



# Illinois State Board of Education

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

***Please sign in as "Request to Speak," "Intent to Record," and/or "Guest."***

The following procedures will govern recording and public participation for Board and Committee meetings:

1. Individuals wishing to address the Board or a Committee or record a Board or a Committee meeting are asked to **sign in 30 minutes prior** to the start of the Board meeting.
2. Presentations must be specific to educationally relevant issues; individuals wishing to address the Board must **indicate on the sign-in sheet the specific topic or issues about which they will be speaking.**
3. No individual will be allowed to speak for more than **three minutes**. Public participation may be heard during multiple periods of public comment. A first period of public comment will be heard following the agenda item "Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance," and will be limited to a maximum of one-half hour for plenary session or 15 minutes for committees. A second period of public comment, if needed, will be heard prior to the agenda item "Consent Agenda." An individual will not be permitted to offer public comment unless the individual has complied with the sign-in requirements.
4. Only one person may represent an organization before the Board at any given meeting, unless permission for multiple people to speak is granted by the Board or Committee chairperson. Individuals from the same organization may present together; however, having more than one representative present will not increase the maximum presentation time.
5. **Priority for presentation of testimony will be given to government officials and individuals who have not previously addressed the Board on a given issue.**
6. **Board members may interrupt a speaker at any time to ask questions or make comments as frequently as necessary to clarify the presentation.**
7. **No person addressing the Board shall make charges or level complaints against individual employees under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education. Such charges or complaints will only be accepted in writing and will not be considered unless signed by the person making the charges. The Board will investigate all charges.**
8. The Board will permit the recording of the proceedings of a public meeting of the Board or a Committee in a manner that does not interrupt the proceedings, inhibit the conduct of the meeting, or distract Board members or other observers present at the meeting. Meetings or portions of meetings that are permitted by the Open Meetings Act to be closed to the public may not be recorded by the public. The chairperson of the Board or Committee may designate a location for recording equipment or camera, may restrict the movements of individuals who are using recording equipment, or may take such other steps as are deemed necessary to preserve decorum and facilitate the meeting. The chairperson of the Board or Committee shall be the Board member with authority to determine when any recording device or camera interferes with the conduct of a Board or Committee meeting and may order that a device causing interference be removed.
9. The Board shall assume no liability for any damaged, lost, or stolen recording equipment or for any damage or injury caused by any person recording Board proceedings.
10. **Boisterous conduct will not be permitted at any Board or Committee meeting, nor will any defamatory or abusive language be tolerated. The Board or Committee chairperson may terminate the privilege of any speaker who violates this regulation.**
11. Exceptions to this policy will be made when the Board/Committee chooses by resolution to "suspend the rule."