

SUBJECT: **POLICY ON BEHAVIOR AT SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS**

Supersedes:

Effective: September _____, 2008

Page: 1 of 2

Approved by: Detroit Board of Education

1.0 Policy

1. Peaceful protest is expressly allowed. Persons desiring to picket at or around the site of any school board meeting shall do so at a distance of 150 feet away from school building entrances. Persons in picket lines shall move continuously and shall not block the ingress or egress of persons entering or exiting the building.
2. Picket or protest signs attached to wooden sticks, metal rods or plastic supports shall not be allowed in the site of any school board meeting.
3. Detached signs can be brought into the public meeting site but shall be designed to be held only by hand and shall be no larger than three feet by two feet. Messages contained on these signs shall not be obscene or profane.
4. City of Detroit Ordinance 593H, Chapter 19, more commonly known as the Fire Code, shall be strictly enforced. In every case, when the room, auditorium or meeting hall has been filled to fire safety capacity, persons not yet seated shall be directed to an overflow room, if available. The overflow room, if available, shall contain equipment that will allow all persons in the overflow room to see and hear the meeting being conducted in the primary meeting place.
5. Whenever possible security persons stationed at various entrances of the site of a school board meeting shall count the number of persons as they are admitted to the building in an effort to redirect persons who cannot be seated in the primary meeting facility to the overflow room, if available, upon building entry.
6. Persons shall not congregate outside the primary meeting facility. School board meeting attendees shall be directed to overflow space, if available, that will allow them to see and hear the proceedings. Once the overflow space is filled as determined by referenced to the fire code, persons not able to be safety seated shall be escorted out of the building. Persons escorted from the building must stand at least 150 feet away from the building. Re-entry will not be allowed.

7. All persons whether or not they are seated in the primary meeting facility or the overflow facility who are in possession of detached signs (no more than three feet by two feet wide) shall not display the signs in the meeting facility in such a way as to obstruct continuously the vision of other audience members. Sign obstruction shall not be continuous for more than six and one half minutes. Persons who continually obstruct the vision of other persons shall be asked to leave the facility.
8. Persons in the primary or overflow meeting facility shall not engage in any kind of behavior which disrupts the school board meeting being conducted. The chairperson at his or her discretion shall issue one general warning before security personnel will be directed to remove and ticket any person exhibiting behavior in violation of City Ordinance Section 38-5-2.
9. Persons removed from the primary or overflow facility for exhibiting behavior in violation of these rules shall be escorted from the building and not allowed to re-enter the building. Persons may only be banned from the particular meetings at which they have violated these rules.

Attachments to Policy 3.22: None

See also: None

Legal References: None

Labor Contract References: None