

LAGUNA BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Policy No. 9002: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

1. The Board acknowledges that Education Code section 35145.5 authorizes members of the public to place matters directly related to business of the District on the agenda of open Board meetings, and authorizes members of the public to address the Board regarding any such items when they are considered by the Board at an open Board meeting.

Any member of the public who desires to place a matter on the agenda of an open Board meeting shall notify the Superintendent in writing at least seven (7) calendar days before any regular meeting. The written notification shall specify the matter and include any relevant background information. The Superintendent shall determine whether the specific matter is directly related to business of the District and is appropriate for an open Board meeting. Any decision by the Superintendent not to place a requested matter on the agenda may be appealed in writing to the Board.

A member of the public who wishes to address the Board on any such matter is limited to three minutes unless the time limit is waived by a majority vote of the Board. The Board by a majority vote may limit the total amount of time to be allowed on any matter.

2. The Board acknowledges that Government Code section 54954.3 requires that every agenda for regular meetings and every notice for special meetings shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the Board on items of interest to the public that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. At special meetings members of the public shall have the opportunity only to address action item(s) on the notice.

A member of the public who wishes to address the Board on any such item is limited to three minutes unless such time limit is waived by a majority vote of the Board. The Board by a majority vote may limit the total amount of time to be allowed on any item.

The Board president may rule on the appropriateness of a topic. If the topic would be more suitably addressed at a later time, the president may indicate the time and place when it should be presented.

3. The Board President or the chair of any Board meeting may terminate a presenter's address if a presenter persists, after a warning, not to engage in improper conduct or remarks.
4. No action or discussion shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda of a regular Board meeting, except that board members may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their public testimony rights under Government Code section 54954.3. In addition, Board members on their own initiative, or in response to questions posed by the public, may ask a question for clarification, provide a reference to the Superintendent or other resources for factual information, or request the Superintendent to report back to the Board at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter. Furthermore, the Board may take action to direct the Superintendent to place a matter of business on a future agenda.

Legal Reference:

Education Code section 35145.5

Government Code section 54954.3

Date Policy Adopted by the Board: October 26, 1999