

POLICY

2000-18

BOARD OF TRUSTEES - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

Adoption Date: August 14, 2018

Legal Ref:

Cross Ref:

Westfield Washington Schools (WWS) Board of Trustees welcomes public comment provided such comments conform to the following process and decorum.

Persons wishing to address the Board on a scheduled public agenda item shall complete a comment card. Completed comment cards must be submitted to the Executive Assistant for Board and Stakeholder Relations no less than five minutes prior to the beginning of the meeting. Comments may not exceed 3 minutes in length. At his or her sole discretion, the Board President may permit public comment on issues not listed as a public agenda item.

The purpose of public comment is to give the Board members as much information as possible, not to engage in debate. Board members or administrators may provide answers to questions asked during public comment if the information is readily available and not confidential. Often, however, questions will not be answered, but taken under advisement and answers returned at a later time, if possible.

The Board will not tolerate abusive or inappropriate language or statements including, but not limited to statements that are: threatening, harassing, illegal, obscene, lewd, vulgar, defamatory, libelous, hostile, or personal attacks. Comments should be directed to the Board, not an individual Board member. Comments may not reference specific WWS employees, patrons, or students.

The Board President may take appropriate action to maintain order at a meeting. Such actions may include stopping the speaker or limiting comments due to the number of individuals desiring to comment and/or the length of the agenda.