

# Rutherford County Board of Education

Monitoring: <b>Review: Annually, in September</b>	Descriptor Term: <b>Appeals to and Appearances Before the Board</b>	Descriptor Code: <b>1.404</b>	Issued Date: <b>12/12/13</b>
		Rescinds: <b>1.404</b>	Issued: <b>01/15/09</b>

1 All meetings of the Board of Education are open to the public. Notice of all regularly scheduled meet-  
2 ings shall be made to the local media for public announcement.

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4 All matters relating to the operation of the school system shall be channeled through the director of  
5 schools before being brought before the Board of Education. If, after such procedure is followed, there  
6 is still reason to address the Board, the matter shall be referred in writing to the Board of Education for  
7 its determination and action. The Board shall determine whether it will hear the individual or group.

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9 This request should include names of persons to appear, their spokesperson, and the nature of the busi-  
10 ness. Visitors desiring to speak but not on the agenda must complete and submit a request form to the  
11 director of school's office at least fifteen (15) minutes in advance of the Board meeting. Those persons  
12 having complaints and concerns for which other resolution channels are provided shall be directed  
13 through those channels by the director of school's office and/or staff.

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15 Visitors speaking to the Board shall address remarks to the chairman and may direct questions to in-  
16 dividual board members or staff members only upon approval of the chairman. Each person speaking  
17 shall state his or her name, address, and subject of presentation. The time allowed for each person will  
18 be three (3) minutes. No person shall be allowed to make personal attacks on members of the Board or  
19 employees of the school system. In addition, no person shall be allowed to make obscene, profane and  
20 vulgar remarks or otherwise engage in actions that breach the peace of a Board meeting.<sup>1</sup>

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22 These procedures are not designed to restrict the scheduled appearances of citizens who have regular  
23 business with the Board and whose presentations are provided for in the agenda.

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25 Individuals desiring additional information about any item on the agenda shall direct such inquiries to  
26 the office of the director of schools.

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28 The intent of these rules is to:

- 29 1. Allow everyone a fair and adequate opportunity to be heard;
- 30 2. Allow the director of schools to take direct action when policies have already been established by  
31 the Board on the subject of the request;
- 32 3. Provide adequate time for the director of schools or the Board to obtain necessary information and  
33 give thorough thought in situations where a policy does not exist, a change of policy is proposed,  
34 or an exception to policy is specifically requested; and
- 35 4. See that the time so devoted does not interfere with fulfillment of the regular agenda of the Board.

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Legal Reference:

- 39 1. TCA 39-17-306

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Cross References:

- School Board Meetings 1.400  
Agendas 1.403  
Complaints About School Personnel 5.502