

The Cherokee County Board of Education will hold one to two regular meetings monthly. The Cherokee County Board of Education welcomes visitors and will hear any interested citizen and/or employee of the School District pursuant to the guidelines outlined in this policy.

### **Open Session**

Prior to the School Board's first meeting of each month, an Open Session not to exceed 30 minutes will be conducted to hear from any interested citizen and/or employee of the school district. Additionally, any citizens who wish to speak to an agenda item will have the opportunity to do so at any regular meeting of the Board, as recognized by the Chairman.

### **Procedures for Speaking Before the Board**

Individuals desiring to appear before the Board must first complete a sign-in sheet, which will be available at the beginning of the meeting. The Superintendent's designee will provide this form to prospective speakers and be available to answer questions regarding procedures. Any materials the speaker desires the Board to receive related to his/her remarks will be given to the Superintendent's designee at this time for distribution to the Board.

Speakers will be given three minutes to speak before the Board, with the total time during the Open Session not to exceed 30 minutes and the total time for speakers to one agenda item not to exceed 30 minutes. The 30-minute time limit may be extended with a majority vote of the Board.

If appropriate, the Superintendent will have a response communicated to the speaker.

### **Items not to be Discussed**

Items which are excluded from the Open Meetings Act will not be discussed by speakers.

These include:

1. Impending real property acquisitions.
2. Matters involving the Attorney/Client Privilege.
3. Matters involving personnel or employees of the Board of Education.
4. Matters involving specific students of the School System.

### **In addition, the following rules will be followed when appearing before the Board.**

1. The speaker will state his/her name and address (address only if response requested).
2. All remarks will be made to the Board as a body and not to an individual Board member.

**Public Participation in Board Meetings**

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3. No person will be allowed to make obscene, derogatory, or slanderous remarks while addressing the Board. Any Board member may stop comments.
  4. No person will be allowed to disrupt or interfere with procedures.
  5. Remarks will end when the speaker's allotted time has expired.
  6. Questions from Board members or the Superintendent may be asked for clarification; however no person from the floor will be permitted to enter into any discussion either directly or through any member of the Board.
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**ADOPTED: August 2, 2001**

**REVISED: August 15, 2013**

**Cross Ref.: Also BCBI - Public Participation in Board Meetings**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**