

# Sumter County Board of Education

## Board Policy – Public Participation

- 2.5.3 Public Participation - It shall be the policy of the Board of Education to conduct all meetings in full view of and with welcomed participation by the public. The Board encourages citizens of the community to appear and bring before the Board any matter deemed important to the improvement of the school district.

All delegations or individuals who wish to appear before the Board shall submit such requests in writing to the Superintendent at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting date, stating what matters are to be presented to the Board and the approximate time such matters should consume at the meeting. The Superintendent shall have the authority to determine whether items requested are significant enough to warrant inclusion on the agenda.

Each delegation appearing before the Board shall select one person in advance as its spokesperson and provide that name to the Superintendent. Only persons or groups properly requesting an appearance before the Board shall be placed on the agenda. The Board, at its discretion, may address questions to persons who address the Board after the presentation is completed.

The Board shall have authority to terminate the remarks or remove any persons when such remarks become personal in nature or such person disrupts, becomes boisterous, or interferes in any manner with the orderly process of the meeting.

All delegations appearing before the Board shall present their problems and proposals as briefly and concisely as possible. The Board shall be guided by its previously adopted policies in arriving at a decision on matters brought up by any such delegation. This policy in no way interferes with the public's right to address the Board on agenda items.

[Reference: ALA. CODE §16-8-9 (1975)]