

Participation of Citizens at Board Meetings

Purpose: Citizens and Visitors at Board Meetings may have the opportunity to address the Board.

PARTICIPATION

1. The President of the Board, or a majority of the members, may extend to visitors the privilege of addressing the Board. The Order of Business, at any regular meeting, shall include an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board, providing, however, that the Board does not obligate itself to consider any request or proposal unless submitted to the President, in writing, at least seven days before the meeting, exclusive of Sundays and holidays.
2. The Board endorses the principle of open communication between the public and the Board, and between the Superintendent and his/her staff, and free communication of all personnel with the program's organization, through recognized channels of communication.
3. Any individual or group may address the Board of Developmental Disabilities concerning any subject that lies within the Board's jurisdiction.
4. Questions are to be directed to the Board as a whole and may not be put to an individual member of the Board or the administrative staff.
5. Any matter, upon which the Board may be requested to act, must be submitted, in writing, to the Board not less than seven days, excluding Sundays and holidays, prior to the date of the meeting at which the subject is to be discussed.
6. It shall be in order for members of the Board to interrupt a speaker, at any time, to ask questions to make comments in order to clarify the discussion.
7. No more than five minutes shall be allotted for each speaker and no more than fifteen minutes to each subject under discussion except with the consent of the Board. No person or Board member shall present orally, at any meeting of the Board, a complaint against an individual employee of the Erie County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Such charge or complaint shall be in writing and signed by the person(s) making the charge or complaint and presented to the Board President and Superintendent.

Effective Date

4/15/2010