

0155 BOARD COMMITTEES

The Board of Education authorizes the creation of committees of Board members charged to conduct studies, make recommendations to the Board, and act in an advisory capacity. Committees are not authorized to take action on behalf of the Board.

The President shall appoint Board members to serve a one-year term on the following Board standing committees:

- Operations
- Facilities Advisory Board
- FACE/Policy
- TAD/Grievance
- Curriculum/Special Education
- TEA Grievance Hearings

An ad hoc committee may be created and charged at any time by the President or a majority of the Board members present and voting. The President shall appoint members to any committee so created and charged; members shall serve until the committee is discharged.

Committees shall consist of no more than three Board members, one of whom shall be the President, who shall serve as ex officio member on all Board committees. A member may request or refuse appointment to a committee; a member's refusal to serve on any one committee shall not prejudice his/her appointment to another committee.

The Board reserves the right to meet and work as a Committee of the Whole in informational, discussion, and exploratory sessions. No official action shall be taken at these meetings, unless so advertised.

A chairperson shall be appointed by the President.

Committee meetings may be called at any time by the committee chairperson or when a meeting is requested by a majority of the members of the committee.

Committee meetings shall not be open to the public, except that a majority of the committee or the chairperson of the FACE Committee and the Facilities Advisory Board may open those respective committee meetings to the public or invite persons whose knowledge or expertise may be useful to those committees.

Adopted: 26 August 2013
Revised (First Reading): 25 September 2017



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS

0167 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

In order to permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board shall set aside a portion of every Board meeting, the length of the portion to be determined by the Board, for public comment on any school or school district issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the school district.

As the Board of Education is responsible for decision-making that affects the entire school district, it welcomes comments from the public. Requests to speak can be made online through the District website at www.trenton.k12.nj.us by clicking on *District/Board of Education/Public Participation Request Form*. Members of the public will also be able to sign-up manually in the Board Secretary's Office up to noon of the last business day prior to the Board meeting. City of Trenton residents who sign up in accordance with this Policy shall be given preference and will be called upon to speak before any other member of the public.

The opportunity for the Board to hear from the public is when the meeting reaches "Public Comment" on the regular meeting agenda. Members of the Trenton community may address the Board on any item of interest. To ensure timely progression through the agenda, comments are limited to no more than three (3) minutes per person. Signing up to speak with the intent of conceding time to another participant is not permitted. Parent or community groups who have a specific concern may present as a group, but no individual speaker will be allotted more than three (3) minutes.

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules:



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS

1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate;
2. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes' duration.
3. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard;
4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually;
5. The presiding officer may:
 - a. Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
 - b. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
 - c. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
 - d. Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and
 - e. Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the Board's business.

N.J.S.A. 2C:33-8

N.J.S.A. 10:4-12

Adopted: 16 May 2011

Revised (First Reading): 25 September 2017

