

# Public Comment at School Reform Committee Public Meetings

## Instructions to Register to Speak

To register to speak at a regularly scheduled or special meeting, call the Office of Parent, Community, and Family Engagement at 215-400-4180 no later than 4:30 PM on the business day immediately preceding the meeting at which you wish to address the SRC.

- The procedures for addressing the SRC are as follows:
  - Individuals must register in their own name and cannot register on behalf of someone else;
  - Individuals representing an organization must identify that organization at the time they register, and no more than one representative of an organization can register to speak at a single meeting;
  - Individuals must give their name, address, daytime telephone number, and the subject on which they intend to address the SRC;
  - Individuals must bring seven written copies of their comments with them to the meeting;
  - Individuals may speak for no more than three minutes;
  - No more than six individuals on the same side of an issue will be permitted to speak, though an unlimited number of individuals may leave written comments for the SRC to review;
  - Individuals will be ruled out of order if they attempt to comment or complain about the conduct or performance of a particular School District employee and will be directed to address their comments to the appropriate School District administrator;
  - Individuals will be ruled out of order if they attempt to make any remarks of a personal nature regarding any other individual, whether or not that person is present; and
  - Individuals will be ruled out of order and asked to leave the meeting if they use any vulgar or profane language.

Additionally, you may submit comments to the SRC in writing by mail or deliver them to the SRC office located at 440 North Broad Street, Suite 101, Philadelphia, PA 19130.

### **Revisions to current practice regarding speaker order:**

The School Reform Commission will be implementing new protocols based on two general principles. First, it is important to group speakers on the same or similar topics at Action Meetings in order to give Commissioners the ability to gain the big picture on each topic. Second, the Commission would like to encourage new voices and topics at meetings.

Beginning [January 21st, 2016](#), the School Reform Commission (SRC) will be enacting the following changes to the order in which speakers testify at SRC Action Meetings:

- Student speakers will continue to be prioritized and normally will speak first.
- Other speakers will be grouped by topic, based on the order in which their topics were registered.
- Speakers who did not speak at the previous meeting, will be allowed to speak first within their topic group, and followed by those speakers who did have the opportunity to speak at the previous meeting.
- Speakers on resolutions will no longer be prioritized, given that all speakers have an opportunity to speak before votes are taken on resolutions. These speakers will be grouped by topic and the time at which they register along with all other speakers.