

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS**

The Summers County Board of Education recognizes the right of every citizen to attend and observe the proceedings of the Board at any regular, special, or statutory meeting, except when the Board is in executive session. All actions of the Board shall be taken openly and all deliberations leading to action by the Board shall likewise be conducted openly. The public is invited to attend meetings of the Board and will be given limited time to voice opinions or problems.

In view of the great number of items of business that must be handled at monthly meetings and in order to have ample time to give full consideration to all items of business on the agenda, the Board of Education has found it necessary to set forth the following regulations to accommodate persons or delegations with school problems, grievances, or requests:

1. Such persons or delegations shall go through designated channels for a solution to problems before coming before the Board of education. For this purpose, designated channels in the order of responsibility are: teacher, principal, department head, and superintendent.
2. Persons or delegations desiring to come before the board, after going through the proper channels, shall contact the superintendent prior to the date of the regular monthly board meeting, and schedule a hearing before the board. Notice of all hearings scheduled shall, if possible, be included on the agenda mailed to members of the Board by the superintendent prior to the Board meeting.
3. The time allotted to each delegation appearing before the board shall normally be limited to fifteen minutes. In order to conserve time, each delegation should have a spokesman. After the delegation is heard, the board may not wish to respond immediately but take the matter under consideration. In this case, the superintendent will notify the spokesman of the delegation of the action taken by the board when a final decision has been reached.
4. Action on matters brought before the board by written petition shall generally be made after a thorough study has been made of all aspects of the problem. Notification of action taken by the board will be given to the petitioner by the superintendent after a final decision has been reached.