

Public Speaking Participation Procedure

- I. There shall be one opportunity for the public to address The School Board during any given meeting. The time limit for these presentations shall be three minutes for each speaker.

Persons desiring to make a 3-minute presentation, as a public speaker, shall contact the Superintendent's office at least ten (10) business days prior to the Board meeting. This will enable the school district to conduct an administrative review of the topic in advance of the meeting. No action shall be taken on a speaker's topic unless otherwise indicated on the agenda.

- II. The Chair or presiding officer shall request that each member of the public addressing the Board to first state his/her name for the record.
- III. Speakers' remarks should be directed to the presiding officer or the Board as whole and not to individual Board members, otherwise the speaker may be ruled out of order, and asked to yield the podium. Board Members will not engage in dialogue with speakers.
- IV. The Chair or presiding officer may notify and warn speakers that their comments have gone beyond the subject matter for which they had signed up to address, address matters that are not related to the business of The School Board, or otherwise violate this procedure. Speakers are advised to refrain from obscene or vulgar conduct, or slanderous remarks, or statements that tend to incite violence or the breach of the peace.
- V. The Chair or presiding officer may ask the speaker to end their comments or recess the meeting if any person persists in interfering with the expeditious or orderly process of the meeting or fails to conform their remarks to the requirements of this procedure after being duly warned to do so. Alternatively, after a warning, the Chair or presiding officer will have the speaker or audience member removed from the meeting and barred from further appearance before the Board, for the balance of the meeting.

Public Speaker Procedure/Rules Statement

Pine Bluff School District Board Meeting speaker rules requires a limit of up to 3 minutes to speak. As you approach the speaker podium you will notice a timer set to 3 minutes and we ask that when time has elapsed, speakers end their comments. There is only one speaking opportunity per speaker, during a meeting. While speakers have an opportunity to address the Pine Bluff School District Board of Directors regarding school district concerns, all comments should be made in a manner that respects the seriousness of the forum and should not be made in a belligerent, sarcastic, or demeaning fashion. All remarks should be directed to the Pine Bluff School District Board as a body, rather than to any particular member of the Board, Superintendent, PBSB staff, or the audience, and should exclude any personnel matters, and be limited to only matters that the PBSB Board of Directors can influence. A speaker who fails to observe this basic rule of decorum will be deemed out of order and not allowed to conclude his or her comments.