ATTACHMENT #5 - March 19, 2019



UPDATED

Note: updates as marked on pages 3, 4, & 5.

Attachment 1 - updated Attachment 2 - new

BookPolicy ManualAttachment 2 - newSection100 ProgramsTitleNondiscrimination/Discriminatory Harassment - School and Classroom PracticesCode103StatusReviewAdoptedJuly 19, 2011Last RevisedDecember 19, 2017

<u>Authority</u>

The Board declares it to be the policy of this district to provide an equal opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential through the programs offered in the schools without discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability.[1][2][3][4][5][6][7][8][9][10][11][12][13][14][15][16][17] [18][19]

The district strives to maintain a safe, positive learning environment for all students that is free from discrimination. Discrimination is inconsistent with the educational and programmatic goals of the district and is prohibited on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities and on any conveyance providing transportation to or from a school entity or school-sponsored activity.

The district shall provide to all students, without discrimination, course offerings, counseling, assistance, services, employment, athletics and extracurricular activities. The district shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and mental impairments that constitute handicaps and disabilities, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations.

The Board encourages students and third parties who believe they or others have been subject to discrimination to promptly report such incidents to designated employees, even if some elements of the related incident took place or originated away from school grounds, school activities or school conveyances.

The Board directs that verbal and written complaints of discrimination shall be investigated promptly, and appropriate corrective or preventative action be taken when allegations are substantiated. The Board directs that any complaint of discrimination brought pursuant to this policy shall also be reviewed for conduct which may not be proven discriminatory under this policy but merits review and possible action under other Board policies.

<u>Confidentiality</u>

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations, the filing of a complaint and the investigation shall be handled in accordance with this policy and the district's legal and investigative obligations.

<u>Retaliation</u>

The Board prohibits retaliation against any person for making a report of discrimination or participating in a related investigation or hearing, or for opposing practices the person reasonably believes to be discriminatory. A complaint of retaliation shall be handled in the same manner as a complaint of discrimination.

Definitions

Discriminatory Harassment

Harassment by students, employees or third parties on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, handicap/disability or for participation in reports or investigations of alleged discrimination is a form of discrimination and is subject to this policy. A person who is not necessarily an intended victim or target of such harassment but is adversely affected by the offensive conduct may file a report of discrimination on his/her own behalf.[20][21][22][23][25][26]

For purposes of this policy, **harassment** shall consist of unwelcome conduct such as graphic, written, electronic, verbal or nonverbal acts including offensive jokes, slurs, epithets and name-calling, ridicule or mockery, insults or put-downs, offensive objects or pictures, physical assaults or threats, intimidation, or other conduct that may be harmful or humiliating or interfere with a person's school or school-related performance and which relates to an individual's or group's race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability when such conduct is:

- 1. Sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive; and
- 2. A reasonable person in the complainant's position would find that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment such that it deprives or adversely interferes with or limits an individual or group of the ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or opportunities offered by a school.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination on the basis of sex and is subject to this policy. For purposes of this policy, **sexual harassment** shall consist of unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; and other inappropriate verbal, nonverbal, written, graphic or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- 1. Submission to such conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a student's status in any educational or other programs offered by a school; or
- 2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for educational or other program decisions affecting a student; or
- 3. Such conduct deprives a student or group of individuals of educational aid, benefits, services or treatment; or
- 4. Such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that a reasonable person in the complainant's position would find that it unreasonably interferes with the complainant's performance in school or school-related programs, or otherwise creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive school or school-related environment such that it unreasonably interferes with the complainant's access to or participation in school or school-related programs.

Federal law declares sexual violence a form of sexual harassment. **Sexual violence** means physical or sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's use of drugs or alcohol. An individual may also be unable to give consent due to an intellectual or other disability. Sexual violence includes but is not limited to rape, sexual assault, sexual battery and sexual coercion.

Delegation of Responsibility

In order to maintain a program of nondiscrimination practices that is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, the Board designates the

- ₩ Human Resources Director
- { } Other _____

as the district's Compliance Officer. All nondiscrimination notices or information shall include the position, office address, telephone number and email address of the Compliance Officer.

The Compliance Officer shall publish and disseminate this policy and complaint procedure at least annually to students, parents/guardians, employees and the public to notify them of where and how to initiate complaints under this policy.

The Compliance Officer is responsible to ensure adequate nondiscrimination procedures are in place, to recommend new procedures or modifications to procedures and to monitor the implementation of the district's nondiscrimination procedures in the following areas:

- 1. Curriculum and Materials Review of curriculum guides, textbooks and supplemental materials for discriminatory bias.
- 2. Training Provision of training for students and staff to prevent, identify and alleviate problems of discrimination.
- 3. Resources Maintain and provide information to staff on resources available to alleged victims in addition to the school complaint procedure, such as making reports to the police, available assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs and community health resources including counseling resources.
- 4. Student Access Review of programs, activities and practices to ensure that all students have equal access and are not segregated except when permissible by law or regulation.
- 5. District Support Assurance that like aspects of the school program receive like support as to staffing and compensation, facilities, equipment, and related areas.
- 6. Student Evaluation Review of tests, procedures, and guidance and counseling materials for stereotyping and discrimination.
- 7. Complaints Monitor and provide technical assistance to building principals or designee in processing complaints.

The building principal or designee shall be responsible to promptly complete the following duties upon receipt of a report of discrimination or retaliation from a student, employee or third party:

- 1. If the building principal is the subject of the complaint, refer the complainant to the Compliance Officer to carry out these responsibilities.
- 2. Inform the complainant about this policy including the right to an investigation of both oral and written complaints of discrimination.

3. Seek to obtain consent from parents/guardians to initiate an investigation where the complainant or alleged victim is under age eighteen (18). Inform parents/guardians of the complainant that the complainant may be accompanied by a parent/guardian during all steps of the complaint procedure. When a parent/guardian requests confidentiality and will not consent to the alleged victim's participation in an investigation, explain that the school shall take all section. reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with that request for confidentiality as long as doing so does not preclude the school from

responding effectively to the discrimination and preventing discrimination of other students.

4. Provide relevant information on resources available in addition to the school complaint procedure, such as making reports to the police, available assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs and community health resources including counseling resources.

5. Immediately notify the Compliance Officer of the complaint. The Compliance Officer shall assess whether the investigation should be conducted by the building principal, another district employee, the Compliance Officer or an attorney and shall promptly assign the investigation to that individual. When a parent/guardian has requested confidentiality and will not consent to the alleged victim's participation in an investigation, the Compliance Officer shall section.
 provide the parent/guardian with a letter containing information related to the district's legal obligations to conduct an investigation and address violations of this policy, and any other information appropriate to the specific complaint.

6. After consideration of the allegations and in consultation with the Compliance Officer and other appropriate individuals, promptly implement interim measures as appropriate to protect the complainant and others as necessary from violation of this policy during the course of the investigation.

Guidelines

Complaint Procedure - Student/Third Party

Step 1 – Reporting

A student or third party who believes s/he has been subject to conduct by any student, employee or third party that constitutes a violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report the incident to the building principal. Any person with knowledge of conduct that may violate this policy is encouraged to immediately report the matter to the building principal.

A school employee who suspects or is notified that a student has been subject to conduct that constitutes a violation of this policy shall immediately report the incident to the building principal, as well as properly making any mandatory police or child protective services reports required by law.[27]

If the building principal is the subject of a complaint, the student, third party or employee shall report the incident directly to the Compliance Officer.

The complainant or reporting employee may be encouraged to use the district's report form, available from the building principal or Compliance Officer, or to put the complaint in writing; however, oral complaints shall be accepted, documented and the procedures of this policy implemented. The person accepting the verbal or written complaint may provide factual information on the complaint and the investigative process, the impact of choosing to seek confidentiality and the right to file criminal charges. In all other respects, the person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally and professionally, setting aside personal biases that might favor or disfavor the complainant or those accused of a violation of this policy.

Step 2 – Investigation

Bold is new in this section.

The Compliance Officer shall ensure that the individual assigned to investigate the complaint has an appropriate understanding of the relevant laws pertaining to discrimination issues and this policy and how to conduct investigations.

The investigator shall work with the Compliance Officer to assess the anticipated scope of the investigation, who needs to be interviewed and what records may be relevant to the investigation.

The investigator shall conduct an adequate, reliable and impartial investigation. The complainant and the accused **may suggest additional** witnesses and **provide** other evidence during the course of the **Policy 103 - Pg. 4**

investigation. When the initial complaint involves allegations relating to conduct which took place away from school property, school-sponsored activities or school conveyances, the investigation may include inquiries related to these allegations to determine whether they resulted in continuing effects such as harassment in school settings.

The investigation may consist of individual interviews with the complainant, the accused, and others with knowledge relative to the allegations. The investigator may also evaluate any other information and materials relevant to the investigation. The person making the report, parties, parents/guardians and witnesses shall be informed of the prohibition against retaliation for anyone's participation in the process and that conduct believed to be retaliatory should be reported. All individuals providing statements or other information or participating in the investigation shall be instructed to keep the matter confidential and to report any concerns about confidentiality to the investigator.

If the investigation reveals that the conduct being investigated may involve a violation of criminal law, the investigator shall promptly notify the Compliance Officer, who shall promptly inform law enforcement authorities about the allegations.[27][28][29]

The obligation to conduct this investigation shall not be negated by the fact that a criminal or child protective services investigation of the allegations is pending or has been concluded. The investigator should coordinate with any other ongoing investigations of the allegations, including agreeing to requests for a short delay in fulfilling the district's investigative responsibilities during the fact-finding portion of a criminal or child protective services investigation. Such delays shall not extend beyond the time necessary to prevent interference with or disruption of the criminal or child protective services investigation.

Step 3 – Investigative Report

The investigator shall prepare and submit a written report to the Compliance Officer within twenty (20) days of the initial report of alleged discrimination, unless the nature of the allegations, anticipated extent of the investigation or the availability of witnesses requires the investigator and the Compliance Officer to establish a different due date. The parties shall be notified of the anticipated date the investigative report will be completed and of any changes to the anticipated due date during the course of the investigation.

The report shall include a summary of the investigation, a determination of whether the complaint has been substantiated as factual, the information and evaluation that formed the basis for this determination, whether the conduct violated this policy and of any other violations of law or Board policy which may warrant further district action, and a recommended disposition of the complaint. An investigation into discriminatory harassment or sexual harassment shall consider the record as a whole and the totality of circumstances in determining whether a violation of this policy has occurred, recognizing that persistent and pervasive conduct, when taken together, may be a violation even when the separate incidents are not severe.

Bold is new in this section.

The complainant and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of the investigation, **for example**, **whether the investigator believes the allegations to be founded or unfounded**, within a reasonable time of the submission of the written report **to the extent authorized by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and other applicable laws**. The accused shall not be notified of the individual remedies offered or provided to the complainant.[30][31][32]

Step 4 – District Action

If the investigation results in a finding that some or all of the allegations of the complaint are established and constitute a violation of this policy, the district shall take prompt, corrective action designed to ensure that such conduct ceases and that no retaliation occurs. The district shall promptly take appropriate steps to prevent the recurrence of the prohibited conduct and to address the discriminatory effect the prohibited conduct had on the complainant and the school or school program environment. District staff shall document the corrective action taken and, where not prohibited by law,

inform the complainant. The Compliance Officer shall follow up by assessing the effectiveness of the corrective action at reasonable intervals.

If an investigation results in a finding that a different policy was violated separately from or in addition to violations of this policy, or that there are circumstances warranting further action, such matters shall be addressed at the conclusion of this investigation or through disciplinary or other appropriate referrals where further evaluation or investigation is necessary.

Disciplinary actions shall be consistent with the Code of Student Conduct, Board policies and administrative regulations, district procedures, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and state and federal laws.

Appeal Procedure

- 1. If the complainant or the accused is not satisfied with a finding made pursuant to the policy or with recommended corrective action, s/he may submit a written appeal to the Compliance Officer within fifteen (15) days. If the Compliance Officer investigated the complaint, such appeal shall be made to the Superintendent.
- The individual receiving the appeal shall review the investigation and the investigative report and may also conduct or designate another person to conduct a reasonable supplemental investigation to assess the sufficiency and propriety of the prior investigation.
- 3. The person handling the appeal shall prepare a written response to the appeal within twenty (20) days. Copies of the response shall be provided to the complainant, the accused and the investigator who conducted the initial investigation.

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Legal

1. 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq

2. 22 PA Code 12.1

3. 22 PA Code 12.4 4. 22 PA Code 15.1 et seq 5. 22 PA Code 4.4 6. 24 P.S. 1301 7.24 P.S.1310 8. 24 P.S. 1601-C et seq 9. 24 P.S. 5004 10. 29 U.S.C. 794 11. 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seg 12. 42 U.S.C. 1981 et seq 13. 42 U.S.C. 2000d et seg 14. 43 P.S. 951 et seq 15. Pol. 103.1 16. Pol. 218 17. Pol. 247 18. Pol. 249 19. U.S. Const. Amend. XIV, Equal Protection Clause 20. 29 CFR 1604.11 21. 29 CFR 1606.8

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22. Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education, 526 U.S. 629 (1999)

23. Franklin v. Gwinnett County Public Schools, 503 U.S. 60 (1992)

24. Office for Civil Rights - Guidance on Schools' Obligations to Protect Students from Student-on-Student Harassment on the Basis of Sex; Race, Color and National Origin; and Disability (Oct. 26, 2010)

25. Office for Civil Rights - Resources for Addressing Racial Harassment

26. Office for Civil Rights - Revised Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students or Third Parties Title IX (January 2001)

27. Pol. 806

28. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2709

29. Pol. 815

30. Pol. 216

31. 20 U.S.C. 1232g

32. 34 CFR Part 99

28 CFR Part 35

28 CFR Part 41

34 CFR Part 100

34 CFR Part 104

34 CFR Part 106

34 CFR Part 110

Pol. 113

Pol. 122

Pol. 123

Pol. 138

Pol. 701

103Attach-ReportFormComplaints.doc (29 KB)

103Attach-TemplateLetter.docx (24 KB)

Last Modified by Janice Boyer on January 2, 2019



REPORT FORM FOR COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION/DISCRIMINATORY HARASSMENT

Complainant:	
Home Address:	
Phone Number:	
School Building:	
Date of Alleged Incident(s):	
Alleged discrimination/discriminatory harassme	ent was based on:
Name of person you believe violated the district's policy:	
If the alleged discrimination/ discriminatory hara identify the other person:	assment was directed against another person,
Describe the incident(s) as clearly as possible, inc or nonverbal acts (i.e., offensive jokes, slurs, epith insults or put-downs, offensive objects or pictures other conduct). Attach additional pages if necessa	nets and name-calling, ridicule or mockery, , physical assaults or threats, intimidation, or
When and where the alleged incident(s) occurred	
List any witnesses who were present:	
This complaint is based on my honest belief that _ against me or another person. I certify that the infe true, correct and complete to the best of my know	
Complainant's Signature	Date
Received By	Date

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NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT SERVES AS A TEMPLATE ONLY AND HAS TO BE MODIFIED BY THE SCHOOL ENTITY PRIOR TO USE. THE DOCUMENT CANNOT BE USED IN ITS CURRENT FORM.

[DISTRICT LETTERHEAD]

ADDRESSED TO: Alleged Victims' Parents/Guardians

RE: Complaint of discrimination made on [DATE] on behalf of [STUDENT]

Dear _____:

On [DATE] you met with [NAME OF: PRINCIPAL, COMPLIANCE OFFICER, DESIGNEE] to discuss an alleged violation of [SCHOOL DISTRICT'S] Policy No. 103, prohibiting discrimination/discriminatory harassment in school and classroom practices. The allegations involved [VERY BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT OR GENERAL INCIDENTS WITHOUT NAMING NAMES, e.g. that a fellow student reported a teacher in the high school inappropriately texted your child suggesting they have dinner together; that your student reported a classmate in his math class has been touching his thigh every day and talking about how cute he is, making him uncomfortable; that a custodian reported hearing an identified group of students use racial slurs against your child; that your child reported to you that a teacher criticized your family's religion as being terroristic, etc.].

In this discussion, you stated that you wish to maintain confidentiality and do not consent to **[STUDENT'S]** participation in an investigation. Because the district has a legal obligation to address potential violations of Policy 103, the district will conduct an investigation and maintain confidentiality to the extent this is consistent with the district's obligations to address and prevent violations of this policy. Any violations of policy which may be uncovered through this investigation will be addressed. The **[SCHOOL DISTRICT]** prohibits retaliation against any individual who has made a complaint, and alleged victims or individuals who participate in related investigations. If at any time you wish to withdraw your request for confidentiality and have your child participate in the investigation, please notify me immediately. If at any time your child believes there have been additional violations of Policy 103, including any retaliatory behavior, please contact me at your earliest convenience to permit the district to properly address such matters. This will be treated as a new complaint with a new opportunity to determine your child's participation.

Feel free to contact me with any questions. My contact information is:

Sincerely,

Compliance Officer



UPDATED Updates indicated in bolded text

Policy Manual Book **Updates to** Attachment 1 also Section 100 Programs Title Nondiscrimination - Qualified Students with Disabilities 103.1 Code Status Review Adopted July 16, 2013 Last Revised December 19, 2017

<u>Authority</u>

The Board declares it to be the policy of this district to ensure that all district programs and practices are free from discrimination against all qualified students with disabilities. The Board recognizes its responsibility to provide academic and nonacademic services and programs equally to students with and without disabilities. [1][2][3][4][5][6][7][8][9][10]

The district shall provide to each qualified student with a disability enrolled in the district, without cost to the student or parent/guardian, a free and appropriate public education (FAPE). This includes provision of education and related aids, services, or accommodations which are needed to afford each qualified student with a disability equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits from educational programs and extracurricular activities without discrimination, to the same extent as each student without a disability, consistent with federal and state laws and regulations.

The Board encourages students and parents/guardians who believe they have been subjected to discrimination or harassment to promptly report such incidents to designated employees.

The Board directs that complaints of discrimination or harassment shall be investigated promptly, and corrective **or preventative** action be taken for substantiated allegations.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations, the filing of a complaint and the **investigation** shall be maintained, consistent with the district's legal and investigative obligations.

Retaliation

The district shall not intimidate, threaten, coerce, discriminate or retaliate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by this policy.

Definitions

Qualified student with a disability - a student who has a physical or mental disability which substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the district's educational programs, nonacademic services or extracurricular activities. [11][12]

Section 504 Team - a group of individuals who are knowledgeable about the student, the meaning of the evaluation data and the placement options for the student. This could include, as appropriate, documentation or input from classroom teachers, counselors, psychologists, school nurses, outside care providers and the student's parents/guardians.[3][8]

Section 504 Service Agreement (Service Agreement) - an individualized plan for a qualified student with a disability which sets forth the specific related aids, services, or accommodations needed by the student, which shall be implemented in school, in transit to and from school, and in all programs and procedures, so that the student has equal access to the benefits of the school's educational programs, nonacademic services, and extracurricular activities.[13]

Disability harassment - intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on disability that creates a hostile environment by interfering with or denying a student's participation in or receipt of benefits, services, or opportunities in the school's educational programs, nonacademic services, or extracurricular activities.[10]

Delegation of Responsibility

In order to maintain a program of nondiscrimination practices that is in compliance with applicable law and regulations, the Board designates the

Superintendent

- { } Assistant Superintendent
- { } Other ______ (specify)

as the district's Section 504 Coordinator.[14]

In addition, each school within the district shall have a Section 504 building administrator.

The district shall publish and disseminate this policy and complaint procedure on or before the first day of each school year by posting it on the district's website, if available, and in the student handbook. The district shall notify parents/guardians of students residing in the district of the district's responsibilities under applicable law and regulations, and that the district does not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities.[15][16]

Guidelines

Identification and Evaluation

The district shall conduct an annual child find campaign to locate and identify every district student with a disability thought to be eligible for Section 504 services and protections. The district may combine this search with the district's IDEA child find efforts, in order to not duplicate efforts. [16][17]

If a parent/guardian or the district has reason to believe that a student should be identified as a qualified student with a disability, should no longer be identified as a qualified student with a disability, or requires a change in or modification of the student's current Service Agreement, the parent/guardian or the district shall provide the other party with written notice. [18][19][20]

The district shall establish standards and procedures for initial evaluations and periodic re-evaluations of students who need or are believed to need related services because of a disability.[20]

The district shall specifically identify the procedures and types of tests used to evaluate a student, and provide the parent/guardian the opportunity to give or withhold consent to the proposed evaluation(s) in writing.[20]

The district shall establish procedures for evaluation and placement that assure tests and other evaluation materials:

- 1. Have been validated and are administered by trained personnel.
- 2. Are tailored to assess educational need and are not based solely on IQ scores.
- 3. Reflect aptitude or achievement or anything else the tests purport to measure and do not reflect the student's impaired sensory, manual or speaking skills (except where those skills are what is being measured).

Service Agreement

If a student is determined to be a qualified student with a disability, the district shall develop a written Service Agreement for the delivery of all appropriate aids, services, or accommodations necessary to provide the student with FAPE.[13]

The district shall not implement a Service Agreement until the written agreement is executed by a representative of the district and a parent/guardian.[13]

The district shall not modify or terminate a student's current Service Agreement without the parent's/guardian's written consent.[18]

Educational Programs/Nonacademic Services/Extracurricular Activities

The district shall educate a qualified student with a disability with students who are not disabled to the maximum extent appropriate to the needs of the student with a disability. A qualified student with a disability shall be removed from the regular educational environment only when the district determines that educating the student in the regular educational environment with the use of related aids, services, or accommodations cannot be achieved satisfactorily. Placement in a setting other than the regular educational environment shall take into account the proximity of the alternative setting to the student's home.[21][22]

The district shall not discriminate against any qualified student with a disability in its provision of nonacademic services and extracurricular activities, including but not limited to, counseling services, athletics, transportation, health services, recreational activities, special interest groups or clubs, and referrals to agencies which provide assistance to individuals with disabilities.[21][22][23][24][25][26] [27]

Parental Involvement

Parents/Guardians have the right to inspect and review all relevant school records of the student, meet with the appropriate school officials to discuss any and all issues relevant to the evaluation and accommodations of their child, and give or withhold their written consent to the evaluation and/or the provision of services.[13][19][20][28]

Confidentiality of Student Records

All personally identifiable information regarding a qualified student with a disability shall be treated as confidential and disclosed only as permitted by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and its implementing regulations, state regulations, and Board policy. [29][30][31][32]

Discipline

When necessary, the district shall discipline qualified students with disabilities in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations and Board policies.[33][34]

Referral to Law Enforcement and Reporting Requirements

For reporting purposes, the term **incident** shall mean an instance involving an act of violence; the possession of a weapon; the possession, use, or sale of a controlled substance or drug paraphernalia as defined in the Pennsylvania Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act; the possession, use,

or sale of alcohol or tobacco; or conduct that constitutes an offense listed under the Safe Schools Act. [35][36][37]

The Superintendent or designee shall immediately report required incidents and may report discretionary incidents committed on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity by a qualified student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, to the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement, and Board policies. The Superintendent or designee shall respond in a manner that is consistent with the student's Service Agreement and Behavior Support Plan, if applicable.[11][13][21][29][33][38][39][40][41][42][43][44][45][46][47][48]

In making a determination of whether to notify the local police department of a discretionary incident committed by a qualified student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the Superintendent or designee shall use the same criteria used for students who do not have a disability.[10][39][48][49]

For a qualified student with a disability who does not have a Behavior Support Plan as part of the student's Service Agreement, subsequent to notification to law enforcement, the district, in consultation with the student's parent/guardian, shall consider whether a Behavior Support Plan should be developed as part of the Service Agreement to address the student's behavior.[13][40]

In accordance with state law, the Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report to the Office for Safe Schools on the required form all new incidents committed by qualified students with disabilities, including students for whom an evaluation is pending, which occurred on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity.[36][48]

PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

The district shall establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards that includes notice of rights to the parent/guardian of a student suspected of being a qualified student with a disability, an opportunity for the parent/guardian to review relevant records, an impartial hearing with an opportunity for participation by the student's parent/guardian, and a review procedure. [28][50]

A student or parent/guardian filing a claim of discrimination need not exhaust these procedures prior to initiating court action under Section 504.[19]

Parental Request for Assistance

Parents/Guardians may file a written request for assistance with the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) if one (1) or both of the following apply: [28]

- 1. The district is not providing the related aids, services and accommodations specified in the student's Service Agreement.
- 2. The district has failed to comply with the procedures and state regulations.

PDE shall investigate and respond to requests for assistance and, unless exceptional circumstances exist, shall, within sixty (60) calendar days of receipt of the request, send to the parents/guardians and district a written response to the request. The response to the parents'/guardians' request shall be in the parents'/guardians' native language or mode of communication.[28]

Informal Conference

At any time, parents/guardians may file a written request with the district for an informal conference with respect to the identification or evaluation of a student, or the student's need for related aids, services or accommodations. Within ten (10) school days of receipt of the request, the district shall convene an informal conference. At the conference, every effort shall be made to reach an amicable agreement.[<u>28]</u>

Formal Due Process Hearing

If the matters raised by the district or parents/guardians are not resolved at the informal conference, the district or parents/guardians may submit a written request for an impartial due process hearing. The hearing shall be held before an impartial hearing officer and shall be conducted in accordance with state regulations. [28][51]

Judicial Appeals

The decision of the impartial hearing officer may be appealed to a court of competent jurisdiction. [28]

COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

This complaint procedure is in addition to and does not prevent parents/guardians from using any option in the procedural safeguards system.[10]

<u>Step 1 – Reporting</u>

A student or parent/guardian who believes s/he has been subject to conduct by any student, employee or third party that constitutes a violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report the incident to the Section 504 building administrator. Any person with knowledge of conduct that may violate this policy, is encouraged to immediately report the matter to the Section 504 building administrator.

A school employee who suspects or is notified that a student has been subject to conduct that constitutes a violation of this policy shall immediately report the incident to the Section 504 building administrator, as well as properly making any mandatory police or child protective services reports required by law.[52]

If the Section 504 building administrator is the subject of a complaint, the student, parent/guardian or employee shall report the incident directly to the district's Section 504 Coordinator.

The complainant or reporting employee may be encouraged to use the district's report form, available from the Section 504 building administrator or Section 504 Coordinator, or to put the complaint in writing; however, oral complaints shall be accepted, documented and the procedures of this policy implemented. The person accepting the verbal or written complaint may provide factual information on the complaint and the investigative process, the impact of choosing to seek confidentiality and the right to file criminal charges. In all other respects, the person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally and professionally, setting aside personal biases that might favor or disfavor the complainant or those accused of a violation of this policy.

<u>Step 2 – Investigation</u>

The Section 504 Coordinator shall ensure that the individual assigned to investigate the complaint has an appropriate understanding of the relevant laws pertaining to discrimination issues and this policy and how to conduct investigations.

The investigator shall work with the Section 504 Coordinator to assess the anticipated scope of the investigation, who needs to be interviewed and what records may be relevant to the investigation.

The investigator shall conduct an adequate, reliable and impartial investigation. The complainant and the accused **may suggest additional** witnesses and **provide** other evidence during the course of the investigation. When the initial complaint involves allegations relating to conduct which took place away from school property, school-sponsored activities or school conveyances, the investigation may include inquiries related to these allegations to determine whether they resulted in continuing effects such as harassment in school settings.

The investigation may consist of individual interviews with the complainant, the accused, and others with knowledge relative to the allegations. The investigator may also evaluate any other information and materials relevant to the investigation. The person making the report, parties, parents/guardians and witnesses shall be informed of the prohibition against retaliation for anyone's participation in the process and that conduct believed to be retaliatory should be reported. All individuals providing statements or other information or participating in the investigation shall be instructed to keep the matter confidential and to report any concerns about confidentiality to the investigator.

If the investigation reveals that the conduct being investigated may involve a violation of criminal law, the investigator shall promptly notify the Section 504 Coordinator, who shall promptly inform law enforcement authorities about the allegations.[10][52][53][54]

The obligation to conduct this investigation shall not be negated by the fact that a criminal or child protective services investigation of the allegations is pending or has been concluded. The investigator should coordinate with any other ongoing investigations of the allegations, including agreeing to requests for a short delay in fulfilling the district's investigative responsibilities during the fact-finding portion of a criminal or child protective services investigation. Such delays shall not extend beyond the time necessary to prevent interference with or disruption of the criminal or child protective services investigation.

Step 3 – Investigative Report

The investigator shall prepare and submit a written report to the Section 504 Coordinator within twenty (20) days of the initial report of alleged discrimination, unless the nature of the allegations, anticipated extent of the investigation or the availability of witnesses requires the investigator and the Section 504 Coordinator to establish a different due date. The parties shall be notified of the anticipated date the investigative report will be completed and of any changes to the anticipated due date during the course of the investigation.

The report shall include a summary of the investigation, a determination of whether the complaint has been substantiated as factual, the information and evaluation that formed the basis for this determination, whether the conduct violated this policy and of any other violations of law or Board policy which may warrant further district action, and a recommended disposition of the complaint. An investigation into disability harassment shall consider the record as a whole and the totality of circumstances in determining whether a violation of this policy has occurred, recognizing that persistent and pervasive conduct, when taken together, may be a violation even when the separate incidents are not severe.

The complainant and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of the investigation, **for example**, **whether the investigator believes the allegations to be founded or unfounded**, within a reasonable time of the submission of the written report **to the extent authorized by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and other applicable laws**. The accused shall not be notified of the individual remedies offered or provided to the complainant.[29][30][31][32]

<u>Step 4 – District Action</u>

If the investigation results in a finding that some or all of the allegations of the complaint are established and constitute a violation of this policy, the district shall take prompt, corrective action designed to ensure that such conduct ceases and that no retaliation occurs. The district shall promptly take appropriate steps to prevent the recurrence of the prohibited conduct and to address the discriminatory effect the prohibited conduct had on the complainant and the school or school program environment. District staff shall document the corrective action taken and, where not prohibited by law, inform the complainant. The Section 504 Coordinator shall follow up by assessing the effectiveness of the corrective action at reasonable intervals.

If the investigation results in a finding that a different policy was violated separately from or in addition to violations of this policy, or that there are circumstances warranting further action, such matters shall

be addressed at the conclusion of this investigation or through disciplinary or other appropriate referrals where further evaluation or investigation is necessary.

Disciplinary actions shall be consistent with the Code of Student Conduct, Board policies and administrative regulations, district procedures, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and state and federal laws.

Appeal Procedure

- 1. If the complainant or the accused is not satisfied with a finding made pursuant to the policy or with recommended corrective action, s/he may submit a written appeal to the district's Section 504 Coordinator within fifteen (15) days.
- 2. The Section 504 Coordinator shall review the investigation and the investigative report and may also conduct a reasonable supplemental investigation to assess the sufficiency and propriety of the prior investigation.
- 3. The Section 504 Coordinator shall prepare a written response to the appeal within twenty (20) days. Copies of the response shall be provided to the complainant, the accused and the investigator who conducted the initial investigation.

PSBA Revision 12/18 © 2018 PSBA

1 22 DA Cada 12 1

Legal

1. 22 PA Code 12.1
2. 22 PA Code 12.4
3. 22 PA Code 15.1 et seq
4. 22 PA Code 4.4
5. 28 CFR Part 35
6. 28 CFR Part 36
7. 29 U.S.C. 794
8. 34 CFR Part 104
9. 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq
10. Pol. 103
11. 22 PA Code 15.2
12. 42 U.S.C. 12102
13. 22 PA Code 15.7
14. 34 CFR 104.7
15. 22 PA Code 15.4
16. 34 CFR 104.32
17. Pol. 113
18. 22 PA Code 15.5
19. 22 PA Code 15.6
20. 34 CFR 104.35
21. 22 PA Code 15.3
22. 34 CFR 104.34
23. 34 CFR 104.37
24. Pol. 112
25. Pol. 122

- 26. Pol. 123 27. Pol. 810 28. 22 PA Code 15.8 29. 22 PA Code 15.9 30. Pol. 216 31. 20 U.S.C. 1232g 32. 34 CFR Part 99 33. Pol. 218 34. Pol. 233 35. 22 PA Code 10.2 36. 24 P.S. 1303-A 37. 35 P.S. 780-102 38. 22 PA Code 10.21 39. 22 PA Code 10.22 40. 22 PA Code 10.23 41. 22 PA Code 10.25 42. 24 P.S. 1302.1-A 43. Pol. 113.2 44. Pol. 218.1 45. Pol. 218.2 46. Pol. 222 47. Pol. 227 48. Pol. 805.1 49. 22 PA Code 15.1 50. 34 CFR 104.36 51. 22 PA Code 14.162 52. Pol. 806 53. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2709 54. Pol. 815
- 103_1Attach-ReportFormComplaints.doc (30 KB)
 103_1Attach-District-InitiatedEvalNotice.doc (29 KB)

 103_1Attach-Parent_GuardianRequest-PermissionToEvaluate.doc (56 KB)

 103_1Attach-ProceduralSafeguards.doc (35 KB)

Last Modified by Janice Boyer on January 2, 2019



REPORT FORM FOR COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION – QUALIFIED STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

ion policy:
on, identify the other person:
graphic, written, electronic, verbal le-calling, ridicule or mockery, saults or threats, intimidation, or
has discriminated ave provided in this complaint is
Date
Date

© 2018 PSBA

PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS NOTIFICATION

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As part of the protections available to you if we cannot agree as to what related aids, services, or accommodations should or should no longer be provided to your child, one or more options available through the procedural safeguard system may be used to resolve the dispute.

Parental Request For Assistance -

Parents/Guardians may file a written request for assistance with the Department of Education if you believe the school district is not providing the related aids, services, and accommodations specified in the Service Agreement and/or the school district has failed to comply with Chapter 15 of the State Board of Education Regulations.

The Department of Education will investigate and respond to requests for assistance and, unless exceptional circumstances exist, will, within sixty (60) calendar days of receipt of the request, send to the parents/guardians and school district a written response to the request.

Written requests should be addressed to:

Pennsylvania Department of Education Bureau of Special Education 333 Market Street Harrisburg, PA 17126 717-783-6913

Informal Conference -

Parents/Guardians may file a written request with the school district for an informal conference with respect to the identification or evaluation of a student, or the student's need for related aids, services, or accommodations. Within ten (10) school days of receipt of the request, the school district shall convene an informal conference. At the conference, every effort shall be made to reach an amicable agreement.

Formal Due Process Hearing -

Parents/Guardians may file a written request with the school district for an impartial due process hearing.

- 1. The hearing shall be held before an impartial hearing officer.
- 2. The hearing shall be held in the local school district at a place reasonably convenient to the parents/guardians. At the request of the parents/guardians, the hearing may be held in the evening.
- 3. The hearing shall be an oral, personal hearing and shall be open to the public unless the parents/guardians request a closed hearing.

- 4. If the hearing is open, the decision issued in the case, and only the decision, shall be available to the public.
- 5. If the hearing is closed, the decision shall be treated as an educational record of the student and may not be available to the public.
- 6. The decision of the hearing officer shall include findings of fact, discussion and conclusions of law. The decision shall be based solely upon the substantial evidence presented at the hearing. The hearing officer shall have the authority to order that additional evidence be presented.
- 7. A written transcript of the hearing shall, upon request, be made and provided to parents/guardians at no cost.
- 8. Parents/Guardians may be represented by legal counsel.
- 9. A parent/guardian or a parent's/guardian's representative shall be given reasonable access to all educational records, including any tests or reports upon which the proposed action is based.
- 10. Any party may prohibit the introduction of any evidence at the hearing that has not been disclosed to that party at least five (5) days before the hearing.
- 11. A parent/guardian or a parent's/guardian's representative has the right to compel the attendance of and question witnesses of the school entity or agency who may have evidence upon which the proposed action might be based.
- 12. Any party has the right to present evidence and testimony, including expert medical, psychological or educational testimony.

The following timeline applies to due process hearings:

- 1. A hearing shall be held within thirty (30) calendar days after a parent's/guardian's initial request for a hearing.
- 2. The hearing officer's decision shall be issued within forty-five (45) calendar days after the parent's/guardian's request for a hearing.

Judicial Appeals -

The decision of the impartial hearing officer may be appealed to a court of competent jurisdiction. Under some circumstances, you may raise these claims directly under Section 504 without going through the due process hearing.

If, within sixty (60) calendar days of the completion of the administrative due process proceedings under this chapter, an appeal or original jurisdiction action is filed in state or federal court, the administrative order shall be stayed pending the completion of the judicial proceedings, unless the parents/guardians and school district agree otherwise.

Please indicate the type of procedural safeguard you are requesting:

Informal Conference

Formal Due Process Hearing

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Signature

Date

Section 504 Building Administrator Signature

Date

NOTICE OF DISTRICT-INITIATED EVALUATION AND PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR QUALIFIED STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Dear _____(Parent/Guardian)

The school district believes that

1. _____ should be identified as a qualified student with a disability.

2. ______ should no longer be identified as a qualified student with a disability.

3. requires a change or modification of his/her Service Agreement.

The basis for the belief that the student is or is no longer a qualified student with a disability is:

The procedures and types of tests that will be used in the evaluation are:

The proposed change or modification in the Service Agreement is:

If you have any additional information or medical records which will assist in this evaluation, please forward them to me or call me at ______ to discuss this information.

Parents/Guardians have the right to inspect and review all relevant school records of the student, meet with appropriate school officials to discuss any and all issues relevant to the evaluation and accommodations of their child, and give or withhold their written consent to the evaluation and/or the provision of services.

Directions: Please check the applicable option and sign the form.

Evaluation – complete this section if the district checked item 1 above.

- _____ I give my permission to proceed with the evaluation.
- I do not give my permission to proceed with the evaluation.

Termination – complete this section if the district checked item 2 above.

- I give my permission to proceed with the termination of services.
- I do not give my permission to proceed with the termination of services.

Modification – complete this section if the district checked item 3 above.

_____ I give my permission to proceed with the modification of the Service Agreement.

- I do not give my permission to proceed with the modification of the Service Agreement. My reason for disapproval is:
- I request an informal conference to discuss the modification of the Service Agreement.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Signature

Date

Section 504 Building Administrator Signature

Date

103.1. ATTACHMENT #4

PARENT/GUARDIAN REQUEST FOR EVALUATION, TERMINATION, OR MODIFICATION UNDER SECTION 504

Last Name:	First Name:	Middle Initial:
Male: Female:	Birth Date:	
School:	Grade:	Class:
Parant/Guardian Information	n	
Parent/Guardian Information Last Name:	<u>n</u> First Name:	Middle Initial:
	_	Middle Initial:

Referral Information

Student Information

The parent/guardian believes that the above named student:

1. _____ should be identified as a qualified student with a disability.

The basis for the belief that the student is a qualified student with a disability is:

Describe how the disability affects the student's access to or benefit from the school's educational programs, nonacademic services, or extracurricular activities:

Describe the requested aids, services, or accommodations:

2. _____ should no longer be identified as a qualified student with a disability.

The basis for the belief that the student is no longer a qualified student with a disability is:

3. _____ requires a change or modification of his/her Service Agreement.

The proposed change or modification of the Service Agreement is:

If you have any additional information or medical records which will assist in this process, please forward them to the Section 504 Building Administrator.

Notice Of Rights

Parents/Guardians have the right to inspect and review all relevant school records of the student, meet with appropriate school officials to discuss any and all issues relevant to the evaluation and accommodations of their child, and give or withhold their written consent to the evaluation and/or the provision of services.

Verification

By submitting this request, I am requesting that the district review the referral information above, and any additional information I attached. I understand that the district, its agents, and its employees are relying on the accuracy of the information that I have provided in this form, and any information attached thereto, to determine whether and to what extent my child will be provided with accommodations under Section 504.

DO NOT WRITE BELOW (FOR DISTRICT USE ONLY)

Reviewed by: Name (Please Print) Student's Last Name: School:	First Name:		
The Parent/Guardian Request for Evaluation			
Approved	Denied	Referred for Further Review	
Reason Request Approved or Denied:			
Signature - Reviewer	_	Date	
Signature - Section 504 Building Administrate	or	Date	
Notice Of Rights Parents/Guardians have the right to inspect and review all relevant school records of the student, meet with appropriate school			
officials to discuss any and all issues relevant the evaluation and/or provision of services.	to the evaluation and accomm	odations of their child, and give	or withhold consent to
Procedural Safeguards			
Parents/Guardians may also use one or more related to the identification or evaluation of a services, or accommodations.			

PERMISSION TO EVALUATE – CONSENT FORM

Stude	nt's Name:	
Name	and Address of Parent/Guardian:	
Dear		

The district received a Section 504 referral, and we would like to conduct an initial evaluation to determine if your child is a qualified student with a disability.

The first step in the process is to conduct an individual evaluation of your child, which will consist of a variety of tests and assessments. We must have your consent before we can begin.

The procedures and types of tests that will be used in the evaluation are:

A Section 504 Team will conduct the proposed evaluation. Any information you can provide is important to us. Please send your ideas and concerns to us in writing or contact the person listed below if you prefer to discuss your concerns in person. If a team meeting is held, you will be notified. Information from all team members will be considered during the evaluation process.

If your child *is* determined to be a qualified student with a disability, you will be invited to participate in developing a Section 504 Service Agreement (Service Agreement) that will set forth the specific related aids, services, or accommodations needed by the individual student.

Giving your consent for evaluation does not mean you give consent to placement or services. If your child is eligible for a Section 504 Service Agreement, you will be asked to give written consent for services to begin.

Please read the enclosed *Procedural Safeguards Notice* that explains your rights, and **keep a copy of both** forms for your records.

If you have any questions,	please contact the Section 504 Building Administrator.	
Name:	Phone:	

DIRECTIONS: Please check one (1) of the options and sign the form.

1.		I give consent to start an	n initial e	evaluation as	you propose.
----	--	----------------------------	-------------	---------------	--------------

- 2. I do not give consent to the proposed initial evaluation.
- 3. I would like to schedule an informal meeting with school personnel to discuss this request.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Daytime Phone

PLEASE RETURN THIS ENTIRE FORM TO:

Name:

Address:



UPDATED

NOTE: Updates as marked on pages 3 & 4.

Attachment 1 - updated

Section

Book

Title

Policy Manual

100 Programs

Nondiscrimination/Discriminatory Harassment - Employment Practices

Code 104

Status Review

Adopted July 19, 2011

Last Revised December 19, 2017

<u>Authority</u>

The Board declares it to be the policy of this district to provide to all persons equal access to all categories of employment in this district, regardless of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, pregnancy or handicap/disability. The district shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and mental impairments that constitute disabilities, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations.[1][2][3][4][5][6][7][8][9][10][11]

The Board encourages employees and third parties who believe they or others have been subject to discrimination to promptly report such incidents to designated employees.

The Board directs that verbal and written complaints of discrimination shall be investigated promptly, and appropriate corrective action be taken when allegations are substantiated. The Board directs that any complaint of discrimination brought pursuant to this policy shall also be reviewed for conduct which may not be proven discriminatory under this policy but merits review and possible action under other Board policies.[12][13][14]

<u>Confidentiality</u>

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations, the filing of a complaint, and the investigation shall be handled in accordance with this policy and the district's legal and investigative obligations.

<u>Retaliation</u>

The Board prohibits retaliation against any person for making a report of discrimination or participating in a related investigation or hearing, or opposing practices the person reasonably believes to be discriminatory. A complaint of retaliation shall be handled in the same manner as a complaint of discrimination.

Definitions

Discriminatory Harassment

Harassment by students, employees or third parties on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, pregnancy or handicap/disability is a form of discrimination and is subject to this policy. A person who is not

necessarily an intended victim or target of such harassment but is adversely affected by the offensive conduct may file a report of discrimination on his/her own behalf.[8][15][16][17][18][19]

For purposes of this policy, **harassment** shall consist of unwelcome conduct such as graphic, written, electronic, verbal or nonverbal acts including offensive jokes, slurs, epithets and name-calling, ridicule or mockery, insults or put-downs, offensive objects or pictures, physical assaults or threats, intimidation, or other conduct that may be harmful or humiliating or interfere with a person's work performance and which relates to an individual's or group's race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, pregnancy or handicap/disability when such conduct is:

- 1. Sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive; and
- 2. A reasonable person in the complainant's position would find that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive work environment such that it deprives or adversely interferes with or limits an individual or group of the ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or opportunities offered by a school.

For purposes of this policy, **sexual harassment** shall consist of unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; and other inappropriate verbal, nonverbal, written, electronic, graphic or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- 1. Submission to such conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an employee's status; or
- 2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for employment-related decisions affecting an employee; or
- 3. Such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that a reasonable person in the complainant's position would find that it unreasonably interferes with the complainant's performance at work or otherwise creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment such that it alters the complainant's working conditions.

Delegation of Responsibility

In order to maintain a program of nondiscrimination practices that is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, the Board designates the

☆ Human Resources Director

{ } Other _____

as the district's Compliance Officer. All nondiscrimination notices or information shall include the position, office address, telephone number and email address of the Compliance Officer.

The Compliance Officer shall publish and disseminate this policy and complaint procedure at least annually to students, parents/guardians, employees and the public to notify them of where and how to initiate complaints under this policy.

The Compliance Officer shall be responsible to ensure adequate nondiscrimination procedures are in place, to recommend new procedures or modifications to procedures and to monitor the implementation of nondiscrimination procedures in the following areas:

 Review - Review of personnel practices and actions for discriminatory bias and compliance with laws against discrimination to include monitoring and recommending corrective measures when appropriate to written position qualifications, job descriptions and essential job functions; recruitment materials and practices; procedures for screening applicants; application and interviewing practices for hiring and promotions; district designed performance evaluations; review of planned employee demotions, non-renewal of contracts, and proposed employee disciplinary Policy 104 - Pg. 2 actions up to and including termination.

- 2. Training Provision of training for supervisors and staff to prevent, identify and alleviate problems of employment discrimination.
- 3. Resources Maintain and provide information to staff on resources available to alleged victims in addition to the school complaint procedure such as making reports to the police, available assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs, and community health resources including counseling resources.
- 4. Complaints Monitor and provide technical assistance to building principals or designees in processing complaints.

The building principal or supervisor shall be responsible to promptly complete the following duties upon receipt of a report of discrimination or retaliation from employees or third parties:

- 1. If the building principal or supervisor is the subject of the complaint, refer the complainant to the Compliance Officer to carry out these responsibilities.
- 2. Inform the employee or third party about this policy including the right to an investigation of both verbal and written complaints of discrimination.
- 3. Provide relevant information on resources available in addition to the school complaint procedure such as making reports to the police, available assistance from domestic violence and rape crisis programs, and community health resources including counseling resources.
- 4. Immediately notify the Compliance Officer of the complaint. The Compliance Officer shall assess whether the investigation should be conducted by the building principal, another employee, the Compliance Officer or an attorney and shall promptly assign the investigation to that individual.
- 5. After consideration of the allegations and in consultation with the Compliance Officer and other appropriate individuals, promptly implement interim measures as appropriate to protect the complainant and others as necessary from violation of this policy during the course of the investigation.

Guidelines

Complaint Procedure – Employee/Third Party

Step 1 – Reporting

An employee or third party who believes s/he has been subject to conduct by any student, employee or third party that constitutes a violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report the matter to the building principal or supervisor. Any person with knowledge of conduct which may violate this policy is encouraged to immediately report the matter to the building principal or supervisor.

If the building principal or supervisor is the subject of a complaint, the employee or third party shall report the incident directly to the Compliance Officer. The complainant or reporting employee may be encouraged to use the district's report form, available from the building principal, supervisor or Compliance Officer, or to put the complaint in writing; however, oral complaints shall be accepted, documented and the procedures of this policy implemented. The person accepting the verbal or written complaint may provide factual information on the complaint and the investigative process, the impact of choosing to seek confidentiality and the right to file criminal charges. In all other respects, the person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally and professionally, setting aside personal biases that might favor or disfavor the complainant or those accused of a violation of this policy.

The Compliance Officer shall ensure that the individual assigned to investigate the complaint has an appropriate understanding of the relevant laws pertaining to discrimination issues and this policy and how to conduct investigations.

Bold is

The investigator shall work with the Compliance Officer to assess the anticipated scope of the investigation, who needs to be interviewed and what records may be relevant to the investigation.

section.

The investigator shall conduct an adequate, reliable and impartial investigation. The complainant and the accused **may suggest additional** witnesses and **provide** other evidence during the course of the investigation. When the initial complaint involves allegations relating to conduct which took place outside of school or school-sponsored activities, the investigation may include inquiries related to these allegations to determine whether they resulted in continuing effects such as harassment in school settings.

The investigation may consist of individual interviews with the complainant, the accused, and others with knowledge relative to the allegations. The investigator may also evaluate any other information and materials relevant to the investigation. The person reporting the alleged discrimination, parties, parents/guardians and witnesses shall be informed of the prohibition against retaliation for anyone's participation in the process and that conduct believed to be retaliatory should be reported. All individuals providing statements or other information or participating in the investigation shall be instructed to keep the matter confidential and to report any concerns about confidentiality to the investigator.

If the investigation reveals that the conduct being investigated may involve a violation of criminal law, the investigator shall promptly notify the Compliance Officer, who shall promptly inform law enforcement authorities about the allegations.[13][20][21]

The obligation to conduct this investigation shall not be negated by the fact that a criminal or child protective services investigation of the allegations is pending or has been concluded. The investigator should coordinate with any other ongoing investigations of the allegations, including agreeing to requests for a short delay in fulfilling the district's investigative responsibilities during the fact-finding portion of a criminal or child protective services investigation. Such delays shall not extend beyond the time necessary to prevent interference with or disruption of the criminal or child protective services investigation.

Step 3 – Investigative Report

The investigator shall prepare and submit a written report to the Compliance Officer within twenty (20) days of the initial report of alleged discrimination, unless the nature of the allegations, anticipated extent of the investigation or the availability of witnesses requires the investigator and the Compliance Officer to establish a different due date. The parties shall be notified of the anticipated date the investigative report will be completed and of any changes to the anticipated due date during the course of the investigation.

The report shall include a summary of the investigation, a determination of whether the complaint has been substantiated as factual, the information and evaluation that formed the basis for this determination, whether the conduct violated this policy and any other violation of law or Board policy which may warrant further district action, and a recommended disposition of the complaint. An investigation into discriminatory harassment or sexual harassment shall consider the record as a whole and the totality of circumstances in determining whether a violation of this policy has occurred, recognizing that persistent and pervasive conduct, when taken together, may be a violation even when the separate incidents are not severe.

The complainant and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of the investigation, **for example**, **whether the investigator believes the allegations to be founded or unfounded**, within a reasonable time of the submission of the written report. The accused shall not be notified of the individual remedies offered or provided to the complainant.

If the investigation results in a finding that some or all of the allegations of the complaint are established and constitute a violation of this policy, the district shall take prompt, corrective action designed to ensure that such conduct ceases and that no retaliation occurs. The district shall promptly take appropriate steps to prevent the recurrence of the prohibited conduct and to address the discriminatory effect the prohibited conduct had on the complainant and the school or school program environment. District staff shall document the corrective action taken and, where not prohibited by law, inform the complainant. The Compliance Officer shall follow up by assessing the effectiveness of the corrective action at reasonable intervals.

If an investigation results in a finding that a different law or Board policy was violated separately from or in addition to violations of this policy, or that there are circumstances warranting further action, such matters shall be addressed at the conclusion of this investigation or through disciplinary or other appropriate referrals where further evaluation or investigation is necessary.

Disciplinary actions shall be consistent with Board policies and administrative regulations, district procedures, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and state and federal laws.

Appeal Procedure

- 1. If the complainant or the accused is not satisfied with a finding made pursuant to the policy or with recommended corrective action, s/he may submit a written appeal to the Compliance Officer within fifteen (15) days. If the Compliance Officer investigated the complaint, such appeal shall be made to the Superintendent.
- 2. The individual receiving the appeal shall review the investigation and the investigative report and may also conduct or designate another person to conduct a reasonable supplemental investigation to assess the sufficiency and propriety of the prior investigation.
- 3. The person handling the appeal shall prepare a written response to the appeal within twenty (20) days. Copies of the response shall be provided to the complainant, the accused and the investigator who conducted the initial investigation.

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Legal

- 1. 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq
- 2. 29 U.S.C. 206
- 3. 29 U.S.C. 621 et seq
- 4. 29 U.S.C. 794
- 5. 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq
- 6. 42 U.S.C. 1981 et seq
- 7. 42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq
- 8. 42 U.S.C. 2000ff et seq
- 9. 43 P.S. 336.3
- 10. 43 P.S. 951 et seq
- 11. U.S. Const. Amend. XIV, Equal Protection Clause
- 12. Pol. 317
- 13. Pol. 806
- 14. Pol. 824
- 15. 29 CFR 1604.11
- 16. 29 CFR 1606.8
- 17. EEOC Enforcement Guidance on Harris v. Forklift Sys., Inc., November 9, 1993

18. EEOC Enforcement Guidance on Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors, June 18, 1999

- 19. EEOC Policy Guidance on Current Issues of Sexual Harassment, March 19, 1990
- 20. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2709
- 21. Pol. 815
- 16 PA Code 44.1 et seq
- 28 CFR 35.140
- 28 CFR Part 41
- 29 CFR Parts 1600-1691

104Attach-ReportFormComplaints.doc (29 KB)

Last Modified by Janice Boyer on January 2, 2019

UPDATED Bold is new

REPORT FORM FOR COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION/DISCRIMINATORY HARASSMENT

Complainant:	
Home Address:	
Phone Number:	
School Building:	
Date of Alleged Incident(s):	
Alleged discrimination/discriminatory harassment w	as based on:
Name of person you believe violated the district's discrepolicy:	
If the alleged discrimination/ discriminatory harassm identify the other person:	
Describe the incident(s) as clearly as possible, includin or nonverbal acts (i.e., offensive jokes, slurs, epithets a insults or put-downs, offensive objects or pictures, phy other conduct). Attach additional pages if necessary:	nd name-calling, ridicule or mockery, sical assaults or threats, intimidation, or
When and where the alleged incident(s) occurred:	
This complaint is based on my honest belief that against me or another person. I certify that the informative true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge information provided herein is subject to penalties of relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.	tion I have provided in this complaint is . I understand that any false
Complainant's Signature	Date
Received By	Date

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UPDATED Bold is new

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Tobacco/Nicotine
Code	222
Status	Review
Adopted	July 19, 2011
Last Revised	July 16, 2013

<u>Purpose</u>

The Board recognizes that tobacco, **nicotine and nicotine delivery products** present a health and safety hazard that can have serious consequences for both users and nonusers and the safety and environment of the schools.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, **tobacco** includes a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, **cigarillo, little cigar,** pipe or other smoking product or material and smokeless tobacco in any form **including chewing tobacco, snuff, dip or dissolvable tobacco pieces.**[1]

For purposes of this policy, nicotine shall mean a product that contains or consists of nicotine in a form that can be ingested by chewing, smoking, inhaling or through other means.

For purposes of this policy, a nicotine delivery product shall mean a product or device used, intended for use or designed for the purpose of ingesting nicotine or another substance. This definition includes, but is not limited to, any device or associated product used for what is commonly referred to as vaping or juuling.

<u>Authority</u>

The Board prohibits possession, use or sale of tobacco, **nicotine and nicotine delivery products** by students at any time in a school building and on any property, buses, vans and vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by the school district.[1][2][3]

The Board **also** prohibits possession, use or sale of tobacco, **nicotine and nicotine delivery products** by students at school-sponsored activities that are held off school property.

In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the district shall take all steps required to comply with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies. [4][5][6][7][8][9]

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall notify students, parents/guardians and staff about the **Board's** tobacco/nicotine policy by publishing information in student handbooks, parental newsletters, posters, and by other efficient methods, such as posted notices, signs and on the district website.[1]

- { } Code of Student Conduct
- { } district newsletter

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.

Guidelines

Reporting

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student directly involved in an incident involving possession, use or sale of tobacco, **nicotine or nicotine delivery products** immediately, as soon as practicable. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the parent/guardian whether or not the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school property has been or may be notified of the incident. The Superintendent or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.[9][10][11]

The Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report all incidents of possession, use or sale of tobacco, **nicotine and nicotine delivery products** by students to the Office for Safe Schools on the required form.[9][12]

Additional Provisions - Tobacco Only

The Superintendent or designee may report incidents of possession, use or sale of tobacco by students on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity to the **school police, school resource officer (SRO) or to the** local police department that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.[9][10][12][13][14]

A student convicted of possessing or using tobacco in violation of this policy may be fined up to fifty dollars (\$50) plus court costs, or admitted **by the court** to alternative adjudication in lieu of imposition of a fine.[15]

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Legal

1. 35 P.S. 1223.5 2. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 6305 3. 20 U.S.C. 7183 4. 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq 5. 22 PA Code 10.23 6. Pol. 103.1 7. Pol. 113.1 8. Pol. 113.2 9. Pol. 805.1 10. 22 PA Code 10.2 11. 22 PA Code 10.25 12. 24 P.S. 1303-A 13. 22 PA Code 10.22 14. 24 P.S. 1302.1-A 15. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 6306.1 24 P.S. 510 20 U.S.C. 7114 20 U.S.C. 7118 20 U.S.C. 7181 et seq 34 CFR Part 300

Last Modified by Janice Boyer on January 2, 2019



UPDATED Bold is new

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Hazing
Code	247
Status	Review
Adopted	July 19, 2011
Last Revised	August 16, 2016

<u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the district and are prohibited at all times.

Definitions

Hazing occurs when a person intentionally, knowingly or recklessly, for the purpose of initiating, admitting or affiliating a student with an organization, or for the purpose of continuing or enhancing membership or status in an organization, causes, coerces or forces a student to do any of the following:[1]

- 1. Violate federal or state criminal law.
- 2. Consume any food, liquid, alcoholic liquid, drug or other substance which subjects the student to a risk of emotional or physical harm.
- 3. **Endure** brutality of a physical nature, **including** whipping, beating, branding, calisthenics or exposure to the elements.
- Endure brutality of a mental nature, including activity adversely affecting the mental health or dignity of the individual, sleep deprivation, exclusion from social contact or conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment.
- 5. Endure brutality of a sexual nature.
- 6. Endure any other activity that creates a reasonable likelihood of bodily injury to the student.

Aggravated hazing occurs when a person commits an act of hazing that results in serious bodily injury or death to the student and:[2]

- 1. The person acts with reckless indifference to the health and safety of the student; or
- 2. The person causes, coerces or forces the consumption of an alcoholic liquid or drug by the student.
Organizational hazing occurs when an organization intentionally, knowingly or recklessly promotes or facilitates hazing.[3][4]

Any activity, as described above, shall be deemed a violation of this policy regardless of whether: [5]

- 1. The consent of the student was sought or obtained, or
- 2. The conduct was sanctioned or approved by the school or organization.

Student activity or organization means any **activity**, society, **corps**, team, club **or service**, **social** or **similar** group, operating under the sanction of or recognized as an organization by the district, whose members are primarily students or alumni of the organization. [6][7]

For purposes of this policy, bodily injury shall mean impairment of physical condition or substantial pain.[8]

For purposes of this policy, serious bodily injury shall mean bodily injury which creates a substantial risk of death or which causes serious, permanent disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ.[8]

<u>Authority</u>

The Board prohibits hazing in connection with any student activity or organization regardless of whether the conduct occurs on or off school property or outside of school hours. [4][5][7][9][10]

No student, parent/guardian, coach, sponsor, volunteer or district employee shall engage in, condone or ignore any form of hazing.

The Board encourages students who **believe they, or others,** have been subjected to hazing to promptly report such incidents to the building principal **or designee**.

Delegation of Responsibility

Students, parents/guardians, coaches, sponsors, volunteers, and district employees shall be alert to incidents of hazing and shall report such conduct to the building principal **or designee**.

Discrimination/Discriminatory Harassment

Every report of alleged hazing that can be interpreted at the outset to fall within the provisions of policies addressing potential violations of laws against discrimination and discriminatory harassment shall be handled as a joint, concurrent investigation into all allegations and coordinated with the full participation of the Compliance Officer. If, in the course of a hazing investigation, potential issues of discrimination or discriminatory harassment are identified, the Compliance Officer shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged discrimination as well as the incidents of alleged hazing.[11][12]

Guidelines

In addition to posting this policy on the district's **publicly accessible** website, the district shall inform students, parents/guardians, sponsors, volunteers and district employees **of the district's policy prohibiting hazing, including district rules, penalties for violations of the policy, and the program established by the district for enforcement of the policy** by means of [4]

(distribution of written policy

{ } publication in handbooks

 \mathbf{X} presentation at an assembly **and**;

{ } verbal instructions by the coach or sponsor at the start of the season or program

(X) posting of notice/signs. policy on district website.

This policy, along with other applicable district policies, procedures and Codes of Conduct, shall be provided to all school athletic coaches and all sponsors and volunteers affiliated with a student activity or organization, prior to coaching an athletic activity or serving as a responsible adult supervising, advising, assisting or otherwise participating in a student activity or **organization together with a notice that they are expected to read and abide by the policies, procedures and Codes of Conduct.**[7]

Complaint Procedure

A student **who** believes that s/he has been subject to hazing **is encouraged to** promptly report the incident to the building principal **or designee**.

Students are encouraged to use the district's report form, available from the building principal, or to put the complaint in writing; however, oral complaints shall be accepted and documented. The person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally and professionally, setting aside personal biases that might favor or disfavor the student filing the complaint or those accused of a violation of this policy.

The Board directs that **verbal and written** complaints of hazing shall be provided to the building principal or designee, who shall promptly notify the Superintendent or designee of the allegations and determine who shall conduct the investigation. Allegations of hazing shall be investigated promptly, and **appropriate** corrective **or preventative** action be taken when allegations are **substantiated**. **The Board directs that any complaint of hazing brought pursuant to this policy shall also be reviewed for conduct which may not be proven to be hazing under this policy but merits review and possible action under other Board policies**.

Interim Measures/Police

Upon receipt of a complaint of hazing, the building principal or designee, in consultation with the Superintendent or designee, shall determine what, if any interim measures should be put in place to protect students from further hazing, bullying, discrimination or retaliatory conduct related to the alleged incident and report. Such interim measures may include, but not be limited to, the suspension of an adult who is involved, the separation of alleged victims and perpetrators, and the determination of what the complaining student needs or wants through questioning.

Those receiving the initial report and conducting or overseeing the investigation will assess whether the complaint, if proven, would constitute hazing, aggravated hazing or organizational hazing and shall report it to the police consistent with district practice and, as appropriate, consult with legal counsel about whether to report the matter to the police at every stage of the proceeding. The decision to report a matter to the police should not involve an analysis by district personnel of whether safe harbor provisions might apply to the person being reported, but information on the facts can be shared with the police in this regard.[13]

Referral To Law Enforcement and Safe Schools Reporting Requirements -

For purposes of reporting hazing incidents to law enforcement in accordance with Safe Schools Act reporting, the term incident shall mean an instance involving an act of violence; the possession of a weapon; the possession, use, or sale of a controlled substance or drug paraphernalia as defined in the Pennsylvania Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act; the possession, use, or sale of alcohol or tobacco; or conduct that constitutes an offense listed under the Safe Schools Act. [14][15][16] The Superintendent or designee shall immediately report required incidents and may report discretionary incidents, as defined in the Safe Schools Act, committed by students on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity to the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies. [14][15][17][18][19][20]

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student directly involved in a defined incident as a victim or suspect immediately, as soon as practicable. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the parent/guardian whether or not the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school property has been or may be notified of the incident. The Superintendent or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.[14][20][21]

In accordance with state law, the Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report all new incidents to the Office for Safe Schools on the required form.[15][20]

Confidentiality

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations, the filing of a complaint and the investigation shall be handled in accordance with this policy and the district's legal and investigative obligations.

Retaliation

Reprisal or retaliation relating to reports of hazing or participation in an investigation of allegations of hazing is prohibited and shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Consequences for Violations

Safe Harbor –

An individual needing medical attention or seeking medical attention for another shall not be subject to criminal prosecution if s/he complies with the requirements under law, subject to the limitations set forth in law.[13]

Students -

If the investigation results in a substantiated finding of hazing, the **investigator** shall recommend appropriate disciplinary action up to and including expulsion, as circumstances warrant, in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct. The student may also be subject to disciplinary action by the coach or sponsor, up to and including removal from the activity **or organization**. **The fact of whether a student qualified for and received safe harbor under a criminal investigation shall be considered in assigning discipline.**[4][7][13][22][23]

{ } In addition to other authorized discipline, building principals shall have the authority, after providing the student or students an informal hearing, to impose a fine of up to

- { } Fifty dollars (\$50)
- { } ____ dollars (\$___)

on each student determined to have engaged in hazing in violation of this policy.[4][22]

{ } When recommended disciplinary action results in a formal hearing before the Board, in addition to other authorized disciplinary consequences, the Board may also impose a fine of up to

{ } One hundred fifty dollars (\$150)

{ } ____ dollars (\$___)

on each student determined to have engaged in hazing in violation of this policy.[4][23]

{ } When fines have not been paid, the Superintendent shall have the authority to direct that student diplomas and/or transcripts be withheld until payment in full is made or a payment plan is agreed upon. In cases of economic hardship, the Superintendent shall consider whether diplomas and/or transcripts should be released despite an unpaid fine. [4]

Nonstudent Violators/ Organizational Hazing -

If the investigation results in a substantiated finding that a coach, sponsor, or volunteer affiliated with the student activity or organization engaged in, condoned or ignored any violation of this policy, s/he shall be disciplined in accordance with Board policy and applicable laws and regulations. Discipline could include, but is not limited to, dismissal from the position as coach, sponsor, or volunteer, and/or dismissal from district employment.[24]

If an organization is found to have engaged in organizational hazing, it shall be subject to the imposition of fines and other appropriate penalties. Penalties may include rescission of permission for that organization to operate on school property or to otherwise operate under the sanction or recognition of the district.

Criminal Prosecution -

Any person **or organization that** causes or participates in hazing may also be subject to criminal prosecution. [4]

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Legal

1. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2802 2. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2803 3. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2804 4. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2808 5. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2806 6. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2801 7. 24 P.S. 511 8. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2301 9. Pol. 122 10. Pol. 123 11. Pol. 103 12. Pol. 103.1 13. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2810 14. 22 PA Code 10.2 15. 24 P.S. 1303-A 16. 35 P.S. 780-102 17. 22 PA Code 10.21 18. 22 PA Code 10.22 19. 24 P.S. 1302.1-A 20. Pol. 805.1 21. 22 PA Code 10.25 22. Pol. 218 23. Pol. 233 24. Pol. 317 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2801 et seq 22 PA Code 10.23 Pol. 113.1 Pol. 916

Last Modified by Janice Boyer on January 2, 2019



UPDATED Bold is new

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Bullying/Cyberbullying
Code	249
Status	Review
Adopted	July 19, 2011
Last Revised	February 20, 2018

<u>Purpose</u>

The Board is committed to providing a safe, positive learning environment for district students. The Board recognizes that bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, detracts from the safe environment necessary for student learning, and may lead to more serious violence. Therefore, the Board prohibits bullying by district students.

Definitions

Bullying means an intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical act or series of acts directed at another student or students, which occurs in a school setting

𝚯 and/or outside a school setting,

that is severe, persistent or pervasive and has the effect of doing any of the following: [1]

1. **Substantially interfering** with a student's education.

2. **Creating** a threatening environment.

3. **Substantially disrupting** the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying, as defined in this policy, includes cyberbullying.

School setting means in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop or at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the school.[1]

<u>Authority</u>

The Board prohibits all forms of bullying by district students.[1]

The Board encourages students who **believe they or others** have been bullied to promptly report such incidents to the building principal or designee.

Students are encouraged to use the district's report form, available from the building principal, or to put the complaint in writing; however, oral complaints shall be accepted and documented. The person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively,

neutrally and professionally, setting aside personal biases that might favor or disfavor the student filing the complaint or those accused of a violation of this policy.

The Board directs that **verbal and written** complaints of bullying shall be investigated promptly, and **appropriate** corrective **or preventative** action be taken when allegations are **substantiated**. **The Board directs that any complaint of bullying brought pursuant to this policy shall also be reviewed for conduct which may not be proven to be bullying under this policy but merits review and possible action under other Board policies**.

Discrimination/Discriminatory Harassment

Every report of alleged bullying that can be interpreted at the outset to fall within the provisions of policies addressing potential violations of laws against discrimination and discriminatory harassment shall be handled as a joint, concurrent investigation into all allegations and coordinated with the full participation of the Compliance Officer. If, in the course of a bullying investigation, potential issues of discrimination or discriminatory harassment are identified, the Compliance Officer shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged discrimination as well as the incidents of alleged bullying.[2][3]

Confidentiality

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations, the filing of a complaint and the investigation shall be handled in accordance with this policy and the district's legal and investigative obligations.

Retaliation

Reprisal or retaliation relating to reports of bullying or participation in an investigation of allegations of bullying is prohibited and shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Delegation of Responsibility

Each student shall be responsible to respect the rights of others and to ensure an atmosphere free from bullying.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that this policy and administrative regulations are reviewed annually with students.[1]

The Superintendent or designee, in cooperation with other appropriate administrators, shall review this policy every three (3) years and recommend necessary revisions to the Board. [1]

District administration shall annually provide the following information with the Safe School Report: [1]

- 1. Board's Bullying Policy.
- 2. Report of bullying incidents.
- 3. Information on the development and implementation of any bullying prevention, intervention or education programs.

Guidelines

The Code of Student Conduct, which shall contain this policy, shall be disseminated annually to students. [1][4][5]

This policy shall be accessible in every classroom. The policy shall be posted in a prominent location within each school building and on the district website. Policy 249 - Pg. 2

Education

The district

{ } may

{ } shall

develop, implement **and evaluate** bullying prevention and intervention programs **and activities**. Programs **and activities** shall provide district staff and students with appropriate training for effectively responding to, intervening in and reporting incidents of bullying.[1][6][7][8]

Consequences for Violations

A student who violates this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with the Code of Student Conduct, which may include: [1][5][9]

- 1. $\{X\}$ Counseling within the school.
- 2. 🚯 Parental conference.
- 3. $\{X\}$ Loss of school privileges.
- 4. 🚯 Transfer to another school building, classroom or school bus.
- 5. \bigotimes Exclusion from school-sponsored activities.
- 6. 🚯 Detention.
- 7. 🚯 Suspension.
- 8. 🚯 Expulsion.
- 9. **W** Counseling/Therapy outside of school.
- 10. 🚯 Referral to law enforcement officials.

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Legal

24 P.S. 1303.1-A
 Pol. 103
 Pol. 103.1
 22 PA Code 12.3
 Pol. 218
 20 U.S.C. 7118
 24 P.S. 1302-A
 Pol. 236
 Pol. 233
 Pol. 113.1



UPDATED Bold is new

Book	Policy Manual	
Section	300 Employees	
Title	Tobacco/Nicotine	
Code	323	
Status	Review	
Adopted	July 19, 2011	
Last Revised	July 16, 2013	

<u>Purpose</u>

The Board recognizes that tobacco, **nicotine and nicotine delivery products** present a health and safety hazard that can have serious consequences for **both** users and nonusers and the safety **and environment** of the schools.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, **tobacco** includes a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, **cigarillo**, **little cigar**, pipe or other smoking product or material and smokeless tobacco in any form **including chewing tobacco**, **snuff**, **dip or dissolvable tobacco pieces**.[1]

For purposes of this policy, nicotine shall mean a product that contains or consists of nicotine in a form that can be ingested by chewing, smoking, inhaling or through other means.

For purposes of this policy, a nicotine delivery product shall mean a product or device used, intended for use or designed for the purpose of ingesting nicotine or another substance. This definition includes, but is not limited to, any device or associated product used for what is commonly referred to as vaping or juuling.

<u>Authority</u>

The Board prohibits **use of** tobacco, **nicotine and nicotine delivery products** by administrative, professional and support employees in a school building and on any property, buses, vans and vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by the school district.[1][2]

{ } The Board designates specific areas for **use of** tobacco, **nicotine and nicotine delivery products** by district employees on property owned, leased or controlled by the district that is at least fifty (50) feet from school buildings, stadiums and bleachers.[1]

{ } The Board **also** prohibits **use of** tobacco, **nicotine and nicotine delivery products** by district employees at school-sponsored activities that are held off school property.[1]

Delegation of Responsibility

The **Superintendent or designee** shall notify employees about the Board's tobacco**/nicotine** policy by **publishing information** in handbooks, newsletters, **posters**, and other efficient methods **such as**

posted notices, signs and on the district website.[1]

Guidelines

This policy does not prohibit the use of a patch, gum or lozenge as a smoking cessation product by any employee who has a written order by a physician.

Reporting

The Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report incidents of possession, use or sale of tobacco, **nicotine and nicotine delivery products** on school property to the Office for Safe Schools on the required form.[3][4]

Additional Provisions - Tobacco Only

The Superintendent or designee may report incidents involving the sale of tobacco to minors by employees on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity to the **school police, school resource officer (SRO) or to the** local police department that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.[3][4][5][6][7][8]

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Legal	1. 35 P.S. 1223.5
	2. 20 U.S.C. 7183
	3. 24 P.S. 1303-A
	4. Pol. 805.1
	5. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 6305
	6. 22 PA Code 10.2
	7. 22 PA Code 10.22
	8. 24 P.S. 1302.1-A
	20 U.S.C. 7181 et seq

Last Modified by Janice Boyer on January 2, 2019



Procurement – Federal Programs

This document is intended to integrate standard district purchasing procedures with additional requirements applicable to procurements that are subject to the federal Uniform Guidance regulations, **federal guidance of the Office of Management and Budget** and/or U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations governing school food service programs. The district maintains the following purchasing procedures, in accordance with federal and state laws, regulations and Board policy. (2 CFR **200.102**, 200.318-200.325; 7 CFR 210.16, 210.19, 210.21, 215.14a, 220.16; 24 P.S. 120, 24 P.S. 504, 24 P.S. 508, 24 P.S. 521, 24 P.S. 607, 24 P.S. 609, 24 P.S. 751, 24 P.S. 807.1; 62 Pa. C.S.A. 4601 et seq; Pol. 610, 611, 612, 613, 808)

2019 Procurement Thresholds		
PA State Quotation Threshold	\$11,100	Adjusted based on Consumer Price Index published in PA Bulletin (24 P.S. Sec. 120)
PA State Bid Threshold	\$20,600	Adjusted based on Consumer Price Index published in PA Bulletin (24 P.S. Sec. 120)
Federal Micro-Purchase Threshold	\$10,000	Adjusted periodically and published in Federal Register (48 CFR Subpart 2.1) or through guidance of the federal Office of Management and Budget
Federal Simplified Acquisition Threshold	\$250,000	Adjusted periodically and published in Federal Register (48 CFR Subpart 2.1) or through guidance of the federal Office of Management and Budget

*Please review this Procurement attachment annually and update amounts accordingly

The district implements exceptions to the Micro-Purchase and Simplified Acquisition Threshold amounts announced by the federal Office of Management and Budget as part of its procurement procedures.

Responsibility for Purchasing

The Board has outlined standard district purchasing responsibility, methods of purchasing, price quotations and bid requirements in the following Board policies and their accompanying administrative regulations or procedures:

Policy 610. Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation Policy 611. Purchases Budgeted Policy 612. Purchases Not Budgeted Policy 613. Cooperative Purchasing

Purchase Methods

When a request for purchase of equipment, supplies or services has been submitted and approved as outlined below, the procurement method to be used will be determined based on the type of purchase and the total cost of the purchase as further outlined below. This procedure outlines how the cost thresholds for determining when the quote or formal bidding procedures that are required by state law as reflected in Policy 610 must be modified when making purchases for federally funded purposes to which the Uniform Grant Guidance or USDA regulations apply, so as to comply with both state and federal requirements. At each point where requirements for food service-related procurement under USDA regulations differ, a note will refer to the Food Service Program Notes at the end of this procedure. Final determination of which purchasing procedures are to be applied is delegated to the

{X} Business Manager Chief Financial Officer

{ } Superintendent

under the authority of the Board.

Standard Procurement Documents and Purchase Request Process

The district shall use

{X} purchase orders

{ } requisitions

for purchase requests in accordance with the applicable purchase method.

The district shall use

{ } paper

{X} electronic

purchasing records, which are pre-numbered and are accessible to designated purchasing staff in

{ } the district office.

- $\{X\}$ the Business Office.
- { } Purchasing Agent's office.
- { } Other _____.

Purchase requests by an employee must be submitted to the building administrator or immediate supervisor. Purchase of all budgeted items or items approved by an administrator or supervisor must be initiated by use of a purchase order or requisition submitted to the

{ } Board Secretary.

{X} Business Manager. Chief Financial Officer

- **X** Superintendent. **and**
- **{X}** Purchasing Agent.

Purchase orders and requisitions shall contain information including, but not limited to:

- 1. Description of the services to be performed or goods to be delivered.
- 2. Location of where services will be performed, or goods will be delivered.
- 3. Appropriate dates of service or delivery.
- 4. { } Other (describe) _____

Documentation on purchase orders and requisitions shall be maintained in accordance with the district's Records Management Policy and records retention schedule. (Pol. 800)

Contracts shall be reviewed by the

- { } Board Secretary
- **{X}** Business Manager Chief Financial Officer
- **{X}** Superintendent **or**
- **{X}** school solicitor

prior to submission to the Board for approval.

Contracts to which the Uniform Grant Guidance apply shall contain the clauses specified in Appendix II to 2 CFR Part 200 (Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards), when applicable.

[See Food Service Program Notes below for specific clauses required by USDA regulations to be included in cost reimbursable procurement contracts.]

Micro-Purchases Not Requiring Quotes or Bidding

For purposes of this procedure, **micro-purchase** means a purchase of equipment, supplies or services for use in federally funded programs using simplified acquisition procedures, the aggregate amount of which does not exceed a base amount of \$10,000. The micro-purchase dollar threshold is adjusted periodically by the federal government, and the threshold most recently established and published in the Federal Register or announced as an exception by the federal Office of Management and Budget shall apply if other than \$10,000.(48 CFR Subpart 2.1)

Note: The micro-purchase maximum for federal purposes is lower than the amount below which the School Code allows purchase for nonfederal purposes to be made without obtaining at least three (3) written or telephonic quotes or using formal competitive bidding.

The micro-purchase method is used in order to expedite the completion of its lowest dollar small purchase transactions and minimize the associated administrative burden and cost. Procurement by micro-purchase is the acquisition of equipment, supplies or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which does not exceed the micro-purchase threshold.

To the extent practicable, the district distributes micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers when the same or materially interchangeable products are identified and such suppliers offer effectively equivalent rates, prices and other terms. The

{ } Superintendent

{X} Business Manager Chief Financial Officer

- { } Purchasing Agent
- { } Board Secretary

will be responsible to determine the equitable distribution of micro-purchases.

Micro-purchases may be awarded without soliciting competitive quotations if the district considers the price to be reasonable. The district will maintain evidence of this reasonableness in the records of all micro-purchases. **Reasonable** means that sound business practices were followed and the purchase is comparable to market prices for the geographic area. Such determinations of reasonableness may include comparison of the price to previous purchases of the same item or comparison of the price of items similar to the item being purchased.

Even if the cost of a purchase qualifies it as a micro-purchase, bidding or small purchase procedures may be used optionally when those procedures may result in cost savings.

Small Purchase Procedures

For purposes of this procedure, **small purchase procedures** are those relatively simple and informal procurement methods for securing equipment or supplies that cost more than the amount qualifying as a micro-purchase and do not cost **\$20,600** or more, or in the case of services other than construction, maintenance or repair on school facilities, where the total cost does not exceed the **\$250,000** federal Simplified Acquisition Threshold at which formal competitive bidding or competitive proposals are required. Small purchase procedures cannot be used for purchases of equipment or supplies or for construction, repair or maintenance services costing **\$20,600** or more because the School Code requires formal competitive bidding at that level of cost.

The base amount at which bidding is required under state law for purchases of equipment, supplies and construction, maintenance or repair services on school facilities is adjusted for inflation annually, and the **adjusted** amount most recently **determined** and published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin shall apply if other than **\$20,600**. (24 P.S. Sec. 120)

The federal Simplified Acquisition Threshold at which competitive bidding or competitive proposals are required is adjusted periodically by the federal government, and the threshold most recently established and published in the Federal Register or announced as an exception by the federal Office of Management and Budget shall apply if other than \$250,000. (48 CFR Subpart 2.1, 2 CFR 200.102)

Because state law does not require competitive bidding for the purchase of services other than construction, maintenance or repairs on school facilities regardless of total cost, small purchase procedures, including a request for proposal (RFP) procedure, may be used for procurement of such other services except when the estimated total cost will be at or over the federal threshold at which formal competitive bidding or competitive proposals are required (**\$250,000**).

[See Food Service Program Notes below for exemption from bidding for purchases of perishable food items costing less than \$250,000.]

If small purchase procedures are used, written or telephonic price or rate quotations are obtained from at least three (3) qualified sources and records of quotes are maintained as provided in Policy 610. (Pol. 610)

Formal Competitive Bidding

Publicly Solicited Sealed Competitive Bids:

For purchases of equipment or supplies, or of services for construction, maintenance or repairs of school facilities, sealed competitive bids are publicly solicited and awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder as provided in Policy 610 when the total cost is estimated to be **\$20,600** or more. (Pol. 610)

Note: The amount at which formal competitive bidding or competitive proposals are required by federal regulations is much higher than the base amount at which the School Code requires competitive bidding. Therefore, the lower base amount specified by the School Code, as annually adjusted, is used to determine when bidding will be used for purchases of equipment or supplies, or for obtaining services for construction, maintenance or repairs on school facilities. (24 P.S. Sec. 120)

State law does not require bidding for the purchase of services other than construction, maintenance or repairs on school facilities regardless of total cost. For procurement of such other services for federally funded purposes to which the Uniform Grant Guidance applies, formal competitive bidding or competitive proposals will be used when the estimated total cost will be at or over the federal threshold of **\$250,000**.

The federal Simplified Acquisition Threshold at which competitive bidding or competitive proposals are required is adjusted periodically by the federal government, and the threshold most recently established and published in the Federal Register or announced as an exception by the federal Office of Management and Budget shall apply if other than \$250,000. (48 CFR Subpart 2.1, 2 CFR 200.102)

For procurement of services costing at or over the **\$250,000** federal threshold other than for construction, maintenance or repairs on school facilities, the use of competitive sealed bidding is considered feasible and appropriate when:

- 1. A complete, adequate, and realistic specification or purchase description is available;
- 2. Two (2) or more responsible bidders are willing and able to compete effectively for the business; and
- 3. The procurement lends itself to a firm fixed-price contract and the selection of the successful bidder can be made principally on the basis of price.

Where specified in bidding documents, factors such as discounts, transportation cost, and life cycle costs must be considered in determining which bid is lowest. Payment discounts will only be used to determine the low bid when prior experience indicates that such discounts are usually taken advantage of. Any or all bids may be rejected if there is a sound documented reason.

[See Food Service Program Notes below for reference to state requirements regarding contracts with food service management companies and contractors of pre-plated meals.]

Competitive Proposals

State law does not require public school entities to solicit competitive bids for services other than construction, repairs or maintenance of school facilities, for which competitive bidding is required if the cost will be a base amount of **\$20,600** or more. State law allows competitive proposals relating to work on facilities in lieu of bidding only in the context of guaranteed energy savings contracts.

Federal regulations allow the use of competitive proposals as an alternative to formal competitive bidding when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids.

In the case of services other than for construction, repairs or maintenance of school facilities costing less than that threshold, the district may use small purchase procedures or micropurchase procedures as applicable based on total cost. A request for proposal (RFP) process can also meet or exceed the small purchase competition requirements under state law and Policy 610 for the acquisition of services other than for construction, repairs or maintenance of school facilities, and can be used if the total cost will be less than **\$250,000**.

When permitted, the technique of competitive proposals is normally conducted with more than one (1) source submitting an offer, and either a fixed price or cost-reimbursement type contract is awarded. Competitors' qualifications are evaluated and the most qualified competitor is selected, subject to negotiation of fair and reasonable compensation. The district shall comply with other applicable state and federal law and regulations, Board policy and administrative regulations regarding purchasing; the district may consult with the school solicitor or other qualified counsel in determining the required process for purchasing through competitive proposals when necessary.

If this method is used, the following requirements apply:

- 1. Requests for proposals must be publicized and identify all evaluation factors and their relative importance. Any response to publicized requests for proposals must be considered to the maximum extent practical.
- 2. Proposals must be solicited from an adequate number of qualified sources.
- 3. Contracts must be awarded to the responsible firm whose proposal is most advantageous to the program, with price and other factors considered.

An alternative form of competitive proposal is permitted only for qualifications-based procurement of architectural and engineering services, in which price is not a selection factor and reasonable compensation is negotiated after source selection. This alternative is not permitted for procurement of other types of services.

Competitive proposals shall be evaluated by the

- **{X**} Superintendent **and/or**
- **X** Business Manager Chief Financial Officer and/or
- **{X}** Federal Programs Coordinator

based on factors including but not limited to:

- 1. Cost.
- **{X}** Experience of contractor.
- **{X}** Availability.
- **{X}** Personnel qualifications.
- **{X**} Financial stability.
- **X** Minority business, women's business enterprise, or labor surplus area firm status.
- **{X}** Project management expertise.
- **{X}** Understanding of district needs.
- { } Other _____.

Evaluations shall be completed in a timely manner, documented and shall be reviewed by the

- $\{ \}$ Board.
- **{X**} Superintendent. **and/or**

X Business Manager. Chief Financial Officer and/or

- **{X}** Federal Programs Coordinator.
- { } school solicitor.

Contract/Price Analysis

The district performs a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of **\$250,000**, including contract modifications. (2 CFR Sec. 200.323(a)).

A **cost analysis** generally means evaluating the separate cost elements that make up the total price, while a **price analysis** means evaluating the total price, without looking at the individual cost elements.

The method and degree of analysis is dependent on the facts surrounding the particular procurement situation; however, the

{X} Superintendent **or**

{X} Business Manager Chief Financial Officer or

{X} Federal Programs Coordinator

must come to an independent estimate prior to receiving bids or proposals. (2 CFR Sec. 200.323(a)). As part of the analysis, the <u>Chief Financial Officer</u> will enact established business practices which may include evaluation of similar prior procurements and a review process.

Negotiated Profit

In any procurement in which there has been no price competition, or in which a cost-analysis is performed, profit must be negotiated separately as an element of price. Accordingly, solicitations of bids, proposals or quotes shall require that bids, proposals or quotes be limited to costs other than profit, and exclude profit.

To establish a fair and reasonable profit, consideration is given to the complexity of the work to be performed, the risk borne by the contractor, the contractor's investment, the amount of subcontracting, the quality of its record of past performance, and industry profit rates in the surrounding geographical area for similar work. (2 CFR Sec. 200.323(b)).

When profit must be negotiated as a separate element of the total price, it shall be negotiated by the

{X} Superintendent. **or**

{X} Business Manager. Chief Financial Officer or

{X} Federal Programs Coordinator.

Noncompetitive Proposals (Sole Sourcing)

Procurement by noncompetitive proposals means procurement through solicitation of a proposal from only one (1) source and may be used only when one or more of the following circumstances apply:

- 1. The item is available only from a single source.
- 2. The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation. An **emergency** exists whenever the time required for the Board to act in accordance with regular procedures would endanger life or property or threaten continuance of existing school classes.
- 3. The federal awarding agency or pass-through entity expressly authorizes noncompetitive proposals in response to a written request from the district.
- 4. After solicitation of a number of sources, the district determines the competition is inadequate.

In addition to standard procurement policy and procedures, the district will document the grounds for using the noncompetitive method in lieu of an otherwise required competitive method of procurement, which may include written confirmation from the contractor as the sole source of the item. Documentation must be submitted to and maintained by the Business Office.

All noncompetitive proposals will ultimately be approved by the Board. The district may utilize legal advice from the solicitor regarding noncompetitive proposals.

Profit must be negotiated separately for noncompetitive proposals, and a cost or price analysis will also be performed for noncompetitive proposals when the price exceeds **\$250,000**.

Purchase Cards

The district approves the use of procurement cards for permissible purchases by designated employees to improve the efficiency of purchasing activities, reduce processing expenses, improve controls for small-dollar purchases, and streamline contractor payment.

Procurement cards may be used for purchases under federal programs. The use of procurement cards is governed by Board policy 625 Procurement Cards and established administrative regulations. (Pol. 625)

Full and Open Competition

All procurement transactions must be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with 2 CFR Sec. 200.319. In order to ensure objective contractor performance and eliminate unfair competitive advantage, contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids or requests for proposals must be excluded from competing for such procurements. Some of the situations considered to be restrictive of competition include but are not limited to:

- 1. Placing unreasonable requirements on firms in order for them to qualify to do business.
- 2. Requiring unnecessary experience and excessive bonding.
- 3. Noncompetitive pricing practices between firms or between affiliated companies.
- 4. Noncompetitive contracts to consultants that are on retainer contracts.
- 5. Organizational conflicts of interest.
- 6. Specifying only a "brand name" product instead of allowing "an equal" product to be offered and describing the performance or other relevant requirements of the procurement.
- 7. Any arbitrary action in the procurement process.

Minority Businesses, Women's Business Enterprises, Labor Surplus Area Firms

The district must take necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible. Affirmative steps must include: (2 CFR Sec. 200.321)

- 1. Placing qualified small and minority business and women's business enterprises on solicitation lists.
- 2. Assuring that small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources.
- 3. Dividing total purchasing requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority business and women's business enterprises.
- 4. Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises.
- 5. Using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.
- 6. Requiring the prime contractor, if subcontracts are let, to take the affirmative steps listed above.

Geographical Preferences Prohibited

The district must conduct procurements in a manner that prohibits the use of statutorily or administratively imposed state, local, or tribal geographical preferences in the evaluation of bids or proposals, except in those cases where applicable federal statutes expressly mandate or encourage geographic preference. When contracting for architectural and engineering (A/E) services, geographic location may be a selection criterion provided its application leaves an appropriate number of qualified firms, given the nature and size of the project, to compete for the contract.

[See Food Service Program Notes below for permissibility of geographic preferences and "Buy American" practices in purchasing certain food products]

Prequalified Lists

The district must ensure that all prequalified lists of persons, firms, or products which are used in acquiring goods and services are current and include enough qualified sources to ensure maximum open and free competition. Also, the district must not preclude potential bidders from qualifying during the solicitation period.

[See Food Service Program Notes below for reference to state requirements regarding contracts with food service management companies and contractors of pre-plated meals.]

Solicitation Language

The district must ensure that all solicitations incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Such description must not, in competitive procurements, contain features which unduly restrict competition. The description may include a statement of the qualitative nature of the material, product or service to be procured and, when necessary, must set forth those minimum essential characteristics and standards to which it must conform if it is to satisfy its intended use. Detailed product specifications should be avoided if at all possible.

When it is impractical or uneconomical to make a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements, a "brand name or equivalent" description may be used as a means to define the performance or other salient requirements of procurement. The specific features of the named brand which must be met by offers must be clearly stated; and identify all requirements which the offerors must fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.

Avoiding Acquisition of Unnecessary or Duplicative Items

The district must avoid the acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items. Additionally, consideration must be given to consolidating or breaking out procurements to obtain a more economical purchase; and, where appropriate, an analysis must be made of leases versus purchase alternatives, and any other appropriate analysis to determine the most economical approach.

These considerations are given as part of the process to determine the allowability of each purchase made with federal funds. Such considerations are accessible in the procedure attached to Policy 626: Allowability of Costs – Federal Programs.

Use of Intergovernmental Agreements and Cooperative Purchasing

To foster greater economy and efficiency, the district enters into state and local intergovernmental agreements where appropriate for cooperative purchasing or use of common or shared goods and services, as permitted by the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, the School Code and the Commonwealth Procurement Code. (Pol. 613; 53 Pa. C.S. Ch. 23; 24 P.S. 521; 62 Pa. C.S. Ch. 19)

When procuring supplies or services for federally funded purposes to which the Uniform Grant Guidance applies, the district shall verify that the organization conducting the procurement pursuant to such agreements complies with the applicable procurement methods, requirements and standards of the Uniform Grant Guidance as outlined in this procedure.

Use of Federal Excess and Surplus Property

The district considers the use of federal excess and surplus property in lieu of purchasing new equipment and property whenever such use is feasible and reduces project costs.

Debarment and Suspension

The district awards contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources.

[See Food Service Program Notes below for reference to state requirements regarding contracts with food service management companies and contractors of pre-plated meals.]

The district may not subcontract with or award subgrants to any person or company who is debarred or suspended. For all contracts over \$25,000 the district verifies that the contractor with whom the district intends to do business is not excluded or disqualified. (2 CFR Part 200, Appendix II, and 2 CFR Sec. 180.220 and 180.300).

All successful contractors must provide written certification that they have not been suspended or debarred from federal projects. The

{X} Business Manager Chief Financial Officer or

{X} Federal Programs Coordinator

will be responsible for verification. Such verification may include accessing the online federal System for Award Management (SAM) to determine whether any relevant party is subject to any suspension or debarment restrictions.

Maintenance of Procurement Records

The district must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of all procurements. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, the basis for the contract price (including a cost or price analysis), and verification that the contractor is not suspended or debarred.

Maintenance of records of procurement will be governed by Board policy 800 Records Management and the district's established records retention schedule. (Pol. 800)

Time and Materials Contracts

The district may use a time and materials type contract only: (1) after a determination that no other contract is suitable; and (2) if the contract includes a ceiling price that the contractor exceeds at its own risk. **Time and materials type contract** means a contract whose cost to the district is the sum of: the actual costs of materials, and direct labor hours charged at fixed hourly rates that reflect wages, general and administrative expenses, and profit.

Since this formula generates an open-ended contract price, a time-and-materials contract provides no positive profit incentive to the contractor for cost control or labor efficiency. Therefore, each contract must set a ceiling price that the contractor exceeds at its own risk. Further, the district must assert a high degree of oversight in order to obtain reasonable assurance that the contractor is using efficient methods and effective cost controls.

Settlements of Issues Arising Out of Procurements

The district alone is responsible, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment, for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, protests, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the district of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts. Violations of law will be referred to the local, state, or federal authority having proper jurisdiction.

Protest Procedures to Resolve Dispute

The district maintains protest procedures to handle and resolve disputes relating to procurements and, in all instances, discloses information regarding the protest to the awarding agency. Protest procedures will be acted on in accordance with current state law and regulations, established district administrative regulations and the advice of the solicitor. (Pol. 610)

Food Service Program Notes:

Exemption from Bidding for Perishable Food Items -

The School Code exempts purchases of perishable food items from bidding requirements. Bidding for perishable food items is required only if the cost would be at or over the federal threshold at which formal competitive bidding is required (**\$250,000**). Small purchase procedures may be used for purchases below **\$250,000**, or micro-purchase procedures for purchases below **\$10,000**. Use of bidding should be considered as an option if it is feasible and likely to result in cost savings.(24 P.S. Sec. 504(d))

Geographic Preferences -

The district is permitted to apply a geographic preference when procuring unprocessed locally grown or locally raised agricultural products. When a geographic preference is applied, the district has discretion to determine the local area to which the geographic preference option will be applied.

Unprocessed locally grown or locally raised agricultural products means only those agricultural products that retain their inherent character. The effects of the following food handling and preservation techniques shall not be considered as changing an agricultural product into a product of a different kind or character: cooling; refrigerating; freezing; size adjustment made by peeling, slicing, dicing, cutting, chopping, shucking, and grinding; forming ground products into patties without any additives or fillers; drying/dehydration; washing; packaging (such as placing eggs in cartons), vacuum packing and bagging (such as placing vegetables in bags or combining two (2) or more types of vegetables or fruits in a single package); the addition of ascorbic acid or other preservatives to prevent oxidation of produce; butchering livestock and poultry; cleaning fish; and the pasteurization of milk. (7 CFR Sec. 210.21, 215.14a, 220.16)

Buy American -

The district shall purchase, to the maximum extent practicable, domestic commodities or products for food service purposes. The term **domestic commodity or product** means: (7 CFR Sec. 210.21, 220.16)

- 1. An agricultural commodity that is produced in the United States; and
- 2. A food product that is processed in the United States substantially using agricultural commodities that are produced in the United States.

Mandatory Contract Clauses -

The following provisions shall be included in all cost reimbursable contracts for food services purchases, including contracts with cost reimbursable provisions, and in solicitation documents prepared to obtain offers for such contracts: (7 CFR Sec. 210.21, 215.14a, 220.16)

- 1. Allowable costs will be paid from the nonprofit school food service account to the contractor net of all discounts, rebates and other applicable credits accruing to or received by the contractor or any assignee under the contract, to the extent those credits are allocable to the allowable portion of the costs billed to the school food authority;
- 2. (a) The contractor must separately identify for each cost submitted for payment to the school food authority the amount of that cost that is allowable (can be paid from the nonprofit school food service account) and the amount that is unallowable (cannot be paid from the nonprofit school food service account); or

(b) The contractor must exclude all unallowable costs from its billing documents and certify that only allowable costs are submitted for payment and records have been established that maintain the visibility of unallowable costs, including directly associated costs in a manner suitable for contract cost determination and verification;

- 3. The contractor's determination of its allowable costs must be made in compliance with the applicable departmental and program regulations and Office of Management and Budget cost circulars;
- 4. The contractor must identify the amount of each discount, rebate and other applicable credit on bills and invoices presented to the school food authority for payment and individually identify the amount as a discount, rebate, or in the case of other applicable credits, the nature of the credit. If approved by the state agency, the school food authority may permit the contractor to report this information on a less frequent basis than monthly, but no less frequently than annually;
- 5. The contractor must identify the method by which it will report discounts, rebates and other applicable credits allocable to the contract that are not reported prior to conclusion of the contract; and
- 6. The contractor must maintain documentation of costs and discounts, rebates and other applicable credits, and must furnish such documentation upon request to the school food authority, the state agency, or the department.

Contracts with Food Service Management Companies -

Procedures for selecting and contracting with a food service management company (FSMC) shall comply with guidance provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Division of Food and Nutrition, including standard forms, procedures and timelines for solicitation, selection and approval of proposals and contracts. (7 CFR Sec. 210.16, 210.19, 210.21, 215.14a, 220.16)

Pre-Plated Meals -

Procedures for selecting and contracting with contractors of pre-plated meals shall comply with guidance provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Division of Food and Nutrition, including standard forms, procedures and timelines for solicitation, selection and approval of proposals and contracts. (7 CFR Sec. 210.16, 210.19, 210.21, 220.16)

PSBA Revision 12/18



UPDATED All new and reworked

Book	Policy Manual
Section	700 Property
Title	Use of School Facilities
Code	707
Status	Review
Adopted	July 19, 2011
Last Revised	April 21, 2015

<u>Purpose</u>

The Board recognizes that although the primary purpose of the school buildings, facilities and property is to provide students with an appropriate learning environment, the Board may make school facilities available to individuals and community groups without discrimination and in accordance with this policy, provided the use does not interfere with the educational program of the schools.

<u>Authority</u>

The Board directs that use of school facilities may be granted to individuals and community groups for the following types of activities:

- 1. **(X)** Instruction in any branch of education, learning and the arts, consistent with the school district's mission.
- 2. **W** Social, civic and recreational meetings and entertainment, and other uses pertaining to the welfare of the community; but such use shall be non-exclusive and open to the public without charge.
- 3. { } Polling places for holding primaries, elections and special elections, as permitted or required by state law.
- 4. **W** Recreation, physical training and athletics, including competitive athletic contests for children and adults.

The Board shall establish a schedule of fees for the use of school facilities by approved groups.[1]

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent shall ensure that this policy is posted on the district's publicly accessible website. [2]

The Superintendent or designee shall implement administrative regulations or procedures for requesting and granting permission for use of school facilities and shall distribute the necessary information to individuals affected by them.

An application for use of school facilities may be disapproved because of noncompliance with established policy and procedures by the

🚯 Superintendent. and

W Business Manager. Chief Financial Officer

- { } Board Secretary.
- { } building principal.
- { } Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds.

Guidelines

Application Process

An individual or community group requesting permission to use school buildings, facilities or school property must submit a written request on the prescribed application form at least ten (10) days in advance of the proposed date to the **Facility Use System**

- { } Superintendent.
- { } Business Manager.
- { } Board Secretary.
- { } building principal.
- { } Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds.

The application must specify the portion of the school facilities requested for use; proposed activities; number of individuals participating; and the date, time and duration of the proposed event.

Along with the completed application, the individual or group must submit the following:

- 1. 🚯 Payment of the specified rental fee.
- 2. 🚯 Evidence of organizational liability to limits required by district guidelines.
- 3. **(X)** Documentation evidencing the school district shall be held harmless by the user for any liability that arises from use of school facilities by the individual or group.

Application Evaluation

No application to use school facilities shall be approved if the proposed activity would result in any of the following:

- 1. 🚯 Conflict with any school-sponsored activity.
- 2. **X** Access to school facilities closed due to renovations, maintenance, cleaning, the school calendar, or Board action.
- 3. **W** Access to school facilities containing equipment or furnishings which would be detrimental to the operation of a district program if damaged or operated by an unqualified operator.
- 4. **W** The proposed use would prevent or encumber district personnel from preparing school facilities for their primary purpose, because of the nature or duration of the activity.
- 5. { } Individual or community group uses school facilities in excess of five (5) times during any calendar year for the same purpose. This limitation shall not apply to individual athletic contests for children or adults that are part of an overall athletic season schedule, and the use is approved by the Board.
 Policy 707 Pg. 2

Limitations

When individuals and community groups receive written permission to use school facilities under this policy, such use shall be conditioned upon strict compliance with the following:

- 1. **(X)** Individuals shall not use, access or enter upon any portions of the school facilities or their contents not specified in the approved written request form.
- 2. **W** Individuals shall refrain from any conduct or activities not specifically identified in the approved written request form.
- 3. **(X)** All activities must begin after 5:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. on Sunday.
- 4. { } All activities must terminate and all individuals and community group members must exit the school premises by _____ p.m.
- 5. { } When advertising or promoting activities held at school facilities, individuals and community groups shall clearly communicate that the activities are not being sponsored by the school district.
- 6. X School equipment used in conjunction with requested facilities shall be identified when the application is submitted. Users of school equipment must accept liability for any damage to or loss of equipment that occurs while in their use. Where rules so specify, no equipment may be used except by a qualified operator, provided by the school.

Prohibited Activities

The following activities are strictly prohibited in school facilities when individuals and community groups are granted written permission to use said school facilities: [3]

- 1. 🚯 Possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs and/or alcoholic beverages.
- 2. X Possession of weapons.
- 3. **W** Conduct that would alter, damage or be injurious to any district property, equipment or furnishings.
- 4. 🚯 Conduct that would constitute a violation of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, and/or state and federal laws and regulations.
- 5. **W** Gambling, games of chance, lotteries, raffles or other activities requiring a license under the Local Option Small Games of Chance Act, unless such activity has been expressly authorized by the Board or administration.[4][5]
- 6. **W** Use of tobacco/nicotine and nicotine delivery products. This policy does not prohibit the use of a nicotine patch, gum or lozenge as a smoking cessation product by adults using the school facilities.[6][7][8]

{ } The Board designates specific areas for tobacco**/nicotine** use by the public on property owned, leased or controlled by the district that is at least fifty (50) feet from school buildings, stadiums and bleachers. [8]

Violations

The school district reserves the right to remove from school district premises any individual or community group who fails to comply with the terms and conditions of this policy and established procedures. [3]

In the event an individual or community group violates this policy or the terms under which permission was granted to use school facilities, that individual or community group forfeits the right to submit future written requests to use school district property, unless otherwise decided by the Board.

Fee Schedule

Use of school facilities for activities directly related to the educational program and district operations shall be without cost to users.

 \bigotimes except that the user shall be responsible for extra custodial fees.

NOTES:

SC 777 Defacing, damaging school property

Watch for discriminatory language, i.e., not allowing Boy Scouts to use but allowing other nonschool groups.

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Legal

24 P.S. 775
 24 P.S. 510.2
 24 P.S. 511
 10 P.S. 328.101 et seq
 61 PA Code 901.701
 20 U.S.C. 7182
 20 U.S.C. 7183
 35 P.S. 1223.5
 P.S. 779
 PA Code 901.1
 U.S.C. 7181 et seq
 U.S.C. 7905

Last Modified by Janice Boyer on January 3, 2019



UPDATED Bold is new

Book	Policy Manual
Section	900 Community
Title	Public Attendance at School Events
Code	904
Status	Review
Adopted	July 19, 2011
Last Revised	July 16, 2013

<u>Purpose</u>

The Board welcomes the public at activities and events sponsored by the school district, but the Board also acknowledges its duty to maintain order and preserve school facilities during such events.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, **tobacco** includes a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, **cigarillo**, **little cigar**, pipe or other smoking product or material and smokeless tobacco in any form **including chewing tobacco**, **snuff**, **dip or dissolvable tobacco pieces**.[1]

For purposes of this policy, nicotine shall mean a product that contains or consists of nicotine in a form that can be ingested by chewing, smoking, inhaling or through other means.

For purposes of this policy, a nicotine delivery product shall mean a product or device used, intended for use or designed for the purpose of ingesting nicotine or another substance. This definition includes, but is not limited to, any device or associated product used for what is commonly referred to as vaping or juuling.

<u>Authority</u>

The Board has the authority to prohibit at a school event the attendance of any individual whose conduct may constitute a disruption. The Board prohibits gambling and the possession and use of controlled substances, alcoholic beverages and weapons on school premises. [2][3]

Delegation of Responsibility

A schedule of fees for attendance at school events shall be prepared by the Superintendent or designee and adopted by the Board.

The Superintendent shall ensure that this policy is posted on the district's publicly accessible website. [4]

Guidelines

Tobacco/Nicotine

The Board prohibits **use of** tobacco, **nicotine and nicotine delivery products** by any persons in its school buildings and on any property, buses, vans and vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by the school district.[1][5]

{ } The Board designates specific areas for **use of** tobacco, **nicotine and nicotine delivery products** by the public on property owned, leased or controlled by the district that is at least fifty (50) feet from school buildings, stadiums and bleachers. [1]

This policy does not prohibit the use of a nicotine patch, gum or lozenge as a smoking cessation product by adult members of the public in attendance at school events.

Reporting -

The Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report all incidents of possession, use or sale of tobacco, **nicotine and nicotine delivery products** by any person on school property to the Office for Safe Schools on the required form.[6][7]

Additional Reports - Tobacco Only -

The Superintendent or designee may report incidents involving the sale of tobacco to minors by any person on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity to the **school police**, **school resource officer** (**SRO**), **or to the** local police department that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.[6][7][8][9][10][11]

Free Admittance

- { } Senior citizens who are district residents and are _____ years of age or older shall be admitted
 - () without charge
 - () at a reduced fee
 - () to all school events.
 - () to all school athletic events.
- { } District personnel will be admitted
 - () to all school events
 - () at no charge.
 - () at a reduced fee.
- { } Free passes to school events will be available to each Board member.
 - () and a guest.

{ } The Board will honor athletic passes from all districts that are members of conferences in which teams of this district compete and honor the passes of this district.

Service Animals

Individuals with disabilities may be accompanied by their service animals while on district property for events that are open to the general public in accordance with Board policy and state and federal laws and regulations. [12][13][14]

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Legal

1. 35 P.S. 1223.5
2. 24 P.S. 511
3. 24 P.S. 775
4. 24 P.S. 510.2
5. 20 U.S.C. 7183
6. 24 P.S. 1303-A
7. Pol. 805.1
8. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 6305
9. 22 PA Code 10.2
10. 22 PA Code 10.22
11. 24 P.S. 1302.1-A
12. 28 CFR 35.136
13. 43 P.S. 953
14. Pol. 718
20 U.S.C. 7181 et seq
28 CFR Part 35

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Last Modified by Janice Boyer on January 2, 2019

PUBLIC BEHAVIOR AT SCHOOL EVENTS

The district expects mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct by all individuals attending school events on district property.

Expected Behavior

Individuals attending school events on district property will not:

- 1. Injure, threaten, harass or intimidate a district employee, sports official or coach or any other person.
- 2. Act in an unsafe manner that could threaten the health or safety of others.
- 3. Use vulgar or obscene language or gestures.
- 4. Fight, strike or injure another person.
- 5. Damage, deface or threaten to damage district property.
- 6. Damage, deface or threaten to damage another individual's property.
- 7. Engage in any activity that violates any federal or state law or regulation or any local policy, regulation or ordinance.
- 8. Violate any Board policy or district administrative regulation.
- 9. Use any tobacco, nicotine or nicotine delivery product, except in an area designated and posted by the district. These rules do not prohibit the use of nicotine gum, patch or lozenge as a smoking cessation product by adults attending school events.
- 10. Consume, possess, distribute or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs.
- 11. Possess or use weapons or dangerous devices prohibited by the district.
- 12. Impede, delay, disrupt or interfere with any school activity or event, including using cellular telephones in a disruptive manner.
- 13. Enter upon any portion of district or school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the Board.
- 14. Operate a motor vehicle in a risky manner, in excess of posted traffic signage, or in violation of an authorized district employee's directive.

- 15. Engage in any risky behavior, such as roller skating, roller blading or skateboarding.
- 16. Fail to obey the directive of an authorized district employee, security officer, school police officer, school resource officer (SRO) or local law enforcement official.

As circumstances warrant, the administrator in charge will take appropriate action, including warning the person in violation, requesting the person to immediately leave district property, contacting law enforcement officials, and seeking to deny future admission to school events.

Continuation or escalation of prohibited behavior after a warning will result in ejection from the event premises.

Behavior that is unlawful or in violation of Board policy or administrative regulations may result in immediate ejection of the person in violation from the event premises.

Disruptive behavior by a group when individual persons cannot be identified may result in the ejection of offending areas of spectator seating.

A district employee may request identification from any individual on district grounds and in district buildings. Refusal to provide such information is a criminal act and may result in a request to leave district property.

An employee involved in an incident with an attendee at a school event will complete an incident report and submit it to the building principal or immediate supervisor, who will report the incident to the Superintendent.

Crowd Control

A designated administrator will be assigned responsibility for monitoring and supervising the orderly conduct of students and spectators attending school events on district property. Crowd control procedures may include the following:

- 1. The administrator will ensure that enough authorized district personnel are assigned to provide adequate supervision.
- 2. The administrator may request law enforcement officials to be present if s/he anticipates the crowd may pose a behavior or safety problem, and may direct the placement of the officers.
- 3. The admissions gate and/or entrances will be regulated, and admission will be limited to eligible students, spectators and other authorized attendees. No one under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be admitted.
- 4. If a disturbance occurs, the administrator will determine if the event needs to be concluded, and s/he may close the event and direct those in attendance to immediately leave school grounds.