

GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

DATE OF MEETING:

April 10, 2018

TITLE:

Study of Revisions to Governing Board Policies BBBA (Board Member Qualifications; IKE-RB (Promotion and Retention of Students: Competency Requirements for Promotion of Students from Third Grade), and JK (Student Discipline). Study of Proposed Policy JLDB (Restraint and Seclusion).

BACKGROUND:

Administrative staff and the Arizona School Boards Association have recommended revisions to current policies to clarify language and to address changes in the law. Policies presented for the Board's study this evening are:

Policy BBBA - Board Member Qualifications.

Language in this policy has been updated to reflect new language in statute (A.R.S. 15-421) related to board member qualifications pertaining to employment with a third-party contractor.

Policy Regulation IKE-RB — Promotion and Retention of Students.

Pursuant to revisions to A.R.S. 15-219 and A.R.S. 15-701, language in this policy regulation has been updated to provide additional mandatory considerations prior to the determination of a promotion/retention decision for a student who is in the process of a special education referral or placement evaluation, or is a student who has been diagnosed as having a significant reading impairment.

Changes to A.R.S. 15-701 also require revisions related to reading deficiency interventions prior to a student's promotion from third grade.

Policy JK and Regulation JK-RB – Student Discipline.

Policy JK has been altered by moving some language and modifying a heading title in order to eliminate the assumption that everything that follows in this document pertains to special needs students.

Clarification has been added to communicate the rules pertaining to discipline, suspension, expulsion, and the provisions pertaining to confinement of students at the beginning of each school year, and to transfer students at the time of their enrollment in school. The provisions relating to confinement are retained in Policy JK as they were passed by the Fifty-First Legislature, First Regular Session, in House Bill 2476, which amended section A.R.S. 15-843 relating to student discipline and is applicable to all students.

Language pertaining to restraint and seclusion applicable to all students had been previously added to this Policy. The ASBA notified the Administration that the language generated some discussion and questions among educators pertaining to the practical application of the policy in a variety of situations, including confrontations with students. The ASBA subsequently acknowledged that restraint and seclusion is not intended to be disciplinary options; the language has been deleted and moved to proposed policy JLDB.

Regulation JK-RB has been deleted in its entirety as its provisions have been superseded by changes in statute.

Proposed Policy JLDB - Restraint and Seclusion.

Policy language pertaining to Restraint and Seclusion formerly in Policy JK has been deleted and moved to proposed Policy JLDB. Restraint and Seclusion are not intended to be disciplinary options; therefore, a standalone policy allows easier access to the provisions and limitations in statute sans the additional language offered in the discipline documents.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is presented for the Board's review and discussion at this time; no action is required. The proposed policy documents, along with any Board-directed revisions, will be presented for approval at the next Board meeting.

INITIATED BY:

Michelle H. Tong, J.D.,

Associate to the Superintendent and General Counsel

Date: March 30, 2018

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent