Public Comment Script for School Board Meeting

(Approx. 3–4 minutes when spoken at a natural pace)

Good evening, President [Last Name], Board Members, Superintendent, and fellow parents.

My name is [First & Last Name], a resident of [your town], parent [or future parent / concerned community member], and someone deeply committed to the well-being of our children. I'm speaking today in strong support of the proposed Resolution to Adopt a Comprehensive Parental Rights Policy based on the Thomas More Society's guidance.

Parents are the first and foremost educators of their children. This is not just my opinion — it is a fundamental constitutional right affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court in cases like *Mahmoud v. Taylor* (2025) and *Mirabelli v. Bonta* (2026), and it aligns with common sense and Illinois law.

The Thomas More Society's June 2, 2026 document, *Every School District's Present Need for a Parental Rights Policy*, gives us a clear roadmap. I urge you to adopt its two core recommendations:

First, implement strong, proactive parental notice and opt-out policies for any curriculum, materials, surveys, or activities that touch on deeply held beliefs, mental health, or identity. Parents must receive timely, specific notification and the ability to opt out without penalty.

Second, repeal any formal or informal policies that allow school staff to withhold critical information from parents — especially regarding a child's mental health or social transitions. Hiding name changes, pronoun usage, facility access, or counseling from moms and dads destroys trust and puts children at risk.

We've seen the consequences in many states. Multiple districts, including some under DOJ investigation, have engaged in secret social transitions and limited parental involvement. This has led to fractured families, confused children, and expensive lawsuits. [School District] has the opportunity to lead by choosing transparency and partnership instead of secrecy.

Adopting this resolution honors the principle that families — not distant bureaucracies or school employees — hold primary responsibility for raising and educating children. It protects all students, builds trust between home and school, and reduces the District's legal exposure.

As a [parent / community member], I believe every child deserves to be treated with dignity — not as an ideological project, but as a unique person whose parents know and love them best. Strong parental rights policies make our schools safer, stronger, and truly accountable to the families they serve.

I respectfully ask the Board to approve this resolution promptly, direct the Superintendent to implement it within 45 days, and post the new policy clearly on the District website.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our children. I'm happy to answer any questions and provide copies of the Thomas More Society guidance.

Thank you.

Delivery Tips

- **Timing**: Practice to stay under 3–5 minutes (most boards enforce limits).
- **Tone**: Calm, respectful, factual, and solution-oriented. Smile and make eye contact.
- **Supporting Materials**: Bring printed copies of the TMS guidance + this resolution draft. Offer them to the Board Secretary.
- **Group Strategy**: Coordinate with other fathers/parish men so multiple speakers reinforce the same points without repeating verbatim.
- **Follow-Up**: Submit written comments via email or portal for the record.