Speakers Before the Board of Trustees

Date Adopted: 5/8/1984
Date Revised: 12/9/2003
Date Reviewed: 6/14/2016
References: Education Code Section 72121.5; Government Code Sections 54950 et seq.

Persons may speak to the Board either on an agenda item or on other matters of interest to the public that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board.

Oral presentations relating to a matter on the agenda, including those on the consent agenda, shall be heard before a vote is called on the item. Persons wishing to speak to matters not on the agenda shall do so at the time designated at the meeting for public comment. Those wishing to speak to the Board are subject to the following:

- The President of the Board may rule members of the public out of order if their remarks do not pertain to matters that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board or if their remarks are unduly repetitive.

- Non-scheduled substitutes may not speak in place of scheduled speakers unless alternates have been submitted on the original request.

- Employees who are members of a bargaining unit represented by an exclusive bargaining agent may address the Board under this policy, but may not attempt to negotiate terms and conditions of their employment. This policy does not prohibit any employee from addressing a collective bargaining proposal pursuant to the public notice requirements of Government Code Section 3547 and the policies of this Board implementing that section.

- Persons wishing to present such items shall submit a written request at the beginning of the meeting to the President of the Board (through a designated staff member) that summarizes the item and provides his or her name and organizational affiliation, if any.

- No member of the public may speak without being recognized by the President of the Board.
• The Board reserves the right to fix such time limits on presentations as it deems appropriate to the occasion and may limit the time available to speakers before it. Any such limitation will be equally apportioned among speakers and independent of a speaker’s identity, affiliation or point of view.

• Undue interruptions or other interference with orderly conduct of the business of the Board will not be permitted. Disruptive behavior, defamatory or abusive remarks are always out of order and the Board President may terminate the speaker’s privilege of address, if, after being called to order, he or she persists in improper conduct or if remarks are addressing matters outside the Board’s jurisdiction.

See Board Policy 2345 and 2355.