



BOARD POLICY

No. 922

TITLE:	Public Participation at Board of Trustees Meetings
DATE ADOPTED:	August 18, 2026
EFFECTIVE DATE:	August 18, 2026
SUPERSEDES:	N/A

PURPOSE

The Rowan College at Burlington County (RCBC) Board of Trustees recognizes the value of public participation and encourages students, employees, residents, taxpayers, alumni, and other stakeholders to provide input regarding matters within the Board's authority and responsibilities.

The purpose of this Policy is to establish a fair, orderly, and legally compliant process for public participation during public meetings of the Board while preserving the Board's ability to conduct business efficiently and in accordance with applicable law.

Public comment is directed to the Board as a governing body regarding institutional governance matters, not as a forum for direct confrontation of individual trustees, employees, or students. At the same time, it preserves viewpoint neutrality by expressly permitting criticism of Board actions, College policies, and institutional decisions while prohibiting personal attacks and disclosure of confidential information.

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- a. The Board shall provide opportunities for public comment during public meetings of the Board of Trustees.
- b. Public comment is an opportunity to provide information and perspectives to the Board and shall not constitute a question-and-answer session, debate, or dialogue with Board members or College personnel.
- c. Board members shall not be required to respond to comments during the meeting.

SCOPE OF COMMENTS

- a. Comments shall relate to matters within the powers, duties, responsibilities, operations, policies, programs, services, or actions of the College or Board of Trustees.
- b. During special meetings convened for a specific purpose, comments may be limited to matters directly related to the purpose stated in the meeting notice and agenda.



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- c. All comments shall be directed to the Board of Trustees as the governing body of the College and not to individual trustees, employees, students, contractors, or members of the public.

TIME LIMITS

- a. Each registered speaker shall be allotted up to three (3) minutes unless the Chairperson establishes an equal reduced speaking time applicable to all speakers when necessary due to the number of registered speakers or other reasonable meeting considerations.
- b. Time limits shall apply equally to in-person and remote participants.
- c. Speaking time may not be transferred, assigned, pooled, or yielded to another individual.
- d. The Chairperson may establish reasonable overall limits on public comment when necessary to ensure the orderly conduct of Board business.

STANDARDS OF DECORUM

- a. All participants shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner.
- b. Mere criticism of Board actions, College policies, or institutional decisions shall not, by itself, constitute disruptive conduct.
- c. The following conduct shall be deemed out of order:
 - 1. Conduct that materially disrupts the meeting;
 - 2. Profane, vulgar, obscene, threatening, harassing, or discriminatory language;
 - 3. Repeated interruptions of speakers or Board proceedings;
 - 4. Failure to comply with established time limits;
 - 5. Disclosure of confidential information protected by law;
 - 6. Conduct that substantially interferes with the rights of others to participate.



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at
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****Adopted by Resolution of the RCBC Board of Trustees at its Meeting held August 18, 2026.**

Dr. David Sping

08/18/2026

President

Date:

A. Braddock

08/18/2026

Chairman

Date: