



## Open Meetings Policy

The Riveredge Outdoor Learning Elementary School (ROLES) Governance Council recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on ROLES matters.

To permit fair and orderly public expression, the Governance Council shall provide a period for public participation at every regular meeting of the Governance Council and publish rules to govern such participation in Governance Council meetings.

The presiding officer of each Governance Council meeting at which public participation is permitted shall administer the rules of the Governance Council for its conduct.

The presiding officer shall be guided by the following rules:

1. Public participation shall be permitted as indicated on the order of business.
2. Anyone having a legitimate interest in the actions of the Governance Council may participate during the public portion of a meeting.
3. The time allocation for public participation by all participants shall be limited to fifteen (15) minutes of meeting time. Each participant has a three minute allotted time to speak and will be monitored by the Secretary.
4. Each speaker is allowed to speak one time per meeting.
5. Participants shall direct all comments to the Governance Council and not to staff or other participants.
6. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no person may address or question Board members individually. Participants must be physically present to speak at a meeting.
7. The presiding officer may:
  - a. interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
  - b. request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
  - c. request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
  - d. call for a

recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action;

e. waive these rules.

8. Recording, filming, or photographing the Governance Council's open meetings is permitted. Other than expulsion hearings, closed sessions of the Governance Council will not be recorded, filmed or photographed without prior approval of the Governance Council. The person operating the equipment should contact ROLES staff prior to the Governance Council meeting to review possible placement of the equipment, and must agree to abide by the following conditions:
- a. No obstructions are created between the Governance Council and the audience.
  - b. No interviews are conducted in the meeting room while the Governance Council is in session.
  - c. No commentary, adjustment of equipment, or positioning of operators is made that would distract either the Governance Council or members of the audience or otherwise disrupt the meeting while the Governance Council is in session.

**Adopted by ROLES Governance Council:**

12/18/2019

**Revised by ROLES Governance Council:**

7/22/2021

**Revised by ROLES Governance Council:**

5/26/22