

**EASTERN
WESTMORELAND
CAREER &
TECHNOLOGY CENTER**

SECTION: COMMUNITY

TITLE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN
JOINT OPERATING
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ADOPTED: AUGUST 19, 2015

REVISED:

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>2. Authority SC 1850.1 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 710</p> <p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 710.1</p> <p>65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 710.1</p> <p>3. Delegation of Responsibility SC 407 Pol. 006</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">903. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETINGS</p> <p>The Joint Operating Committee recognizes the value to school governance of public comment on educational issues and the importance of involving members of the public in Joint Operating Committee meetings. The Joint Operating Committee also recognizes its responsibility for proper governance of the center and the need to conduct its business in an orderly and efficient manner.</p> <p>The Joint Operating Committee adopts this policy to govern public participation in Joint Operating Committee meetings necessary to conduct its meeting and to maintain order.</p> <p>In order to permit fair and orderly expression of public comment, the Joint Operating Committee shall provide an opportunity at each open meeting of the Joint Operating Committee for residents and taxpayers of participating districts to comment on matters of concern, official action or deliberation before the Joint Operating Committee prior to official action by the Joint Operating Committee.</p> <p>The Joint Operating Committee may establish guidelines pertaining to orderly conduct at public meetings.</p> <p>If the Joint Operating Committee determines there is not sufficient time at a meeting for public comments, the comment period may be deferred to the next regular meeting or to a special meeting occurring before the next regular meeting.</p> <p>The presiding officer at each public Joint Operating Committee meeting shall follow Joint Operating Committee policy for the conduct of public meetings. Where his/her ruling is disputed, it may be overruled by a majority of those Joint Operating Committee members present and voting.</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

903. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

<p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p>Whenever issues identified by the participant are subject to remediation under policies and procedures of the Joint Operating Committee, they shall be dealt with in accordance with those policies, procedures and the organizational structure of the center.</p> <p>The Joint Operating Committee requires that public participants be residents or taxpayers of participating school districts or anyone representing a group in the community of a participating school district; any representative of a firm eligible to bid on materials or services solicited by the Joint Operating Committee; any employee of the center; or any student of the center.</p> <p>Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address, and group affiliation if applicable.</p> <p>No participant may speak more than once on the same topic, unless all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard.</p> <p>All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Joint Operating Committee members individually.</p> <p>The presiding officer may:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Interrupt or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant.2. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum.3. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers to remove a disorderly person when his/her conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting.4. Call a recess or adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting.5. Waive these rules with the approval of the Joint Operating Committee.
----------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

903. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Electronic recording devices and cameras, in addition to those used as official recording devices, shall be permitted at public meetings under guidelines established by the Joint Operating Committee.

No placards or banners will be permitted within the meeting room.

The meeting agenda and all pertinent documents shall be available to the press and public at the meetings.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 407, 1850.1

Sunshine Act – 65 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 701 et seq.

Joint Operating Committee Policy – 006