

Bartlett City Board of Education		1009
Descriptor Term: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS	Descriptor Code: Board Operations	Issue Date: 12/02/2013
	Rescinds:	Revised: 5/28/2015 08/24/2023

1 Tennessee law makes specific provision for the participation of the public at school board
2 meetings. Public comment is not permitted at Board Work Sessions. Members of the
3 public desiring to address the Board may do so at Regular Business and Special Called
4 Meetings. Only those members of the public who submit "Public Comment Cards/Forms"
5 to the Board Chairman prior to the commencement of Business Meetings or Special
6 Called Meetings shall be permitted to address the Board. Public comments shall be taken
7 in the order in which the "Public Comment Cards/Forms" are received.

8 Not more than thirty (30) minutes of each Regular Business and Special Called Meeting
9 shall be devoted to public comment as provided on the agenda. Public comments shall
10 be limited to up to three (3) minutes per "Public Comment Card/Form", and no recognized
11 speaker may yield his/her time to another speaker. At the discretion of the Chairman,
12 limitations may be placed on the following: 1) a speaker's time to comment; 2) the number
13 of speakers commenting on the same topic; and/or 3) the number of speakers
14 representing the same group or organization. Public comments at Special Called
15 Meetings shall be limited in scope to the purpose of the meeting.

16 Speakers will be introduced by the Chairman of the Board at the appropriate time during
17 the agenda. Speakers must state their name, home address, organization he/she is
18 representing, if any, and subject of the presentation before they are permitted to proceed.
19 Speakers may offer objective comments about school operations and programs that
20 concern them. Speakers are asked to refrain from using names of personnel or names of
21 persons connected with the District, particularly when lodging a complaint. Speakers will
22 not be permitted to engage in gossip, make defamatory comments, or use abusive or
23 vulgar language. The Chairman shall have the authority to terminate the remarks of any
24 individual who is disruptive or does not adhere to Board rules.

25 The Board will take all public comments under advisement, but the Board does not
26 respond during public comment.