

Public Comment at Board Meetings

Policy:

The Voorheesville Public Library Board of Trustees welcomes comments and suggestions by library cardholders and members of the Voorheesville Central School District (VCSD) on library operations and practices including its collection and programs at the monthly board meeting.

The meeting agenda shall include two opportunities for the public to comment on matters concerning the library, one at the beginning of each meeting, after the meeting has been called to order, and another before the close of each meeting.

A sign in sheet will be available before the start of the board meeting along with a copy of this policy. Individuals wishing to speak must provide their name, address and, if representing a group, the name of the group for the public record and read the policy. If you sign in to comment, you are acknowledging you have read the policy and agree to abide by it.

Public Comment Guidelines and Procedures:

Each comment period will be limited to 20 minutes, unless extended by the Board. Each person wishing to speak during one of the public comment periods will have 3 minutes to comment. Unused time cannot be granted to another speaker.

Speakers shall introduce themselves by name and the organization they represent, if any.

Members of the Board shall not question or address the public speaker directly, nor may the speaker directly question or address individual members of the Board.

The Board will not take any action on any issue raised during the public comment period until it has conducted additional study and research to determine impact and consequences of any related decision. Once a decision has been reached regarding the

public comment, the commenter will be informed in writing whether the Board will act on the comment.

A summary of the public comments will be included in the minutes. Written materials presented to the Board will be included in the library's files rather than the minutes.

The Board President, or whichever trustee is chairing the meeting, shall oversee the application of this policy

Note:

Public comments made at VPL Board meetings do not supersede or replace the materials reconsideration process as outlined in the VPL reconsideration policy. Any community member wishing to have an item or program reconsidered must submit a fully completed Materials Reconsideration Form before any action can be taken on that request.