

MURRAY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Statement of.....

Policy and Responsibility

SUBJECT: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education, as a representative body of the community, wishes to provide an avenue for all citizens to express their interests and concerns for the schools. Accordingly, the public is welcome to attend all board meetings.

Board meetings are conducted for the purpose of carrying on the business of the schools, and therefore, are not public meetings, but meetings held in public.

All meetings shall be open to the public except when those matters as prescribed by law are discussed. However, all actions taken by the Board will be done in open meetings.

At each scheduled meeting, time will be set on the agenda near the beginning of the meeting to permit the Board to hear from Murray citizens who wish to make a statement. Each individual will be limited to three minutes with a total of 30 minutes to be set for this purpose. A Murray citizen may make this request by signing his name on the "Patron Statement" form posted on the table in the board room prior to 5:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

Patron statements are welcome regarding:

- New issues
- New program/policy suggestions
- Other issues that have not recently come before the board

During this segment of the meeting, statements are not allowed regarding:

- Bidding
- Contracts
- Employment or personnel issues
- Criticism of individual district employees
- Complaints where other appeals are available
- Repetition of issues recently discussed in a board meeting
- Items which have a separate public hearing

Citizens with concerns or proposals are encouraged to contact the Superintendent in advance of the meeting. This will allow the Superintendent to help facilitate their requests.

The intent of this policy is:

1. To allow everyone a fair and adequate opportunity to be heard.
2. To allow the superintendent to take direct action when policies have already been established by the Board on the subject of the request.
3. To provide adequate time for the Board to obtain necessary information and give thorough thought in situations where the policy does not exist, a change of policy is proposed, or an exception to policy is specifically requested.
4. To see that time so devoted does not interfere with fulfillment of the regular agenda of the Board