

Community Relations

Board of Education Meetings

The regular and special meetings of the Bristol Board of Education are open to the public and representatives of the press except for an executive session as provided by law.

The Board of Education welcomes participation of interested organizations and individuals. Agendas of all regular and special meetings of the Board of Education are posted in accordance with rules of the Town Charter. A reasonable charge may be made for those persons or organizations requesting advance announcements of meetings and agenda backup materials.

Participation by the general public in debate at regular meetings of matters before the Board of Education shall be permitted. Public participation shall be subject to the provision enumerated below. On issues that appear to arouse strong public interest, the Board should, whenever possible, schedule a special meeting limited to that subject. In order to limit or close debate on any subject, a majority vote of those Board members in attendance will be required.

1. Everyone is requested to address the Chair for recognition.
2. Each speaker must state his/her name and address.
3. All speakers must observe rules of common etiquette. Personalities are not to be injected. Anyone violating this rule will be denied the floor. Unless waived by the Chairperson or a majority of the Board, each speaker shall limit his/her remarks to three (3) minutes.
4. A speaker will not be recognized for a second time on the same topic.
5. Each speaker must concern himself/herself with the topic under discussion. Anyone digressing from the topic will be ruled out of order.
6. Written statements and materials may be made available, in advance of comments, for distribution to Board members.
7. Speakers shall state their positions on the subject being discussed.
8. Board members will not respond directly to comments during the Board meeting. The Superintendent will direct the question to the appropriate staff member for follow up.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

Public Participation at Board Meetings

[1-225](#) Meetings of government agencies to be public.

[1-226](#) Broadcasting or photographing meetings.

[1-230](#) Regular meetings to be held pursuant to regulation, ordinance or resolution.

[1-232](#) Conduct of meetings.

(cf. [1312](#) - Public Complaints)

(cf. [9323](#) - Construction of the Agenda)

(cf. [9325](#) - Meeting Conduct)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[1-225](#) Meetings of government agencies to be public.

[1-226](#) Broadcasting or photographing meetings.

[19a-342](#) Smoking in public meetings in rooms of public building prohibited.

[1-227](#) Mailing of notice of meetings to persons filing written request. Fees.

[1-230](#) Regular meetings to be held pursuant to regulation, ordinance or resolution.

[1-232](#) Conduct of meetings.

[1-206](#) Denial of access to public records or meetings.

[10-238](#) Petition for hearing by board of education.

Policy Adopted: July 7, 1993

Revised: March 1, 2017

BRISTOL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Bristol, Connecticut