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SCHOOL-COMMUNITY RELATIONS GOALS

Staff members have a responsibility to promote good school-community relations. The school-community relations program is directed by the Superintendent and is based upon the following principles.

1. The school-community relations program is a two-way process of communications between the District and the community.
2. The District may use media sources and other forms of communications available to effectively communicate with the citizens and employees.
3. Communications with the public should promote involvement, objective appraisal and support.
4. Communications should be internal as well as external and provide factual, objective and realistic data.
5. School communications should be responsive both to events as they arise and to evaluations of the process.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3315.07
OAC 3301-35-02; 3301-35-04

CROSS REFS.: AE, School District Goals and Objectives
KBA, Public's Right to Know

PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO KNOW

The Board supports the right of the people to know about the programs and services of their schools and makes efforts to disseminate appropriate information. Each building principal is authorized and expected to keep the school's community informed about the school's programs and activities. The release of information of Districtwide interest is coordinated by the Superintendent.

Business of the Board is discussed and decisions are made at public meetings of the Board, except such matters required to be discussed in private executive sessions.

The official minutes of the Board, its written policies, its financial records and all other public records are open for inspection in the central office during the hours when the administrative offices are open.

Each Board member attends public records training every term for which he/she is elected to public office. However, the Board may, by resolution, designate one or more persons to attend public records training on its behalf. If so decided, the Board appoints a designee whenever the composition of the Board changes.

The District may ask that the identity of an individual requesting information and the reason the information is sought be in writing. The District first informs the requester that such disclosure is not mandatory, unless the request is for student directory information. The District also informs the requester that providing such information in writing enhances the District's ability to identify, locate or deliver the records sought. The District may also ask that the request be put in writing, but notifies the requester that it is not mandatory to do so.

Any individual who wants to obtain or inspect a copy of a public record may request to have the record duplicated on paper, on the same medium on which the record is kept or on any other medium that the Superintendent/designee determines reasonable. If the request is ambiguous or overly broad, the District informs the requester of the manner in which records are maintained and accessed in the ordinary course of business and allows the requester to revise the request.

Records pertaining to individual students and other confidential materials are not released for inspection. Only that information deemed "directory information" may be released from an individual student's file, and only after complying with the regulations prepared by the administration for the release of such information. Student directory information is not released when parents have affirmatively withdrawn their consent to release in writing. Student records that consist of "personally identifiable information" generally are exempt from disclosure.

All records responsive to the request are made available in a reasonable period of time. The District makes the requester aware of any information that is exempt from disclosure requirements by notifying the requester of any redacted information or by making redactions in a plainly visible manner. If a public records request is denied, the District provides an explanation with legal authority for the denial of the request. This explanation is provided in writing if the request is made in writing or if the Superintendent/designee determines written explanation is necessary.

The Superintendent/designee transmits the information sought by mail or by any other means of delivery requested, if the method is reasonably available. The number of mail requests sent to any one person may be limited to 10 a month unless the person certifies, in writing, that the records and the information in them will not be used for commercial purposes.

A fee may be charged for copies and/or delivery. The District may require the fee charged for copies and/or delivery be paid in advance.

The Board's public records policy is posted in a conspicuous location in the central office and in all other District buildings and employee handbooks provided by the District. The policy is distributed directly to the records custodian and receipt of the policy by the custodian is acknowledged. A copy of the records retention schedule is maintained and readily available to the public in the central office.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; 20 USC, Section 1232g
ORC 121.22
149.43
3319.321
OAC 3301-35-03; 3301-35-04

CROSS REFS.: BDC, Executive Sessions
BDDG, Minutes
GBL, Personnel Records
IGBA, Programs for Students with Disabilities
JO, Student Records
KA, School-Community Relations Goals
KKA, Recruiters in the Schools

BROADCASTING AND TAPING OF BOARD MEETINGS

Photographic and electronic audio and video broadcasting and recording devices may be used at regular and special Board meetings legally open to the public according to the following guidelines.

1. Photographs, broadcasting and recordings of meetings may be made only when all parties involved have been informed that cameras, broadcasting and/or recording devices are being used. Persons using these devices must notify the Board of their intent to do so.
2. Persons operating cameras, broadcasting and/or recording devices must do so with a minimum of disruption to those present at the meeting. Specifically, the view between Board members and the audience must not be obstructed, interviews must not be conducted during the meeting and no commentary is to be given in a manner that distracts Board members or the audience.
3. The Board has the right to halt any recording that interrupts or disturbs the meeting.

The Board may make the necessary arrangements to have audio recordings of all regular meetings and any special meeting that it deems appropriate.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: U.S. Const. Amend. I
ORC 121.22
2911.21
2917.12
2921.31
3313.20

TAX ISSUES

The Board examines financial needs in advance of any levy or bond elections. The Board provides the public with information on school building needs and on levy and bond elections. It does not use District funds to promote approval of school-related tax issues.

Tax reduction factors are considered in coordination with the sexennial property appraisal in affected district counties. In considering a potential tax issue, the Board examines all legal options to obtain additional revenue.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: Ohio Const. Art XII, Sections 2, 5
ORC Chapter 133
3311.21
3313.37; 3313.375
3315.07
3501.01
Chapter 5705
5748.01 et seq.

CROSS REF.: FL, Retirement of Facilities

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING

Community participation in the schools is essential to promote and maintain the quality of education for all students.

In addition to electing fellow citizens to represent them on the Board, all citizens may express ideas, concerns and judgments about the schools to the administration, to the staff, to any appointed advisory bodies and ultimately to the Board. Ideas should be addressed to the responsible individual in an appropriate fashion.

Residents may be invited by the Board to act as advisors, individually and in groups, in such areas as:

1. clarifying general ideas and attitudes held by residents in regard to the schools;
2. assisting in developing Board policies under which the District is to be managed;
3. assisting in establishing administrative arrangements and regulations designed to help implement these policies;
4. determining the purposes of courses of study and special services to be provided for students;
5. evaluating the extent to which these purposes are being achieved by present policies and/or
6. studying a specific problem or set of closely related problems about which a decision must be made.

The Board gives consideration to the advice it receives from individuals and community groups. Final authority for all decisions rests with the Board.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 121.22
OAC 3301-35-02; 3301-35-03; 3301-35-04

CROSS REFS.: BCE, Board Committees
FL, Retirement of Facilities
IF, Curriculum Development

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

All meetings of the Board and Board-appointed committees are open to the public.

In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient fashion, a maximum of 30 minutes of public participation may be permitted at each meeting.

Each person addressing the Board shall give his/her name. If several people wish to speak, each person is allotted five minutes until the total time of 30 minutes is used. During that period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity to do so. Persons desiring more time should follow the procedure of the Board to be placed on the regular agenda. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the Board, present and voting.

Agendas are available to all those who attend Board meetings. The section on the agenda for public participation shall be indicated. Noted on each agenda shall be a short paragraph outlining the Board's policy on public participation at Board meetings.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 121.22
3313.20

CROSS REFS.: BCE, Board Committees
BD, School Board Meetings
BDDC, Agenda Preparation and Dissemination

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

The Board recognizes the value to school governance of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

In order to permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board shall provide for public participation at those public meetings of the Board during which official action may be taken.

The presiding officer of each Board meeting during which public participation occurs shall be responsible for implementing this policy.

When such presiding officer's ruling is disputed, it may be overruled by a majority of those board members present and voting.

The Board shall receive the benefit of public participation in conformance with the following rules:

1. The presiding officer shall determine if a public participant's comments would be more beneficial to the Board during the designated period at the beginning of the meeting or immediately prior to board discussion of a particular agenda item.
2. Each public participant shall be limited to five minutes of aggregate speaking time per meeting, unless the presiding officers determines that a shorter or longer duration is warranted because of special circumstances. If a public participant wishes to provide input on multiple topics or agenda items, such comments will be more beneficial to the Board during the designated period at the beginning of the meeting.
3. All statements and questions shall be directed to the Board. Public participants are not to mention students and staff members by name.
4. Tape or video recordings are permitted, providing the person operating the recorders has received approval from the presiding officer prior to the Board meeting and agrees to the following conditions:
 - A. no obstructions are created between the Board and the audience;
 - B. no interviews are conducted in the meeting room while the Board is in session and

- C. no commentary, adjustment of equipment, or positioning of operators is made that would distract either the Board members or members of the audience while the Board is in session.
5. The presiding officer may:
- A. interrupt, warn or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is abusive, obscene, irrelevant to school board issues or too lengthy;
 - B. order any individual to leave the meeting who fails to observe reasonable decorum;
 - C. request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person whose conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting and
 - D. call for recess of adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum prevents the orderly conduct of the meeting.
6. The Superintendent is directed to develop a method of public distribution of this policy.

(Approval date: December 22, 2009)

COMMUNITY INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Helping each student develop to his/her full potential and to become a citizen contributing to the welfare of the community are important objectives of the District's educational program. The Board encourages administrative and instructional personnel to rely on the community as one of its educational resources. The administration directs community instructional resources designed to involve the citizens, institutions and environment of our community in the education of its children.

The Superintendent has supervisory control over community relations, which includes school volunteer service. Members of the staff and of the community are encouraged to offer their ideas and services through the channels that the administration develops.

The Superintendent reports to the Board on the involvement and effectiveness of community relations.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3315.07
OAC 3301-35-02; 3301-35-04; 3301-35-06

CROSS REFS.: GBQ, Criminal Record Check
IICC, School Volunteers

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES
(Equal Access)

Although the basic purpose of public school facilities is to provide the youth of the community a sound education program, the complete function of education is not achieved until the school facilities are made to serve the entire community. To accomplish this objective, when school facilities are not in use for school purposes, the Board may, upon payment of the prescribed fee and subject to the requirements of applicable regulations, permit the use of school facilities for auxiliary, educational, recreational, cultural, civic, social, religious or other Board-approved purposes.

The Board encourages the community use of school facilities. It is necessary, however, to ensure that such use does not interfere with the regular school purposes, impose undue burden upon personnel or strain the limited funds allotted for building services and maintenance; therefore, specific regulations have been established.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USC 1221 et seq.
Title VIII, Section 801
ORC 3311.215
3313.75; 3313.76; 3313.77; 3313.78; 3313.79
4303.26

CROSS REFS.: KGB, Public Conduct on District Property
KI, Public Solicitations in the Schools
Rental Facility Rules and Regulations

PUBLIC CONDUCT ON DISTRICT PROPERTY

All persons on District grounds or on facilities rented or leased by the District are expected to abide by all applicable laws, local ordinances, Board policies and District and building regulations.

No person on District property may assault, strike, threaten, menace or use improper, indecent or obscene language toward a teacher, instructor, other District employees or students. This prohibition is extended to all athletic officials, coaches and athletes in the District and all visiting teams.

Unless otherwise permitted by law, no person is permitted to bring deadly weapons or dangerous ordnances into a school safety zone.

No person may disrupt, disturb or interfere with the teaching of any class of students or any other activity conducted in a school building or upon the campus or grounds.

Whoever violates the above policy and building regulations will be asked to leave the property by whoever is in charge. Should that person refuse, law enforcement officials will be called. If the offender should be a student, the person in charge should report the student to the appropriate principal. The administration cooperates in any prosecution pursuant to the criminal laws of the State and local ordinances.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: Gun-Free Schools Act; 20 USC 8921
ORC 2903.13; 2903.22
2911.21
2917.11
2923.1212; 2923.122
3313.20

CROSS REFS.: GBCB, Staff Conduct
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)
KG, Community Use of School Facilities (Equal Access)
KGC, Smoking on District Property
KK, Visitors to the Schools

SMOKING ON DISTRICT PROPERTY

The Board is dedicated to providing a healthy, comfortable and productive environment for its staff, students and citizens. Health professionals have determined that smoking poses health hazards not only for the smoker, but for the nonsmoker as well.

Recognizing these health issues, the Board prohibits smoking in all District-owned, leased or contracted buildings, grounds and vehicles. The Board may designate legally compliant outdoor smoking areas.

Citizens failing to comply with this policy are educated as to State law and the Board's policy on smoking. Persons refusing to extinguish smoking materials are directed to leave school property and may be fined by the Ohio Department of Health or its designees.

A notice to this effect is posted at the entrance to all school buildings and in a visible place in all school vehicles.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USC 1221 et seq.
ORC 3313.20; 3313.751
3794.01; 3794.02; 3794.03 (F); 3794.04; 3794.06

CROSS REFS.: GBK, Tobacco Use on District Property by Staff Members
JFCG, Tobacco Use by Students
KGB, Public Conduct on District Property

PUBLIC GIFTS TO THE DISTRICT

Gifts, grants or bequests are accepted by the Board provided the conditions of acceptance do not remove any portion of the control of the District from the Board.

Any person or organization desiring to give a gift or make a grant or bequest to the Board must contact the Superintendent, who submits the request to the Board.

Proposals for giving funds, equipment or materials to the District with a “matching” agreement or restriction are discouraged. Acceptance of donated equipment or materials may depend upon the compliance with, or experience related to, the Board’s policy of standardizing materials and equipment.

Whenever the District has an established project, contributions which reduce the cost or hasten the completion are welcome.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.20
3313.17; 3313.36

CROSS REFS.: BHD, Board Member Compensation and Expenses
FEE, Site Acquisition Procedures

PUBLIC SOLICITATIONS IN THE SCHOOLS

No person may sell or offer for sale within school buildings or on school property any articles or services or solicit contributions except those approved by the Superintendent or the Board. This policy does not prohibit any school fund-raising activity authorized by the Superintendent or other appropriate building administrator.

Salespeople representing educational companies may be granted the opportunity to speak to teachers by making arrangements through the principal's office. Such appointments must not interfere with the classroom work of the teachers.

The school directory or lists of students are not made available to any outside person or agency for a profit-making purpose.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 2921.43
3319.321

CROSS REFS.: GBI, Staff Gifts and Solicitations
JL, Student Gifts and Solicitations
KG, Community Use of School Facilities (Equal Access)
KK, Visitors to the Schools

ADVERTISING IN THE SCHOOLS

Notices, advertisements or written matter of any nature shall not be distributed or displayed in any school building or on District property without permission of the Superintendent/designee. All notices, including those by personnel, shall be approved by the building principal and, in case of doubt, by the Superintendent. Appeal of the Superintendent's decision may be made to the Board.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.20; 3313.47

CROSS REFS.: EDE, Computer/Online Services (Acceptable Use and Internet Safety)
IGDB, Student Publications

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS IN THE SCHOOLS

The District recognizes that students and employees have the right to express themselves on school property. This protection includes the right to distribute, at a reasonable time and place and in a reasonable manner, nonschool-sponsored material. In order to protect First Amendment rights, while at the same time preserving the integrity of the educational objectives and responsibilities of the District, the following requirements apply to the distribution of nonschool-sponsored material on school property and at school activities.

Prior Approval Required

Individuals or groups not affiliated with the District, who desire to distribute materials to the members of the school community, must first receive approval of such materials through the Superintendent/designee.

Students and staff members who desire to distribute materials to members of the school community must first receive approval from the building principal and when in doubt the Superintendent.

Types of Material Restrictions

Materials must be approved if they fall under one of the following categories:

1. publications of services, special events, public meetings or other items of interest to students or parents/guardians;
2. distribution of promotional materials of a commercial nature to students or parents/guardians;
3. paid advertisements on District property, including but not limited to billboard advertisements; all nondistrict advertising must have disclaimers stating products and services are not endorsed by the District;
4. paid advertisements on or in school-sponsored publications, yearbooks, announcements and other school communications and/or
5. products and materials donated by commercial enterprises for use in the classroom, as long as they serve an educational purpose and do not unduly promote any commercial activity or products.

Manner and Mode of Distribution

The Superintendent/designee may approve the use of District time, personnel and resources in the distribution of materials if the materials are of an educational nature. The Superintendent will not, however, approve the use of District time, personnel or District resources for distribution if the materials are not of an educational nature and/or are considered to be conducting business by soliciting participation, campaigning for membership or registering participants.

The building principals designate appropriate times, locations and means for which distribution of nonschool-sponsored materials is appropriate. Determinations are made on a case-by-case basis.

Distribution with or without District involvement does not mean to imply sponsorship or support for that which the materials endorse. The District takes no responsibility for problems arising between the sponsoring individual or group and the student or staff member who accepts the materials.

Limitations on Content

Nonschool literature is not distributed on District property if:

1. the materials are obscene, vulgar or otherwise inappropriate for the age and maturity of the audience;
2. the materials endorse actions endangering the health or safety of students;
3. the distribution of such materials would violate the intellectual property rights, privacy rights, or other rights of another person;
4. the materials contain defamatory statements about public figures or others;
5. the materials advocate imminent lawless or disruptive action and are likely to incite or produce such action;
6. the materials are hate literature or similar publications that scurrilously attack ethnic, religious or racial groups; contain content aimed at creating hostility and violence and the materials would materially and substantially interfere with school activities or the rights of others or
7. there is reasonable cause to believe that distribution of the nonschool literature would result in material and substantial interference with school activities or the rights of others.

Failure to comply with this policy regarding distribution of nonschool literature shall result in appropriate administrative action, including but not limited to confiscation of nonconforming materials and/or suspension of use of District facilities. Appropriate law enforcement officials may be called if a person refuses to comply with this policy or fails to leave the premises when asked.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: U.S. Const. Amend. I
ORC 3313.20; 3313.47; 3313.66; 3313.661

CROSS REFS.: EDE, Computer/Online Services (Acceptable Use and Internet Safety)
IGDB, Student Publications
KJ, Advertising in the Schools

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS

The Board encourages parents and other citizens of the District to visit classrooms to observe the work of the schools and to learn what the schools are doing. Visits should be scheduled with the teacher, in advance, to avoid any unnecessary disruption to classroom instruction or activities.

To maintain the safety of students and staff and to ensure that no unauthorized persons enter buildings, all visitors must first report to the main office to receive authorization to visit. (Authorization is not needed for school programs, assemblies, graduation and athletic events.)

All participants and spectators of school programs, assemblies, graduations and athletic events are expected to abide by all applicable law, local ordinances, Board policies and District and building regulations pertaining to public conduct on District property.

School principals and their designees are authorized to take appropriate action to prevent and remove, if necessary, unauthorized persons from entering District buildings and loitering on the grounds.

In addition students may not have school age guests during regular school hours.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: Gun-Free Schools Act; 20 USC 8921
ORC 2903.13; 2903.22
2911.21
2917.11
2923.1212; 2923.122
3313.20

CROSS REFS.: BG, Board-Staff Communications (Also GBD)
KGB, Public Conduct on District Property
KI, Public Solicitations in the Schools

RECRUITERS IN THE SCHOOLS

All recruiters, military, employment and educational, are treated uniformly in the conduct of on-campus student recruitment. Scheduling of recruiting visits to the District is announced to the student body in advance. Recruiters are afforded the opportunity to conduct meetings during the school day with those students who are interested.

All group meetings are scheduled through the principal's office. Classroom teachers who schedule recruiters as a career awareness activity should coordinate these activities through the principal's office.

In order to maintain the privacy of students, the Board prohibits the disclosure of any student list to any commercial organization which intends to use the list for commercial purposes. "Student list" is defined as Board-approved directory information. "Commercial organization" is defined as any entity which is a for-profit organization. "Commercial purpose" is defined as any activity which is an attempt to solicit business for profit.

Names and addresses of students in grades 10 through 12 must be released to a recruiting officer of the armed forces unless a parent or student (age 18 or older) submits a written request not to release the information.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USC 1221 et seq.
20 USC 7908
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; 20 USC Section 1232g
National Defense Authorization Act: 10 USC 503: (P.L. No. 107)
ORC 149.41; 149.43
1347.01 et seq.
3317.031
3319.32; 3319.321
3321.12; 3321.13
3331.13

CROSS REFS.: JO, Student Records
JOA, Student Surveys
KBA, Public's Right to Know

PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

Constructive criticism of the District is welcomed by the Board. Although no member of the community is denied the right to bring his/her complaints to the Board, he/she is referred to the proper administrative channels for solution before investigation or action by the Board. Exceptions may be made when the complaints concern Board actions or Board operations.

The Board believes that complaints and grievances are best handled and resolved as close to their origin as possible. The staff should be given the opportunity to consider the issues and attempt to resolve the problems prior to involvement by the Board. The proper channeling of complaints involving instruction, discipline or learning materials is employee, principal, Superintendent and then the Board of Education.

If a complaint presented to the Board and referred through the proper channels is resolved before it comes back to the Board, a report of the disposition of the matter is made to the Board and then placed in the official files.

The Board expects the staff to receive complaints courteously and to make a proper reply to the complainant.

Matters referred to the Superintendent and/or Board must be in writing and are expected to be specific in terms of the action desired.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 121.22
149.43

CONTRACT REF.: Teachers' Negotiated Agreement
Classified Staff Negotiated Agreement

PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

Any person or group having a legitimate interest in the schools of this District has the right to present a request, suggestion or complaint concerning District personnel, the program or the operations of the District. At the same time, the Board has a duty to protect its staff from unnecessary harassment. It is the intent of this policy to provide the means for judging each public complaint in a fair and impartial manner and to seek a remedy where appropriate.

It is the desire of the Board to rectify any misunderstandings between the public and the District by direct discussions of an informal type among the interested parties. It is only when such informal meetings fail to resolve the differences that more formal procedures are employed.

Any requests, suggestions or complaints reaching the Board, Board members and the administration are referred to the Superintendent for consideration according to the following procedure. Board members are not involved in the grievance process, individually or corporately, until the matter reaches the Board level for a decision.

Matters Regarding a Professional Staff Member

1. First Level

If it is a matter specifically directed toward a teaching staff member, the matter must be addressed initially to the concerned staff member, who discusses it promptly with the complainant and makes every effort to provide a reasoned explanation or takes appropriate action within his/her authority and District rules and regulations.

This level does not apply if the matter involves suspected child abuse, substance abuse or any other serious allegation which may require investigation or inquiry by school officials prior to approaching the professional staff member.

As appropriate, the staff member reports the matter and whatever action may have been taken to the building administrator.

2. Second Level

If the matter cannot be satisfactorily resolved at the first level, it is discussed by the complainant with the staff member's supervisor and in compliance with provisions of a collective bargaining agreement, if applicable.

3. Third Level

If a satisfactory solution is not achieved by discussion with the building administrator, a written request for a conference is submitted to the Superintendent. This request includes:

- A. the specific nature of the complaint and a brief statement of the facts giving rise to it and
- B. the action which the complainant wishes taken and the reasons why it is felt that such action be taken.

Should the matter be resolved in conference with the Superintendent, the Board is advised of the resolution.

4. Fourth Level

Should the matter still not be resolved, or if it is one beyond the Superintendent's authority and requires a Board decision or action, the complainant requests, in writing, a meeting by the Board.

The Board, after reviewing all material relating to the case, grants a meeting before the Board.

The complainant is advised, in writing, of the Board's decision no more than five business days following the meeting. The Board's decision is final on the matter, and it will not provide a meeting to other complainants on the same issue.

If the complainant contacts an individual Board member to discuss the matter, the Board member informs the complainant that he/she has no authority to act in his/her individual capacity and that the complainant must follow the procedure described in this policy.

Matters Regarding an Administrative Staff Member

Since administrators are considered members of the District's professional staff the general procedure specified in "Matters Regarding a Professional Staff Member" must be followed.

Matters Regarding the Superintendent or Treasurer

Should the matter be a concern regarding the Superintendent or the Treasurer which cannot be resolved through discussion with the Superintendent or the Treasurer, the complainant may submit a written request to the Board President for a conference with the Board. This request includes:

1. the specific nature of the complaint and a brief statement of the facts giving rise to it;
2. the manner in which it is alleged that the complainant (or child of the complainant) has been affected adversely;
3. the reason that the matter was not able to be resolved with the Superintendent or Treasurer and
4. the action which the complainant wishes taken and the reasons why it is felt that such action should be taken.

The Board, after reviewing the request, may grant a meeting before the Board or a committee of the Board, or refer the matter, if permitted by State law, to an executive session.

The complainant is advised, in writing, of the Board's decision within 30 business days.

Matters Regarding a Classified Staff Member

In the case of a classified staff member, the complaint is to be directed, initially, toward the person's supervisor, and the matter then brought as required to higher levels in the same manner as prescribed for "Matters Regarding a Professional Staff Member".

Matters Regarding Instructional Materials

The Superintendent prepares administrative guidelines addressing students' and parents' rights to be adequately informed each year regarding their ability to inspect instructional materials and the procedure for completing such an inspection.

If the request, suggestion or complaint relates to instructional materials such as textbooks, library books, reference works and other instructional aids used in the District, the following procedures are followed:

1. The criticism is to be addressed to the building administrator in writing and includes:
 - A. author;
 - B. title;

- C. publisher;
 - D. the complainant's familiarity with the material objected to;
 - E. sections objected to, by page and item;
 - F. reasons for objection;
 - G. in what school and class the material was used and
 - H. how the material was used.
2. Upon receipt of the information, the building administrator, after advising the Board of the complaint and upon Board approval, appoints a review committee consisting of any or all of the following:
- A. the head of the department in which the material is being used;
 - B. a teacher in the subject area;
 - C. a library staff member;
 - D. a Board member and
 - E. a lay person knowledgeable in the area.
3. The Superintendent is an ex officio member of the committee.
4. The committee, in evaluating the questioned material, is guided by the following criteria:
- A. the appropriateness of the material for the age and maturity level of the students with whom it is being used;
 - B. the accuracy of the material
 - C. the objectivity of the material and
 - D. the use being made of the material.
5. The material in question may be withdrawn from use pending the committee's decision.

6. The committee's decision is reported to the Superintendent, in writing, within 30 days following the formation of the committee. The Superintendent advises the complainant, in writing, of the committee's decision and advises the Board of the action taken or recommended.
7. The complainant may appeal this decision to the Board through a written request to the Superintendent who forwards the request and all written material relating to the matter to the Board.
8. The Board reviews the case and advises the complainant, in writing, of its decision.

No challenged material may be removed from the curriculum or from a collection of resource materials except by action of the Board, and no challenged material may be removed solely because it presents ideas that may be unpopular or offensive to some. Any Board action to remove material is accompanied by the Board's statement of its reasons for the removal.

(Approval date: December 22, 2009)

RELATIONS WITH PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Board supports all organizations of parents whose objectives are to promote the educational experiences of District students. However, in using the name of the District or its schools and in organizing a group whose identity derives from a school(s) of the District, parent organizations share responsibility with the Board for the welfare of participating students.

Parent organizations desiring to use the name or offices of the District to organize students must obtain the approval of the Board as a prerequisite. Continued use of the school's name, logo, mascot, etc., is contingent upon compliance with all applicable Board policies and regulations.

Principals and staff members need to work closely with the officers of all parent organizations to provide a sustained system of activities that increase and enhance the educational opportunities for students. The activities must be integrated and balanced in accordance with the total District educational program and District goals and objectives and must comply with all State and Local law and regulations.

Parent organizations that wish to construct anything on school property must have the permission of the Board in advance of the construction project. The organization must provide the Board, in writing, proof of financial stability and that funds are available for the construction project.

Acceptance of donated equipment or materials may depend upon the compliance with, or experience related to, the Board's policy of standardizing materials and equipment.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.17; 3313.20; 3313.36; 3313.47

CROSS REFS.: AE, School District Goals and Objectives
KH, Public Gifts to the District
KI, Public Solicitations in the Schools
KJ, Advertising in the Schools
KMB, Relations with Booster Organizations

RELATIONS WITH BOOSTER ORGANIZATIONS

The Board recognizes that the endeavors and objectives of booster organizations can be a valuable means of stimulating interest and endorsement of the aims and achievements of the District. Care must be taken to avoid compromising or diluting the responsibility and authority of the Board.

The Board retains final authority over all plans, projects and activities involving District students.

Booster organizations must abide by all District policies and rules as well as the following list.

1. Booster organizations shall not use the school's tax ID number.
2. Booster organizations shall not accept checks made out to the school and vice versa.
3. District officials shall not have a leadership role in booster organizations.
4. Fund-raising activities shall not occur on school premises or during school hours unless permission has been given by the Superintendent/designee.
5. Documentation on ownership of property and fund-raising activities is required.
6. The use of the District name and emblems must be authorized.

Booster organizations must have permission from the Board prior to any construction of facilities. The organization must provide verification to the Board, in writing, that funds are available to complete the project.

Acceptance of donated equipment or materials may depend upon the compliance with, or experience related to, the Board's policy of standardizing materials and equipment.

[Adoption date: December 22, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.20; 3313.47

CROSS REFS.: IGDG, Student Activities Funds Management
KG, Community Use of School Facilities (Equal Access)
KGB, Public Conduct on District Property
KK, Visitors to the Schools
KMA, Relations with Parent Organizations