All presentations should be as brief as possible. Unless an extension of time is granted in advance, by the president, a speaker shall be limited to five minutes.
- A citizen of the district may request to comment at the meeting under a specific agenda topic. They must inform the district administrator or the BOE president at least 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting and shall describe the content of their presentation. The district administrator or BOE president will make a determination prior to the meeting as to whether or not they will be placed on the agenda.
- Letters to the BOE members and/or administrators will not be read/presented on a citizen's behalf. Such letters may be included in the next available BOE packet.

Rules of Order for Presenting to the BOE:

• Charges, Complaints or Challenges

At a public meeting of the BOE no person shall orally initiate charges or complaints against individual employees of the district or challenge instructional materials used in the district. All such charges, complaints or challenges shall be presented to the district administrator or BOE in writing, signed by the complainant. All such charges, if presented to the BOE directly, shall be referred to the district administrator for investigation and report. Challenges of instructional materials used in the district are subject to the rules and regulations of BOE policy.

• <u>Conduct and Remarks Out of Order</u>

Undue interruption or other interference with the orderly conduct of BOE business shall not be allowed. Defamatory or abusive remarks are out of order. The presiding officer may terminate the speaker's privilege of address if, after being called to order, they persist in improper conduct or remarks.

- <u>Questions and Comments by BOE and District Administrator</u> Members of the BOE and the district administrator may question a speaker or make comments in response to the speaker's remarks.
- <u>Presidential Authority</u> The BOE vests in the president, or other presiding officer, authority to terminate the remarks of any individual when they do not adhere to the rules established above.
- Full BOE Authority

Persons appearing before the BOE are reminded, as a point of information that members of the BOE are without authority to act independently as individuals in official matters. Thus, questions may be directed to individual BOE members, but answers must be deferred pending consideration by the full BOE. The BOE may ask for clarification on matters brought up during the citizen participation period of the meeting agenda. The BOE shall not take action on any item of business not included in the meeting agenda notice.