

**Policy 214: Public Hearings****Status:** ADOPTED**Original Adopted Date:** 6/10/1985 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 12/11/2023 | **Last Revised Date:** 05/13/2019

Public hearings may be held on school district matters at the discretion of the board. Public notice of a public hearing will be in the same manner as for a board meeting except that the notice will be given at least ten days before the hearing is to be held unless it is impossible or impractical to do so, or the law requires otherwise.

At public hearings, citizens of the district who register at the door will be allowed to speak on the issue for which the public hearing is being held. Others may be allowed to speak at the board's discretion. Speakers have three (3) minutes to speak on the topic. Prior to the beginning of the hearing, speakers and spectators will be apprised of the rules of order to be followed regarding time limitations, questions, remarks and rebuttals. In no event will a speaker be allowed to take the time of another speaker.

The board will conduct public hearings in an orderly fashion. At the beginning of the hearing, statements, background materials and public hearing rules and procedures will be presented by the board president. The board president will recognize the speakers. A board member may ask questions of the speakers after receiving permission from the board president. Only those speakers recognized by the chair will be allowed to speak. Comments by others are out of order. Individuals who interfere with or interrupt speakers, the board or the proceedings will be asked to leave.

**NOTE:** *If a board has specific procedures for public hearings, they should be included in this policy.*

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 21; 24.9; 26.12; 279.8, .10; 297.22.

**I.C. Iowa Code**

Iowa Code § 21

**Description**

Open Meetings

Iowa Code § 24.9

Notice of Hearings

Iowa Code § 279.10

Directors- Powers and Duties - School Year Begin Date

Iowa Code § 279.8

Directors - General Rules - Bonds of Employees

Iowa Code § 297.22

Schoolhouses/Sites - Sell, Lease, Dispose

Iowa Code §26.12

When Hearing Necessary

**Cross References****Code**

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**Description**[Public Participation in Board Meetings](#)

601.01

[School Calendar](#)

703.01

[Budget Planning](#)