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Policy BEDH

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIODS

In accordance with Article 168 of the Education Act, the Council of Commissioners establishes the time, duration and procedure for a question period.

1. The question periods will be a part of each regular meeting of the Council and will appear on the agenda.
2. The question periods are not periods of deliberation. They are provided to allow members of the public to pose questions.
3. The duration of the first question period will be a maximum of 15 minutes, with a maximum of five (5) minutes per speaker. The duration of the second question period will be a maximum of 5 minutes, with a maximum of 1 minute per speaker. These times may be extended by a majority of voting members present.
4. All statements or questions must be directed to the Chair.
5. The speaker must identify himself/herself.
6. Questions must be of public interest and be posed briefly and clearly and may not include comments, preamble or conclusion, except for that which is necessary to the comprehension of the question. Questions and responses to questions must always exclude nominative information.
7. Dialogue or exchange between the public and members of the Council or members of the directorate will not be permitted.
8. Questions and answers will not normally be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
9. The Chair may, at any time, end the public question period, deny an individual the right to speak or intervene as required in order to maintain order of deliberations, to ensure decorum and to avoid inappropriate language.