



Policy Section: **Trusteeship and the Board**

200

Policy Name: Observer Comments at Board Meetings

204

Policy Statement

Subject to the provisions of the Board By-laws relative to the conduct of meetings, it is the policy of the Board to facilitate a process for observers at Regular Board Meetings to present brief comments and suggestions to the Board, in accordance with the following regulations.

Rationale

The Keewatin-Patricia District School Board recognizes the need to provide members of the public who participate in board meetings an opportunity to comment on items addressed at board meetings. Establishing a policy on how comments can be made is essential to maintain effective and productive communication opportunities.

Regulations

1. The Chair will announce prior to the “Observer Comments” section of the Board Meeting agenda that persons choosing to make Observer Comments must precede their observations by stating their name, address and the topic on which they wish to comment.
2. The “Observer Comments” periods, for each Regular Board Meeting, shall be no longer than sixteen (16) minutes, unless the Board, by resolution, determines otherwise. No individual Observer Comment shall exceed two (2) minutes in duration.
3. The subject matter of the comments should be restricted to items addressed at a board meeting.
4. Comments pertaining to the competency of any Board employee, either implied or direct, shall not be made.
5. Employees of the Board shall not utilize the “Observer Comments” section on the Board agenda to express their views relative to their employment or professional interests. (Employees have recourse to other procedures for making their views known.)
6. Trustees will not respond to or debate items raised during “Observer Comments” at the time of the “Observer Comments” on the agenda.

Cross Reference	
	Date Adopted: November 24, 1998 Date Reviewed: Mar 8/05; Mar 4/08; Apr 13/10; Nov 4/17 Date Revised: Mar. 4/14 Review by: 2021