

# District Education Council

## Guidelines for Public Comments and Presentations

The District Education Council believes it is important to hear from parents, guardians, students and community on matters related to the DEC mandate. The Chair will provide **15 minutes for public comments** at each public meeting whenever appropriate and feasible.

**1) Speakers may speak on any matter related to the DEC mandate with the following exceptions:**

- a) Legal, or potentially legal matters,
- b) Personnel matters or issues relating to a specific staff member,
- c) Student discipline matters or issues relating to a specific student,
- d) Operational matters relating to a specific school, and
- e) Solicitations.

**2) Speakers during public comments must follow these guidelines:**

- a) Each person addressing the DEC must identify themselves and indicate who they represent.
- b) Each person will be permitted one question and one follow-up question.
- c) All questions and comments must be directed to the Chair who may respond, redirect, or take under advisement as appropriate. When a question is taken under advisement the Chair will identify how a response will be given.
- d) Members of the public may present information and suggestions but may not propose motions to be voted on by the DEC.

The DEC Chair is responsible for maintaining orderly, respectful, and effective discussion. **Individuals who do not respect these guidelines or are otherwise disruptive will lose their opportunity to address the Council and may be asked to leave the meeting.**

More information on making public comments and guidelines for requesting time for a more detailed presentation can be found on the District website in the DEC policy – ***Public Comments and Presentations at DEC Meetings.***