



San Diego Community College District

City College · Mesa College · Miramar College · College of Continuing Education
Board Policy

Chapter 2 – Board of Trustees

BP 2350 – SPEAKERS

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.

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.

Persons wishing to speak to matters not on the agenda shall do so at the time designated at the meeting for public comment.

Those wishing to speak to the Board of Trustees are subject to the following:

- 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 of Trustees or if their remarks are unduly repetitive.
- Non-scheduled substitutes may not speak in place of scheduled speakers unless alternates have been submitted on the original request.
- Employees who are members of a bargaining unit represented by an exclusive bargaining agent may address the Board of Trustees 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.
- Speakers wishing to address the Board shall complete a written request to address the Board of Trustees at the beginning of the meeting at which they wish to speak. 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.
- No person may speak without being recognized by the President of the Board of Trustees.
- Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of four (4) minutes per topic. Thirty-two (32) 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. Speakers must identify if they are commenting in support or opposition of an agenda item or topic. If there are more than eight (8) speakers, the requests will be separated into groups of support and opposition and the order will be drawn randomly at the start of the public comment section for that item. Individuals requesting to speak will be notified and the order of speakers will alternate between comments in support and opposition until the time limit expires. If requested by a public commenter, and with a successful motion by the Board of Trustees, these time limits may be extended.

- Academic and Classified Senate representatives, bargaining unit representatives, the Chancellor, and Board of Trustees members will be allowed a maximum of five (5) minutes for updates to the Board. Upon request, the Board President may extend the time of the speaker.
- Individuals who are the subject of an item on the closed session agenda will be allowed a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes per topic. Individuals who are not the subject of an item on the closed session agenda will be allowed a maximum of four (4) minutes per topic. Thirty-two (32) minutes shall be the maximum time allotment for public speakers on any one closed session subject, excluding the time allotted to the individual who is the subject of the item, regardless of the number of speakers at any one Board meeting. If there are more than eight (8) speakers, the requests will be separated into groups of support and opposition and the order will be drawn randomly at the start of the public comment section for that item. Individuals requesting to speak will be notified and the order of speakers will alternate between comments in support and opposition until the time limit expires. If requested by a public commenter, and with a successful motion by the Board of Trustees, these time limits may be extended.
- A member of the public who utilizes a translator, including sign language interpretation, may have twice the allotted time to ensure an equal opportunity to directly address the Board of Trustees.
- Each speaker coming before the Board of Trustees is limited to one presentation per specific agenda item before the Board, and to one presentation per meeting on non-agenda matters.
- Placards, banners, signs, flags larger than 8 ½"x 11" are not permitted in the Board of Trustees meeting room. No electronic media may be displayed.

Reference: Education Code Section 72121.5;
Government Code Sections 3547 and 54950 et seq.

Adopted: 12/14/06

Revised: 5/11/17, 10/24/17, 11/09/23, 11/13/25

(Replaces current SDCCD BP 2350)