

H125 - PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Public comment about Mt. Vernon Community School Corporation is welcomed by the School Board whenever it is motivated by a sincere desire to improve the quality of the educational program. Any person or group having an interest in the operation of the Corporation shall have the right to present a request, suggestion, comment, or concern relating to personnel, the programs, or the operations of the Corporation.

Comments and concerns related to curriculum, methods of instruction, instructional materials, or Corporation employees shall be submitted in writing to the principal of the school and the Superintendent. Comments and concerns thus submitted will be considered by the Superintendent or his or her designated assistants and the principal. At the discretion of the Superintendent, a committee may be appointed, an existing committee may be utilized, or other action may be taken to review the matter in question and submit a written decision to the Superintendent.

Public comments at school board meetings are reserved to a two-minute allotment to allow for an efficient meeting. Persons wishing to address the Board on a scheduled public agenda item shall sign in at the start of the meeting. At his or her sole discretion, the Board President may permit public comment on issues not listed as a public agenda item.

The purpose of public comment is to give the Board members as much information as possible, not to engage in debate. Board members or administrators may provide answers to questions asked during public comment if the information is readily available and not confidential. Often, however, questions will not be answered, but taken under advisement and answers returned at a later time, if possible.

The Board will not tolerate abusive or inappropriate language or statements including, but not limited to statements that are: threatening, harassing, illegal, obscene, lewd, vulgar, defamatory, libelous, hostile, or personal attacks. Comments should be directed to the Board, not an individual Board member. Comments may not reference specific Corporation employees, patrons, or students.

The Board President may take appropriate action to maintain order at a meeting. Such actions may include stopping the speaker or limiting comments due to the number of individuals desiring to comment and/or the length of the agenda.

Adopted:

Revised: