I. Persons may speak to the Board of Trustees either on an agenda item or on other matters of interest to the public that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board.

II. Oral presentations relating to a matter on the agenda, including those on the consent agenda, shall be heard before a vote is called on the item.

III. Persons wishing to speak to matters not on the agenda shall do so at the time designated at the meeting for public comment. The following protocol shall be used for responding to needs or complaints expressed in Board meetings during public comment on non-agenda items:

   A. The Board President will thank the speaker(s) and acknowledge that the need or complaint has been heard by the Board.
   B. If appropriate, the Board President may make a brief statement about the issue.
   C. The Board President will ask the Superintendent/President if there are any comments from the administration.
   D. The Board President will ask the Superintendent/President to look into the issue and report back to the Board if necessary. The Board President will determine what form the report will take (e-mail, formal written report, etc.).
   E. After receiving the report from the administration, the Board may decide to place the issue on a future Board agenda for discussion or action.

IV. Those wishing to speak to the Board are subject to the following:

   A. The President of the Board may rule members of the public out of order if their remarks do not pertain to matters that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board or if their remarks are unduly repetitive.
   B. Non-scheduled substitutes may not speak in place of scheduled speakers unless alternates have been submitted on the original request.
   C. Employees who are members of a bargaining unit represented by an exclusive bargaining agent may address the Board under this policy, but may not attempt to negotiate terms and conditions of their employment. This policy does not prohibit any employee from addressing a collective bargaining proposal pursuant to the public notice requirements of Government Code Section 3547 and the policies of this Board implementing that section.

V. Persons wishing to speak to an agenda item or non-agenda item, shall complete a written request to do so at the beginning of the meeting at which they wish to speak. “Request to Address the Board of Trustees” cards are provided for this. The request shall include the person’s name and name of the organization or group represented, if any, and a statement noting the agenda item or topic to be addressed.

VI. No member of the public may speak without being recognized by the President of the Board.
VII. Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of three (3) minutes per topic. Thirty (30) minutes shall be the maximum time allotment for public speakers on any one subject regardless of the number of speakers at any one Board meeting. At the discretion of a majority of the Board, these time limits may be extended.

VIII. Each speaker coming before the Board is limited to one presentation per specific agenda item before the Board, and to one presentation per meeting on non-agenda matters.

IX. Sources/References:

   Board Protocols
   Policy Government Code Section 54950, et seq.,
   Education Code Section 72121.5.