

Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Policy 1.04 Appearance and Presentation Before the Board	Effective: 8/25/20
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APPEARANCE AND PRESENTATION BEFORE THE BOARD

POLICY

The Board endorses the principle of open communication between the public, the Board itself, and the Superintendent during the formal meetings of the Board. For that reason, the Board has a “Public Speaks” portion of every regularly scheduled meeting so that a person, or people, may address the Board. A disruptive person waives his or her right to attend and the Board may remove that person from the meeting.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy.

Reference: O.R.C. 121.22

Historical Resolution Information		Reviewer(s):
Date	Resolution Number	Superintendent
10/18/14	10-67-14	
05/23/17	05-23-17	
08/25/20	08-37-20	

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PROCEDURE

1. All meetings of any public body are declared to be public meetings open to the public except for those portions held in Executive Session in accordance with O.R.C. 121.22 (C). Dates, times and locations for each Board meeting may be obtained by calling the Superintendent's office; they are posted on the agency's website, as well as shared with the media.
2. Individuals wishing to address the Board at Board meetings will be invited to speak during "Public Speaks." They will be asked to provide their name and address. Speakers will be given three (3) minutes to address the Board. The time may be extended with the consent of the Board. No portion of the unused three minutes may be assigned to another person. The total period of time shall not exceed twenty (20) minutes unless extended by the Board. The Board may choose to make no response or reply to the speaker during the meeting.
3. Any person or group may address the Board concerning any subject that lies within the Board's jurisdiction. The Board reserves the right to limit the number of speakers on one subject. Questions are to be directed to the Board as a whole and may not be put to any individual member of the Board or of the management team.
4. No person shall present orally at any meeting of the Board, a complaint against an individual employee of the Board, Board members, individuals or specific parents of an individual served. Such charge or complaint shall be presented to the Superintendent in writing and shall be signed by the person(s) making the charge or complaint.
5. The Superintendent assumes the responsibility of responding by letter and/or following up within 30 days, unless the time period is extended by the person involved, to any questions or issues raised at the Board meeting where the visitor is requesting a response.
6. While the Sunshine Law guarantees a person's right to attend a public meeting, the Board has expanded that to allow the public to address the Board during Public Speaks. A disruptive person or people waive their right to remain and observe or speak at a meeting and may be asked to leave. If this is the case, the Board President will rule any such person out of order.
7. The Board may recess a regular meeting to such a time and place as it deems advisable and the meeting shall be considered a regular meeting and shall not be subject to review, provided the public is given adequate information as to where and when it will reconvene.