

### **2.5.7 PARTICIPATION BY CITIZENS**

The president of the Board or a majority of the members may extend to visitors the privilege of addressing the Board and the order of business at any regular meeting shall include an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board, provided, however, that the Board does not obligate itself to consider any request or proposal unless submitted to the chairperson, in writing, at least seven (7) days before the meeting, exclusive of Sundays and holidays.

The Board endorses the principle of open communication between the public and the Board and between the superintendent and his staff and free communication of all personnel with the program's organization through recognized channels of communication.

Any individual or group may address the Board concerning any subject that lies within the Board's jurisdiction. Questions are to be directed to the Board as a whole and may not be put to any individual member of the Board or the administrative staff. Any matter upon which the Board may be requested to act must be submitted in writing to the Board not less than seven (7) days, excluding Sunday and holidays, prior to the date of the meeting at which the subject is to be discussed.

It shall be in order for members of the Board to interrupt a speaker at any time to ask questions or make comments in order to clarify the discussion.

Not more than ten (10) minutes shall be allotted to each speaker and no more than thirty (30) minutes to each subject under discussion, except with the consent of the Board.

No person shall present orally at any meeting of the Board, a complaint against an individual employee of the Board. Such charge or complaint shall be presented to the Board in writing and shall be signed by the person(s) making the charge or complaint.