

## **BOARD BYLAW**

Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

---

### Bylaws of the Board

9322.2 - BB

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Board of Education of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District desires and encourages public attendance at all board meetings and is always interested in the constructive participation of those in attendance.

In order to ensure an orderly proceeding so that the district's business may be accomplished in an efficient manner and to provide a fair opportunity for all individuals who wish to address the board regarding items on the agenda or matters within the jurisdiction of the board, the following procedures shall regulate public presentations to the board:

1. Members of the public may address the board regarding any particular agenda item at the time designated by the agenda for public comment.
2. All requests by members of the public for an opportunity to address the board during a public meeting must be in writing on the public comment card provided by the district for that purpose. The request must include the subject and agenda item number which the individual wishes to address as well as whether it is regarding an item on the agenda or a non-agenda item. All requests to address the board must be submitted prior to the presiding officer announcing that it is the designated time for public comment.
3. The public comment section of the agenda is not a time for dialogue between community members and members of the district board/staff. Comments by community members which require a response will be addressed by staff at a later time at the discretion of the presiding officer. No action or discussion by members of the board or staff shall be taken on any item which is not on the posted agenda except as expressly authorized by law.
4. Each speaker shall be allocated a maximum of three (3) minutes to address the board regarding any item or items. The number of minutes allowed for each speaker shall be determined by the number of speakers who submit their names prior to the beginning of public comment.
  - 1-10 speakers: 3 minutes each
  - 11-15 speakers: 2 minutes each
  - 16-30 speakers: 1.5 minutes each
  - 31+ speakers: 1 minute each

In lieu of public comments, individuals may email the board prior to the meeting at [boardoftrustees@pylusd.org](mailto:boardoftrustees@pylusd.org).

5. Public comments may not be for the purpose of urging the support or defeat of any ballot measure or candidate including, but not limited to, any candidate for election to the governing board of the district. (Education Code 7054)
6. The board believes that all members of the public are entitled to the rights assured them under the California and United States Constitutions. The board further believes that district employees are entitled to rights of privacy under the California and United States Constitutions. The board has therefore adopted a complaint policy concerning school personnel and will only consider and act

on such complaints if they are pursued in accordance with that policy. Speakers who wish to make complaints or charges concerning district personnel are expected to follow that policy. The board president shall inform any individual of the district's policy and expectations in that regard when he/she is making an oral presentation which includes charges or complaints against district personnel, including the superintendent, regardless of whether the employee is identified by name or by other reference which tends to identify. Should the individual choose to continue with charges or complaints against district personnel in public, it will be done at his/her own risk with respect to potential liability regarding the employee whose privacy may be invaded.

7. Public comment speakers are expected to abide by Board Policy 1312, *Civility Policy*, which promotes mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct among district employees, parents, and the public. This policy is not intended to deprive any person of his/her right to freedom of expression, but only to maintain, to the extent possible and reasonable, a safe, harassment-free environment. Any individual who disrupts or threatens to disrupt school/office operations; threatens the health and safety of students or staff; willfully causes property damage; uses loud and/or offensive language which could provoke a violent reaction; or who has otherwise established a continued pattern of unauthorized entry on school district property, will be directed to leave school or school district property promptly.
8. No willful disturbance or interruption of any board meeting shall be permitted. Only individuals recognized by the presiding officer will be permitted to address the board. Persistence by an individual/group shall be grounds for the chair to terminate his/her privilege of addressing the meeting and may result in the board requesting that the disruptive individual/group be removed or that the room be cleared.

These procedures shall be used to conduct all public comment and public hearing segments held during Board of Education meetings.

Bylaw adopted: 8/4/75  
Bylaw revised: 4/24/78  
Bylaw revised: 1/22/79  
Bylaw revised: 4/13/81  
Bylaw revised: 5/9/88  
Bylaw revised: 9/12/95  
Bylaw revised: 8/27/96  
Bylaw revised: 9/23/97  
Bylaw revised: 1/10/12  
Bylaw revised: 11/15/22