§ 20511. Public Comment

(a) The Teachers’ Retirement Board operates with transparency in conducting the people’s business and welcomes and embraces public participation on the matters before it in recognition of the importance and value such participation brings. The board also recognizes that unrestricted participation may at times delay or hinder completion of the public’s business, and it therefore adopted this section in the interest of providing fair and equal access to as many members of the public to participate while adhering to its publicly noticed agenda.

(b) Public comment will be limited to agenda items or to the subject matter within the jurisdiction of the board or committee that are not listed on the agenda. Comments on subject matter not listed on the agenda will be limited to those periods of time listed for general public comment.

(c) Public comment for each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes per agenda item and three (3) minutes during the general comment period subject to subdivision (f).

(d) The presiding chair of the board or committee may set, limit or extend the amount of time allotted to each member of the public and may set, limit or extend the amount of time allotted to any public comment period if the presiding chair determines that it is necessary for the orderly conduct of business.

(e) The presiding chair may group members of the public who wish to provide public comment together by either topic or organization or by topic and organization.

(f) The presiding chair of the board or committee may allow a member of the public to transfer their unused time for public comment to another member of the public if the presiding chair determines that it is necessary for the orderly conduct of business. In doing so, no member of the public shall exceed nine (9) minutes of speaking time per agenda item and the general comment period.

(g) Any member of the public may submit comments in writing provided that such written comments are limited to items listed on the agenda or within the board’s or committee’s subject matter jurisdiction. To be included as a part of the administrative record for the board or committee meeting, written comments must be provided to a designated member of the staff.

(h) In order to provide public comment as set forth in subdivisions (b) through (f), a member of the public must complete a public comment request form with their name, whether they are 18 years of age or older, agenda item number and topic which they wish to address. Completed public comment request forms must be submitted to a designated staff member prior to the start of the public comment period. Speakers will be called in the order in which the comment request forms are received unless otherwise grouped or organized at the discretion of the presiding chair.

(i) CalSTRS webcast, audio and video recording of the board and committee meetings is within the sound discretion of the board and in compliance with the system’s privacy policy. Nothing in this
regulation shall be interpreted to limit the public’s right to record or broadcast subject to the

(j) The presiding chair may stop a member of the public from providing further public comment or
recess the meeting if they fail to comply with any of the foregoing, are unduly repetitious, or if
they engage in any conduct that disrupts, disturbs or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of the
meeting as set forth in subdivision (k).

(k) In the event that any board or committee meeting is willfully interrupted or disrupted by a person
or by a group or groups of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting infeasible,
the presiding chair of the board or committee may order the person, group or groups of persons
willfully interrupting the meeting to leave the meeting or be removed from the meeting. Prior to
removal, the presiding chair shall: notify the person, group or groups of persons that they are in
non-compliance with meeting procedures; request that they comply; and inform them of the
consequences of non-compliance.

(l) CalSTRS reserves the right to inspect packages, backpacks, purses, and similar containers prior to
allowing entrance into the board and committee meeting rooms.

(m) Access to the meeting room is subject to applicable fire and safety codes, regulations and
policies.

Note: Authority cited: Section 22305, Education Code and Section 11125.7, Government Code.