

1 Board meetings are conducted for the purpose of carrying on the official business of the school
2 district. The public is cordially invited to attend board meetings to observe the Board as it
3 conducts its official business.

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5 The Board of Education, as an elected representative body of the school district, also wishes to
6 provide a forum for citizens to express interests and concerns related to the school district. To
7 provide an opportunity for input while conducting an orderly meeting, individuals or groups may
8 be heard by the Board in accordance with this policy which addresses public hearings.

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10 **REQUESTS TO PLACE ITEM ON THE AGENDA**

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12 ~~In order that the Board may fairly and adequately discharge its overall responsibility, citizens~~
13 ~~desiring an item to be placed on the agenda for a specific board meeting should direct written~~
14 ~~requests to the superintendent at least six working days prior to the meeting.~~

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16 The request should include:

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18
 - 19 • ~~The name, address, and phone number of the person or persons making the request;~~
 - 20 • ~~The organization or group, if any, represented; and~~
 - 21 • ~~A brief explanation of the nature of the item. Questions and/or materials to be presented~~
22 ~~to the Board are to be submitted along with the request. Additional items may be added~~
23 ~~to the agenda by the Board on a majority vote of the board members.~~

24 ~~The superintendent will confer with the chairperson of the Board concerning whether to approve~~
25 ~~placing the requested item on the agenda, and to determine the appropriate meeting for such~~
26 ~~discussion. The superintendent, with the consent of the Board chairperson, will accept or deny a~~
27 ~~request for inclusion on the agenda for any reason determined appropriate by the superintendent~~
28 ~~and chairperson.~~

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30 ~~The superintendent will notify the requesting party of the response to the request. The Board~~
31 ~~may, by majority vote and notwithstanding prior denial by the superintendent, consent to hear a~~
32 ~~presentation where the appeal to speak is made immediately prior to or during the course of the~~
33 ~~meeting. The superintendent will explain any other processes available for addressing the~~
34 ~~concerns (see REPORTS OF COMPLAINTS below).~~

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36 The chairperson will establish the amount of time for individual or group presentations.

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38 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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40 Each month, a part of at least one regularly scheduled board meeting will be set aside for citizens
41 to address the Board through public comment. A sign-up sheet will be available for any
42 individual or group to indicate their desire to address the Board. The ~~chairperson~~ Board will

43 decide the time devoted to public comments. The superintendent shall develop additional
44 procedures to ensure that public comment sessions proceed in an efficient and orderly manner.

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46 Board members will not respond to individuals who address the Board except to request
47 clarification of points made by the presenter.

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49 Except in cases of emergency, information received during presentations will not be acted upon
50 at the time it is received. It will take ~~unanimous~~ a two-thirds majority vote of the board members
51 present to take action on a presentation considered to be of an unusual or emergency nature at the
52 time it is presented.

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54 Disruptions of a public meeting by any person or persons will be subject to action in accordance
55 with G.S. 143-318.17.

56
57 If the Board does not hold a regular meeting during a month, the Board ~~will not~~ may, but is not
58 required to provide a time for public comment at any other meeting held during that month
59 unless a majority of the Board votes to allow public comment at the meeting or unless the
60 purpose of the meeting is a public hearing.

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62 **REPORTS OF COMPLAINTS**

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64 Complaints about the performance of school personnel, implementation of board policy, the
65 quality of the educational program, or school facilities should be submitted initially for a
66 response to the school district official responsible for the program/facility or to the
67 superintendent. The superintendent or designee will make available this policy and other
68 relevant grievance procedures to any individual or group submitting a complaint.

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70 Legal References: G.S. 143-318.10 and -318.17; 115C-36 and -51.

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74 **APROVED BY BOARD**
75 **AND EFFECTIVE** _____

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