

# **POLICY BEDH**

## **Board of Education Las Cruces Public Schools**

**Related Entries:** BEA, BEA-R, BEDB, BEDB-R  
**Responsible Office:** Board of Education

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**

#### **I. PURPOSE**

The Board of Education is committed to designating a portion of each regularly scheduled meeting for public comment.

#### **II. POSITION**

- A. The Las Cruces Board of Education conducts its regularly scheduled Board meetings to receive information and make decisions that serve the needs of the students of the Las Cruces Public School District. The Board President or presiding officer will conduct these meetings in an orderly manner.
- B. The public is invited and encouraged to attend Board of Education meetings; however, there is no requirement or obligation on the part of the Board to allow or recognize comments from the audience.
- C. The Las Cruces Board of Education provides a designated portion of the agenda of regularly scheduled meetings for public comment. Any group wishing to speak under “Public Input” shall designate a spokesperson. The individual or spokesperson desiring to address the Board shall complete a “Public Input Form” provided in the Board Room prior to the start of the meeting.
- D. Public comment will be limited to three (3) minutes per individual speaker and five (5) minutes for each group spokesperson. The Board President or presiding officer may further restrict or waive these time limits.
- E. The Board President or presiding officer retains the authority to rule on the appropriateness of the subject matter being discussed. Disorderly or inappropriate conduct will not be allowed.
- F. The Board will not generally answer questions or respond to issues brought forth under Public Input. Members of the Board, the Superintendent or administrative staff are under no obligation to answer or respond to issues brought forth during or subsequent to the meeting.
- G. The Board of Education does not prohibit public criticism or comment upon personnel matters. However, any person making public comments shall be *solely* responsible for the content of his or her comments. The Board of Education neither adopts nor assumes responsibility for any comments made by individuals during the

“Public Input” section at board meetings. The Board of Education shall not act upon any comments made during the “Public Input” section of Board meetings unless the subject matter falls within the Board’s powers and duties and is properly noticed under the New Mexico Open Meetings Act. If the subject matter has not been noticed, action may be deferred to a future meeting.

**III. REVIEW**

This policy shall be reviewed on an ongoing basis in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.



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*Board of Education, President*

11-13-18

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*Date Approved*

*History:* New Policy, 10.21.08, Revised 11.13.18

*Legal Reference:*