

COVID-19 Update

Masks and social distancing are recommended in all MSBSD facilities.

Public testimony can given in person during persons to be heard or be submitted in writing and emailed to the School Board using the link located on the [School Board website](#).

Meetings are live-streamed [HERE](#) Meeting agenda and materials can be found [HERE](#)

Members of the public wishing to provide testimony telephonically must sign up **no later than 3pm the day of the meeting** by calling or emailing School Board Administrative Assistant Stacy Escobedo.

Stacy.Escobedo@matsuk12.us 907-746-9272

At the March 25, 2020 meeting the Board suspended the rule in Board Policy 9323 that limits public telephonic testimony to action items only. For the duration of the COVID-19 limitations the Board will allow public testimony telephonically on Persons to Be Heard and Non-Action Items in addition to Action Items following the guidelines in BP 9323.

Preparing Your Testimony

- To distribute written materials provide 10 copies.
- Know what you want to say, be precise and specific.
- Have someone review your text or listen to your presentation.
- Summarize the three main points of your comments.
- Offer a solution and be constructive.
- Practice and time yourself (3 minutes or less).

Tips for Testifying

- Limit of 3 minutes per person per meeting for non-agenda/non-action items. Limited to two half-hour sections per regular meeting.
- Limit of 3 minutes per person per meeting for public comment on action items.
- Arrive by 6PM. Persons to be Heard is one of the first items on the agenda. You may add your name to the list by contacting the Board Administrative Assistant. Persons to be Heard is for non-agenda items only. Agenda items will be available for public comment during Public Comment on Action Items.
- Sit near the front of the room and when it is your turn to testify, go to the podium.
- Limit your comments to three minutes.
- Speak directly and closely to the microphone.
- Individuals may not discuss complaints against individual employees.
- Address the chair and members. Introduce yourself and/or group you are representing: "Mr./Madam Chair and members of the School Board, my name is **(your name)** and I represent myself and/or **(name of your group)** group."
- Be clear, concise, and logical. Be polite and keep it short (three main points can be easily remembered).
- The Board may or may not refer your concern to administration for further study. The Board will not respond to your comments, this is your opportunity to be heard. If you promise to provide more information be sure to follow through.
- If you represent a group, explain how your position was reached. If supporters are present you may ask them to stand up to show their support.
- Thank the Board for the opportunity to speak.