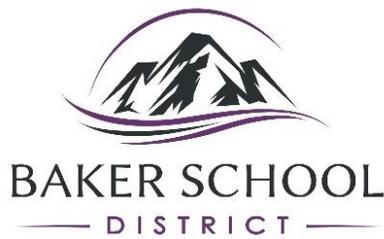


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Public Comment

Public Comment time provides an opportunity for constituents to address the Baker School District Board of Education. We encourage public comments at business meetings and ask that you respectfully follow the meeting guidelines below:

- Public Comment occurs at the beginning of monthly Board business meetings, which are held the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m., except in March, which will be held the second Thursday. The Board meets at the Baker City Hall, 1655 1st Street, Baker City, Oregon.
- Each person who signs up to speak should arrive at approximately 5:50 p.m.
- During the Public Comment period, each registered speaker will have up to 3 minutes in which to address the Board.
- Up to 5 people can register to speak on a specific topic, which allows a diversity of opinions to be presented while being mindful of time.
- If a large group of people wishes to come to discuss a specific topic, please designate one person to sign up and speak.
- If you have hand-outs or materials for the Board, please present them to the Board's Executive Assistant who will distribute them to the board members after the meeting.
- Members of the public should not approach the dais.
- The Board Chair has full discretion over the Public Comment period, including the ability to manage speaking time to allow for additional comments.

No inappropriate comments or behavior will be tolerated. Inappropriate behavior is defined as attempting to engage individual Board members in conversation, insults, obscenities, or profanity, attacks against any person in their personal capacity, and/or physical violence or threat thereof.

Tips on preparing to speak to the Board:

Your goal for providing a comment should be to raise a specific topic or issue with the school Board. Their goal is to listen and learn from the community. They will not respond to testimony that evening. If you would like to speak before the School Board, please follow these guidelines:

- Try to resolve any issues with teachers, school principals, or other district personnel before bringing the issue to the Board.
- Recognize that the Board does not discuss personnel matters at Board meetings. Do your homework and understand the basic facts of the issue before addressing the Board.
- Prepare an outline of your testimony so that it is well organized and avoids repetition.
- Plan to keep your remarks to three minutes.

Process at the meeting:

- Members of the community who wish to speak to the Board during the public comment period should sign up before the meeting starts. A sign-up sheet is available at the front-left of the Boardroom, usually by 5:45 p.m.
- Please print your name and complete address legibly on the sign-up sheet
- Pick up an agenda to learn when the Public Comment period will take place. Listen for any changes in the agenda announced by the Board Chairman.
- When the Board is ready, the Chairman will refer to the sign-up sheet and call out the names in that order.
- If a number of people are signed up to speak on the same topic, the Board limits the time devoted to a single topic to 30 minutes.

Addressing the Board

- When your name is called, approach the podium. Speak into the microphone, giving your full name and where you live for the record.
- Please limit your comments to three minutes.
- Be respectful of the Board when speaking.
- Be ready to respond to questions from the Board if asked.
- Address your testimony to the Board members, not the audience.
- Do not address questions to the Board. The Board's goal for the Public Comment period is to hear your concerns, comments and opinions.

Questions?

Contact the District Office at 541-524-2261 or email cathy.martin@bakersd.org.