

# THE ACADEMY OF MOORE COUNTY

## Public Comment at Meetings of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Academy of Moore County is subject to the North Carolina "Open Meetings Law." This means that meetings of the Board are, generally, open to the public, and any person is entitled to attend those meetings. There are limited exceptions to this general rule that apply when the Board determines that a closed session is required to discuss confidential matters.

Parents, teachers, staff, and the members of the general public are welcome to attend the meetings of the TAMC Board, either in person or, until the Covid-19 crisis is substantially over, remotely.

There are a few things, however, that everyone needs to keep in mind.

First, only Board members are entitled to speak at Board meetings. There may be occasions when the Chair of the meeting will permit a non-member to address the Board. But no one attending a Board meeting should assume that he or she has the right to speak, even if other non-members are given permission to do so. Anyone who has something to say, but isn't given the opportunity to do so, can always express his or her concerns by contacting the Board in writing.

Second, those attending a Board meeting should remain quiet and not disrupt the meeting.

Third, subject to the following limitations, a period during which members of the public may address the Board shall take place at Regular Board Meetings before any business is conducted. Notwithstanding this general rule, the Chair, after considering the anticipated length of the Meeting, will determine in his or her sole discretion how much, if any, time will be allocated to the public comment period. The Chair will recognize only those non-members who have sent an email to [board@academyofmoorecounty.org](mailto:board@academyofmoorecounty.org), at least 24 hours prior to the meeting, and to whose request the Chair has responded affirmatively.

Fourth, those given permission to speak must identify themselves by stating their full name and must keep in mind that:

1. Unless further limited by the Chair due to the number of speakers and time available, they may speak for as much as 3 minutes, and only the Chair, in his or her discretion, may allow a speaker more time;
2. They will address all comments to the Board as a whole and not to individual Board members;
3. They should not attempt to engage in conversation with the Board or expect the Board to answer any questions they may pose;
4. They must refrain from discussing concerns or complaints about individual personnel and may not refer to a student, teacher, or staff member by name; and
5. They must not use indecorous language and are asked to be respectful at all times.