

School District of Black River Falls

School Board Policy 186-Rule

Guidelines for Public Comment at Board Meetings

The following guidelines for public comment at Board meetings shall be adhered to:

1. The Board president shall recognize all speakers during the initial public comment portion of the meeting. Speakers shall indicate the topic or agenda item they wish to address. General comments will be heard at this point in the meeting. Comments specific to a published agenda item will be heard immediately prior to the Board's discussion of the topic.
2. Each person, when called, shall give his/her name and address and the name of any group he/she represents.
3. Citizens should limit their remarks to five (5) minutes unless an extension is granted by the Board President.
4. Comments and questions at a regular meeting may deal with any topic related to the Board's management of the schools. However, discussion of personnel or of individual members of the Board shall not be considered appropriate. Comments at special meetings must be related to the reason(s) for calling the meeting.
5. In order for the Board to fairly and adequately discharge its overall responsibility, citizens who wish to make requests, presentations or proposals to the Board are requested to attempt to direct these to the district administrator. He/she shall deal with such requests, presentations or proposals directly if possible, or consider that they become part of the Board's advance agenda. This procedure will:
 - a. Allow a citizen who wishes it, a fair and adequate hearing.
 - b. Allow the district administrator to take direct action, or to recommend action to the Board, when policies have already been established by the Board.
 - c. Minimize the possibility of the Board's making ill-advised, illegal, or improper rulings due to hasty action in the absence of adequate information and study, especially when a policy does not exist, a change in policy is proposed, or an exception to policy is specifically requested.

APPROVED: October 17, 1988

REVISED: September 16, 2002