

STRAIT REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD <i>Excellence in Lifelong Learning</i> POLICIES AND GUIDELINES	EDUCATION	II-A-6
	By-Laws and Rules	
	PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD	
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PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD DURING REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS

POLICY STATEMENT

The Strait Regional School Board is committed to maintaining efficient communications with its education partners. Among the communications opportunities that are available to the general public is observance at regular board meetings. Although members of the gallery are not entitled to participate in the meeting discussions, an opportunity will be available at the end of each regular board meeting, immediately preceding adjournment, for members of the public, including the news media, to ask questions of clarification relating to the Board's business.

GUIDELINES

1. The public question period will be held immediately before the adjournment of each regular board meeting and will last for not more than fifteen (15) minutes.
2. Questions must relate specifically to the business of the meeting.
3. Persons wishing to address the Board at length, or to make submissions to the Board or to any of its committees, will be accommodated through the procedures that are provided in the by-laws.
4. Questions will be directed to the Chair who will, if appropriate, refer the question to a particular board member or staff person for a response.
5. Persons wishing to ask questions will be acknowledged by the Chair as fairly and equitably as possible. No person will be entitled to speak twice if another person who has not yet spoken is waiting to speak. Speakers will identify themselves to the Chair before speaking to the meeting.
6. In order to maximize the availability of time during the question period for those who do not have ready access to school board information channels, employees of the Strait Regional School Board are expected to direct their questions through the staff administrative structure. The Chair, therefore, will not ordinarily entertain questions from Board employees during the question period.

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7. Only matters relating to the Board's public record will be dealt with during the question period. The decision of the Chair as to the suitability of any particular subject will be final.

8. Questions which cannot be answered at the meeting will be referred to the Superintendent of Schools for a written response.