

Interim Guidelines for Public Participation at Meetings of the Chicago Board of Education

The following Interim Guidelines for Public Participation are issued by the President of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago ("Board President" and "Board") in accordance with Board Rule 2-4.1. These Interim Guidelines replace the Emergency Guidelines issued March 20, 2020 and are effective July 26, 2021. During the period they are in effect, these Interim Guidelines supersede the Public Participation Guidelines issued August 28, 2013 (rev. September 13, 2018).

The Board President may rescind, suspend or amend these Interim Guidelines as circumstances dictate.

These Interim Guidelines address the manner in which the Board will conduct its public meetings to comply with recommended social distancing and social isolation practices to mitigate contagion and protect and promote the health and well-being of the general public, Board employees, students, staff and members of the Board.

Speaker Sign Up

Members of the public, employees of the district, Local School Council members and members of other groups wishing to speak must register in advance of the day of the meeting or by such other time noted in the meeting agenda published by the Board. Unless otherwise noted in the notice for the Board meeting, Advance Speaker Registration will open the Monday preceding the Board meeting at 10:30 a.m. and close Tuesday at 5:00 p.m., or until all slots are filled. Advance registration during this period is available by the following methods:

Online: www.cpsboe.org (recommended)
Phone: (773) 553-1600

To ensure equity of access to address the Board, an individual may not speak at two (2) consecutive Board meetings. In the event an individual registers to speak at a consecutive Board meeting, the individual will not be called to address the Board.

Number of Speakers

The Board will allocate no more than 30 speaking slots to members of the general public to speak to the Board. Speakers who registered via the Advance Registration process will have the option to attend in

Order of Speakers

The Board Secretary may group speakers according to a particular topic and may call certain speakers out of numerical order so that all comments regarding a particular topic may be heard together. The Board Secretary at the discretion of the President may call City, State and Federal officials to speak at any time as appropriate. In the event a registered speaker addressed the Board at the previous Board meeting, the individual will not be called to address the Board. Speakers called by the Board Secretary may not cede their time to another person.

Speaker Remarks and Submissions

When called by the Board Secretary, speakers will have two (2) minutes to present their remarks and materials to the Board. Speakers must end their presentation upon the request of the Board Secretary when their time is up to allow the next speaker to begin. All public presentations must be limited to issues of concern before the Board and/or related to the Chicago Public Schools. Comments of a personal nature directed towards individual Board members, employees of the Board or any other individual are not permitted. It is