

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: COMMUNITY

TITLE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
BOARD MEETINGS

ADOPTED: March 10, 1997

REVISED:

903. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS	
1. Purpose 65 P.S. 271 et seq	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.
2. Authority	In order to permit fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board will provide a period of five (5) minutes for each public participation by individuals or groups. The Board will formulate rules to govern such public participation in Board meetings.
3. Delegation of Responsibility 65 P.S. 271 et seq Pol. 006	<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> <p>The presiding officer shall be guided by the following rules:</p> <p>Public participation shall be permitted only as indicated on the order of business in the Procedures of this Board or at the discretion of the presiding officer on a given issue.</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. The Board requires that public participants be residents of this district.</p> <p>Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address, and group affiliation, if appropriate.</p> <p>All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually.</p>

<p>PA Statute 65 P.S. 271 et seq</p> <p>Board Policy 006</p>	<p>The presiding officer may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">interrupt or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;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; orcall 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. <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>No placards or banners will be permitted within the meeting room or on school grounds without prior approval.</p> <p>The meeting agenda and all pertinent documents shall be distributed to the press and public at the meetings.</p>
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