

# Policy 207

## Public Hearings



HEARTLAND LAKES COMMUNITY SCHOOL EXISTS TO EMPOWER SCHOLARS TO:  
 BRAVELY LIVE THEIR TRUTH,  
 TO BECOME WISE STEWARDS OF THE LAND AND RESOURCES  
 AND TO IGNITE LASTING CURIOSITY THAT LEADS TO POSITIVE CHANGE IN THEIR SCHOOL, THEIR COMMUNITIES, AND THEMSELVES.

<b>Adoption:</b>	January 22, 2024
<b>Revision History</b>	
<b>Last Board Review:</b> January 22, 2024	
<b>Next Board Review:</b> January 2027	
<b>Review Frequency:</b> Every 3 Years (per Policy 208)	

### I. PURPOSE

The Heartland Lakes Community School (HLCS) Board recognizes the importance of obtaining public input on matters properly before the School Board. The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures to efficiently receive public input.

### II. POLICY STATEMENT

In order for the School Board to efficiently receive public input on matters properly before the School Board, the procedures set forth in this policy are established by the School Board.

### III. PROCEDURES

#### A. Public Hearings

Public hearings are required by law to be held concerning certain issues, including but not limited to, school closings (Minn. Stat. § 123B.51), education district establishment (Minn. Stat. § 123A.15), and agreements for secondary education (Minn. Stat. § 123A.30). Additionally, other public hearings may be held by the School Board on school district matters at the discretion of the School Board.

#### B. Notice of Public Hearings

Public notice of a public hearing required by law shall be given as provided by the enabling legislation. Public notice of other hearings shall be given in the manner required for a regular meeting if held in conjunction with a regular meeting, in the manner

required for a special meeting if held in conjunction with a special meeting, or as otherwise determined by the School Board.

**C. Public Participation**

The School Board retains the right to require that those in attendance at a public hearing indicate their desire to address the School Board.

1. Time Limitation: The School Board retains the discretion to limit the time for each presentation as needs dictate.
2. Groups: The School Board retains the discretion to require that any group of persons, who desire to address the School Board, designate one spokesperson to speak on the group's behalf.
3. Privilege to Speak: A School Board member should direct any remarks or questions through the Board Chair. Only those speakers recognized by the Board Chair will be allowed to speak. Comments by others are out of order. Individuals who interfere with or interrupt speakers, the School Board, or the proceedings may be directed to leave.
4. Personal Attacks: Personal attacks by anyone addressing the School Board are unacceptable. Persistence in such remarks by an individual shall terminate that person's privilege to address the School Board.
5. Limitations on Participation: Depending upon the number of persons in attendance seeking to be heard, the School Board reserves the right to impose such other limitations and restrictions as necessary in order to provide an orderly, efficient, and fair opportunity for those present to be heard.

*Note: The applicability and enforceability of this policy 207 is limited to, and qualified by, Minnesota or Federal law that, at the time any such circumstance within the scope of the policy arise, may be contrary to some aspect or all of the policy.*