

Frequently Asked Questions

Tredyffrin/Easttown School Board Meeting Public Comment Protocol



Who may address the School Board?

- Public comment is reserved for District residents and District taxpayers.
- The Board will accept public comment from the Tredyffrin Easttown Education Association (TEEA) union president.
- The Board will accept public comment from sitting public officials for non-campaigning purposes.

When does public comment occur?

- District residents and taxpayers are invited to address the Board during the designated public comment periods:
 1. The first public comment period typically occurs prior to Board action on any agenda items. Comments made during this first opportunity are limited to items on the agenda.
 2. Separate public comment periods will occur before Board action on Priority Discussion agenda items and Other Actions Under Consideration. Comments during these periods will be limited to the corresponding agenda item.
 3. The final public comment period will occur after the final action item and may relate to any matter of concern.

What is the protocol for public comment?

- Citizens will be invited by the presiding officer to address the Board and will be instructed to line up behind the microphone.
- The speaker begins by stating their name and township of residence.
- All comments should be directed to the Board as a whole or to the presiding officer.
- No comments or questions shall be directed to individual Board members or staff.
- All public comments and responses must be in the spirit of public discourse.
- All members of the general public are expected to communicate with each other and with District employees, students, volunteers and Board members in an atmosphere of civility and mutual respect.

How long is public comment?

- A five minute period is allowed for individual comments, including an acknowledgement or answer from the Board or staff when applicable.
- If there is a large number of individuals who wish to comment, at the discretion of the presiding officer, the individual comment time will be reduced to three minutes.
- The District solicitor will monitor the time and will notify the speaker when there is approximately one minute remaining and again when their comment time has expired.
- When there is not sufficient time for eligible participants to complete their comments, they may submit their written comments to the Board via email at SchoolBoard@tesd.net.

The TESD School Board values public comment. In order to permit fair and orderly expression of public comment, please follow these guidelines.