**CODE C3**

CODE C3 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

**Policy**

It is the policy of the boards of the Grand Isle Supervisory Union to encourage public participation at its meetings.

**Background**

Public participation is vital to the successful function of the Grand Isle Supervisory Union and its member school districts. The board wants to carry out its business with the benefit of public input and expertise. The board desires to keep the public informed and up- to-date on what is happening in the community’s schools.

**Implementation**

Reasonable rules of participation may be used to ensure that meetings are conducted in an orderly fashion and that the business at hand is completed in a timely manner. Such rules may take into consideration such things as length of each speaker’s presentation and the number of times each speaker may comment.

**Persons Who May Address the Board**

1. Any district resident.
2. School staff members, students, and parents.
3. Individuals who have been requested by the superintendent or the board to present a given subject.
4. Persons who are directly affected by matters on the board agenda.
5. Others at the discretion of the board.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

1. The chair will ask for comments on agenda items before action is taken by the board.
2. The board may authorize the chair to use a speakers’ list when a large number of people wish to speak. Members of the public will be given an opportunity to sign the speakers’ list, indicating which agenda item will be addressed.

**Public Input on Items Not on the Agenda**

1. There will be time set aside for public input on items not on the agenda at every regular, special, or emergency meeting of the board.
2. The time allotted for public input will be assigned to the chair or the person responsible for organizing the agenda.
3. The chair shall rule out of order any presentation to the board which breaches the privacy rights of students, parents, or school employees, or which does not comply with board policy on complaints.

*Date Warned: 6/8/16*

*Date Adopted: 6/22/16*

*Legal Reference(s): 1 VSA §§ 310 et seq. (Public Meetings)*