

CHAPTER 1: Board of Trustees
BOARD POLICY NO. 1.60 (BP 2345, 2350, and 2355)

BOARD POLICY
San Mateo County Community College District

Subject 1.60 Rules of Order for Board Meetings
Revision Date 3/12
Policy References: Government Code Section 54954.3; Education Code Section 72121.5

The Board recognizes both the value of free expression of views and its statutory obligation to make policy decisions essential to the management of the District. Toward these ends, the following rules of order, established under authorization of State statutes, shall govern the conduct of all Board meetings:

1. The President of the Board shall direct the orderly presentation of reports and discussion on all agenda items and on matters introduced under “Statements from the Public on Non-Agenda Items” and “Presentations to the Board by Persons or Delegations.” No action can be taken by the Board on “Statements from the Public on Non-Agenda Items” or “Presentations to the Board by Persons or Delegations.”
2. After an agenda item has been presented and staff reports made, the Board shall invite public participation in discussion relating to the item. Persons addressing the Board will be asked to preface their remarks by giving their name to the President of the Board. The President of the Board may rule out of order discussion which in his/her judgment is not relevant to the agenda item.
3. During any portion of the meeting, the Board may prescribe a time limit on individual presentations and/or a time limit on the total time to be allocated to all presentations on a given item or issue, and the Board may allow all interested participants to address the Board before allowing any participant to be heard a second time.
4. The President of the Board may rule out of order persons who use profanity, threats, physical violence, or obscenity in any form, disturb or disrupt the Board meeting, or fail to conform to a reasonable request to maintain decorum in the meeting room.
5. Persons who are ruled out of order shall be warned of their infraction, dismissed from the meeting room if the warning is not heeded, and removed from the meeting room by appropriate authorities if they do not comply with instructions or directives of the Board or Board President to leave.
6. In the event that any Board meeting is willfully interrupted by an individual or group of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible, and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting, the Board may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. Representatives of the news media and staff members, except those participating in the disturbance, shall be allowed to attend the meeting.
7. Any criminal violation of any provision of law may be directed by the Board to the attention of the appropriate law enforcement agency.

1.60 Rules of Order for Board Meetings (continued)

8. Members of the public also may submit written communications to the Board on any item either on or off the agenda. Written communication regarding items on the agenda should reach the office of the Chancellor not later than one working day prior to the meeting at which the matter concerned is to be before the Board. All such written communications shall be dated and signed by the author, and shall contain the residence or business address of the author and the author's organizational affiliation, if any.