



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS POLICY OF KIPP CHARLOTTE

I. Introduction

The KIPP Charlotte Board of Directors recognizes and welcomes its responsibility to hear requests and suggestions from delegations and individuals in the local community. It also recognizes its responsibility to work with the School Leader and to ensure that its meetings are orderly and efficient.

To achieve both access to the Board and effective presentation of requests, the Board has established the following rules to guide it and delegations or individuals who wish to be heard. Unless the circumstances dictate or the Board decides otherwise, these procedures will be followed in regular and special meetings.

II. Procedures for being a public speaker at a board meeting

Efforts toward solution of any matter of concern should be made by contacting the teacher and/or grade chairperson. If the matter can not be resolved with staff members, the School Leader should be contacted. Generally, neither personnel, confidential, nor pupil-specific matters are the proper subject of the VOX POPULI (voice of the people) portion of the Board meeting and will instead be handled in accordance with the KIPP Charlotte Grievance Policy.

Each speaker must register with the Board Secretary and indicate whether the speaker represents a group or is speaking in his/her individual capacity. The telephone number is available by calling the school or using the board e-mail contact information posted on the KIPP Charlotte Web site. This registration may be done by telephone in advance of the meeting or at the meeting. Each speaker must indicate what, if any, agenda item or topic the speaker intends to address. When opportunity provided for public comment has been designated for a specific purpose or topic, the Board Chair may restrict the opportunity of a speaker to address the Board if the speaker raises issues that are different from those designated for that specific purpose or topic.

At the Board meeting, including VOX POPULI, all speakers will be allowed up to three minutes. Those who wish to distribute printed material at a Board meeting should prepare in advance at least 25 copies for Board members and staff.

At a meeting, speakers should address the Board Chair who will redirect questions to appropriate board members or the School Leader. Speakers will be advised that the Board adheres to the rules of decorum in debate as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

The Board Chair will make efforts to allow as many different group representatives and individuals as possible to address the Board. Individuals or groups addressing the same agenda item or concerns may be deferred until speakers addressing other agenda items or concerns have been heard. Special consideration may be given to allow student speakers and parents with children present to address the Board prior to other individuals or groups.



Though time may be given for limited questions, answers and observations by board members, the KIPP Charlotte Board generally will not take action at the meeting when a request is presented. It may refer the matter to the School Leader and ask for a report and recommendation for action at a subsequent meeting as appropriate.

A speaker also has the option of contacting the North Carolina Department of Public Education to express an opinion about KIPP Charlotte, a public charter school operating under guidelines established by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. KIPP Charlotte is a member of the national Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP) network of public charter schools. A speaker also has the option of contacting the KIPP Foundation to express an opinion about KIPP Charlotte.

III. Contact the board

A private e-mail address has been established to contact the Board at board@kippcharlotte.org and it should be publicly posted on the school web site. The Board Secretary monitors this inbox for new messages. Security will be set such that the School Leader does not have permission to view this inbox.

IV. Effective date

This policy will be effective Aug. 1, 2009.