

# SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

No: 903

SECTION: COMMUNITY

TITLE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS

ADOPTED: SEPTEMBER 16, 1998

REVISED: JUNE 19, 2013

	<p style="text-align: center;">903. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS</p> <p>The Board recognizes the value to school governance of public comment on educational issues and the importance of involving members of the public in Board meetings.</p>
1. Purpose 65 P.S. 271 et seq	<p>In order to permit fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board will provide a period for public participation at every open meeting of the Board and will formulate rules to govern such public participation in Board meetings.</p>
2. Authority	<p>The presiding officer at each public Board meeting will follow the rules of the Board for conduct of public meetings in accordance with this policy and Policy 006.</p>
3. Delegation of Responsibility  65 P.S. 271 et seq	<p>The presiding officer shall be guided by the rules established by the Board.</p> <p>Public participation shall be permitted only as indicated on the order of business in the Procedures of this Board.</p> <p>Whenever issues identified by the participant are subject to remediation under policies and procedures of the Board, they shall be dealt with in accordance with these policies and procedures.</p>
4. Guidelines  Pol. 006	<p>All persons wishing to participate in a public Board meeting shall register their intent during the specified times listed on the agenda. A Public participation segment shall be provided near the beginning of the agenda and shall be limited to only those items appearing on the agenda for that specific meeting. A public participation session shall be provided near the end of the agenda and shall be open to any item or issue that pertains to the District's business/operation. Public participation at Board Committee meetings shall be encouraged at the discretion of the Committee Chairperson.</p> <p>Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface their comments by an announcement of their name and address.</p>

<p>PA Statute 65 P.S. 271 et seq</p> <p>Board Policy No. 006</p>	<p>Each statement made by a participant shall be limited at the discretion of the Board President as a means of affording ample opportunity for any individuals desiring to speak.</p> <p>No participant may speak more than once on the same topic unless all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard.</p> <p>All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually.</p> <p>The presiding officer may:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Interrupt or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, irrelevant or does not conform to the established rules (i.e., an established time limit for public comment).</li><li>2. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum.</li><li>3. 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.</li><li>4. Call 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.</li></ol> <p>The portion of the meeting during which the participation of the public is invited shall be limited.</p> <p>Electronic recording devices and cameras other than those used as official recording devices will be permitted at meetings under rules provided by the Board.</p> <p>The meeting agenda and all pertinent documents shall be distributed to the public and media only after the Board members have been provided with their copy.</p>
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