

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

November 27, 2007

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee G. Gibeault

SUBJECT: Motion re Revision of Board Policy JAB.BP – Formal Delegations, Presentations, and Comments to the Board

RECOMMENDATION

That Board Policy JAB.BP – Formal Delegations, Presentations, and Comments to the Board be amended as follows:

- a) In Section A (Formal Delegations and Presentations to Board), subsection 7, delete the sentence: *Trustees may not comment on the presentation but may ask clarifying questions of the speaker through the Chair.*
- b) In Section C (General Comments on an Educational Issue at the End of a Board Meeting), subsection 5, delete the sentence: *With the exception of the Chair, who may provide or request clarification as required, trustees will not make comments or ask questions of the speaker.*

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Notice of the above motion was served at the November 13, 2007 board meeting.

GG:mmf

APPENDIX I – Board Policy JAB.BP – Formal Delegations, Presentations and Comments to the Board

Edmonton Public Schools

Board Policies and Regulations

CODE: JAB.BP

EFFECTIVE DATE: 11-09-2007

TOPIC: Formal Delegations,
Presentations, and
Comments to the Board

ISSUE DATE: 12-09-2007

REVIEW DATE: 09-2012

A. FORMAL DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS TO BOARD

1. The board secretary shall advise the delegation on the procedures for submitting a brief and/or making a verbal presentation and assist the delegation in making their request.
2. Groups or individuals who wish to appear before the board to make a presentation to or a request of the board shall first discuss the request with the superintendent of schools or a designate.
3. If after meeting with the administration, an appearance before the board is still desired, the delegation must make their request in writing to the Board Secretary at least three weeks in advance of the preferred meeting at which they wish to appear. Notwithstanding the three week notice, the superintendent may consider a request to waive the timelines if circumstances warrant, for example if the board will be making a decision on the matter before the delegation is scheduled to present to board.
4. The board reserves the right to determine whether the delegation will be heard, and if so, whether it will be heard by the board or by a committee of the board. For matters clearly within the purview of the board, the board secretary in consultation with the superintendent of schools and board chair shall make appropriate arrangements for the delegation to be heard. If the delegation request pertains to a matter that would affect the personal privacy of an individual, the delegation will be heard by the conference committee of the board.
5. If the delegation request pertains to a matter within the purview of the superintendent of school, the conference committee will be advised of the request and it shall make a determination as to whether the board will hear the delegation.

6. Written briefs or a digest of the information to be presented must be submitted to the board secretary at least five days prior to the meeting. The notice and the brief will be provided to each trustee with the notice of meeting at which the delegation is to appear.
7. The delegation may have 10 minutes in total to make its presentation and may appoint two spokespersons. ~~Trustees may not comment on the presentation but may ask clarifying questions of the speaker through the Chair.~~ The Chair will thank the speaker.
8. Decisions regarding requests made by delegations will be dealt with at the next meeting of the board or appropriate committee unless the board will be making a decision on the matter as part of another scheduled item of business on the agenda or it is otherwise agreed to by a majority vote of the members present.

B. COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

1. If a member of the public or a staff group representative wishes to give a position to board on a specific board agenda item, the individual shall register with the Board Secretary by noon the day of the meeting.
2. The board chair will, at the time the item is considered, seek concurrence of the board to hear the individual.
3. Speakers shall confine themselves to two minutes and address their comments to the board chair.
4. The total duration of public comment on a specific agenda item shall not exceed 20 minutes per agenda item. Exceptions to the time limits may be made by a majority vote of the board.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON AN EDUCATIONAL ISSUE AT THE END OF A BOARD MEETING

1. A member of the public or a staff group representative may address the board on any educational issue.
2. A member of the public or a staff group representative may speak for two minutes at a public board meeting under the agenda category *Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives*. The total duration of the *Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives* section of the agenda shall not exceed 20 minutes. Exceptions to the time limits may be made by a majority vote of the board.

3. Speakers shall address their comments to the board chair. Attacks on the personal character or performance of any individual or, disruptive remarks shall be ruled out of order and persistence in such remarks by an individual shall terminate the person's privilege to address the board.
4. ~~With the exception of the Chair who may provide or request clarification as required, Trustees will not make comments or ask questions of the speaker.~~ The chair will thank the speaker.

Reference(s):

AB.AR - Appeal Processes
School Act Section 123

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