

“Not Appropriate” posted – 14 February 2019

At the February 6 school board meeting, a parent attempted to address the board concerning her special needs child's education. Apparently, this became necessary due to the district's failure to follow the mandates in her child's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

<https://www.vibby.com/v/X1cfuGr1P>

A parent has the right to discuss his/her child without violating any privacy protection under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). A parent is not an educational organization that receives federal funds, which you kind of have to be to violate this law. In any case, speaking during the **Public Comment Period** at this school board meeting, the parent waved her child's educational right to federal protection of privacy when she began to speak to the board, but given that the board does “not engage in dialogue with the audience or whomever is at the podium”, FERPA was never in jeopardy. When you look at it like that...it was just a violation of this parent's 1st Amendment right.

Let's face it, the only thing in jeopardy was the board's time.

PROTOCOL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- Citizens are invited to address the School Board on matters of public concern about the School Division.
- Speaker forms are available prior to the start of the meeting. If you wish to address the School Board, please complete the form and give it to the Clerk.
- Each individual will have five (5) minutes to speak.
- All comments shall be directed to the School Board.
- Speakers may not yield their time to another.
- Speakers should address the School Board with decorum on policy issues.
- Speakers shall not address matters involving individual students as these topics may violate confidentiality and are not appropriate in a public forum.
- Presentation of Resolutions, Declarations, Proclamations, Manifestos, Awards or other similar documents not originated under the auspices of the School Board or Administration is prohibited during the Public Comment Period.
- The audience is asked to be respectful of all speakers.
- Public comment is the School Board's opportunity to listen to the speaker. Since our purpose is to hear from you, the Board will not engage in dialogue with the audience or whomever is at the podium. Matters requiring a response will be directed to the Superintendent for research and response. The Superintendent may report back on such matters at a subsequent business meeting session as appropriate.
- The School Board carefully considers your comments as we decide matters that are brought before us. We appreciate your attendance and your input.