

## **The Regional School Board of the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School for Government & International Studies' Public Comment Protocol**

The Regional Board consists of one school board member from each of the thirteen (13) participating districts for the purpose of jointly operating a regional Governor's School in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

### **Time and Place of Meetings**

Regular meetings of the Regional and Executive Boards are held the third Thursday of each month in the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Boardroom located at 1000 N. Lombardy Street at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

### **Public Information Period**

The Public Information Period is an opportunity for citizens to address the Regional Board concerning the services, policies, and affairs of the Governor's School. The Public Information Period shall not exceed 30 minutes. Each speaker will be allotted three (3) minutes (in the discretion of the Chairperson) to make his/her comments. Individuals representing groups will be allotted five (5) minutes. Citizens must schedule their appearance with the Board's Clerk, no later than 10:00 a.m. on the last business day before the meeting at which they desire to be heard.

In the conduct of its regular meeting the Chairperson shall extend the Public Information Period for an additional 30 minutes to allow the public to address any agenda item to be voted on by the Board. No speaker on any such agenda item shall exceed three (3) minutes. The Chairperson may deny a request to be heard if the topic is not timely or germane or if he deems it necessary to hold a separate public hearing.

### **Guidelines for Citizen Participation**

Speakers should state their full legal name prior to addressing the Regional Board. Speakers will not be permitted to address or question the Director, Board Attorney, Board Clerk, or any other staff member directly. Questions should be directed to the Chairperson, who may, at his/her discretion, solicit a response.

Speakers must supply the Clerk, when scheduling an appearance, with a description of their topic and must confine their comments to that subject only.

Speakers appearing before the Board will not be allowed to campaign for public office, promote private business ventures, engage in personal attacks of anyone, or use profanity or vulgar language.

Applause is permitted during the awards and presentations period only.

Citizens may express their views in writing in lieu of any oral presentation.

Hearing-impaired persons may contact the Board Clerk in advance to make arrangements for an interpreter.