

No. _____



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC: _____ First Reading of Local Policies in Update 81

SUBMITTED BY: Gloria Rendon **OF:** Asst. to the Superintendent

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: February 20, 2008

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve First Reading of LOCAL Policies in Update 81.

LOCAL POLICIES

BDAE - OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS - DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS OF DEPOSITORY

DGBA - PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS - EMPLOYEE COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES

FD - ADMISSIONS

FEA - ATTENDANCE - COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

FEC - ATTENDANCE - ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT

FFH - STUDENT WELFARE - FREEDOM FROM HARASSMENT

GKC - COMMUNITY RELATIONS - VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS

RATIONALE:

BUDGETARY INFORMATION

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS:
DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS OF DEPOSITORY

BDAE
(LOCAL)

ALLOWABLE
COLLATERAL

Eligible securities for collateralization of deposits are those defined as "eligible securities" by the Public Funds Collateral Act.

MONITORING
COLLATERAL
ADEQUACY

The District shall require monthly reports with market values of pledged securities from all financial institutions with which the District has collateralized deposits. The investment officers shall monitor adequacy of collateralization levels to verify market values and total collateral positions.

RELEASE OF
PLEGGED
SECURITIES

The investment officer or designee shall approve in writing the release or substitution of any securities pledged to the District that are being held by any organization.

United ISD
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OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS
DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS OF DEPOSITORY

BDAE
(LOCAL)

SELECTING A
DEPOSITORY

The Superintendent or designee shall have the authority to determine the method of selecting a depository in accordance with BDAE(LEGAL).

ALLOWABLE
COLLATERAL

Eligible securities for collateralization of deposits are those defined as "eligible securities" by the Public Funds Collateral Act. [See CDA]

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**PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS:
EMPLOYEE COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES**

DGBA
(LOCAL)

GUIDING PRINCIPLES	<p>The Board encourages employees to discuss their concerns and complaints through informal conferences with their supervisor, principal, or other appropriate administrator.</p> <p>Concerns should be expressed as soon as possible to allow early resolution at the lowest possible administrative level.</p>
INFORMAL PROCESS	
FORMAL PROCESS	<p>If an informal conference regarding a complaint fails to reach the outcome requested by the employee, he or she may initiate the formal process described below by timely filing a written complaint form.</p> <p>Even after initiating the formal complaint process, employees are encouraged to seek informal resolution of their concerns. An employee whose concerns are resolved may withdraw a formal complaint at any time.</p> <p>The process described in this policy shall not be construed to create new or additional rights beyond those granted by law or Board policy, nor to require a full evidentiary hearing or "mini-trial" at any level.</p>
FREEDOM FROM RETALIATION	<p>Neither the Board nor any District employee shall unlawfully retaliate against an employee for bringing a concern or complaint. [See DG]</p>
NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES	<p>The principal of each campus and other supervisory personnel shall inform employees of this policy.</p>
SPECIFIC COMPLAINTS	<p>For more information on how to proceed with complaints regarding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Alleged discrimination, including violations of Title IX or Section 504, see DAA.2. Instructional materials, see EFA.3. A commissioned peace officer who is an employee of the District, see CKE.
OTHER REVIEW PROCESSES	<p>Complaints alleging certain forms of harassment shall be processed in accordance with DIA.</p> <p>Complaints arising from any of the following must be addressed through the local and statutory processes indicated below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The proposed nonrenewal of a term contract issued under Chapter 21 of the Texas Education Code, in accordance with DFBB.2. The proposed termination or suspension without pay of an employee on a probationary, term, or continuing contract

PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS:
EMPLOYEE COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES

DGBA
(LOCAL)

issued under Chapter 21 of the Texas Education Code during the contract term, in accordance with DFAA, DFBA, or DFCA, respectively.

This policy shall apply to all other employee complaints.

DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this policy, terms are defined as follows:

COMPLAINT /
GRIEVANCE

The terms "complaint" and "grievance" shall have the same meaning. A complaint under this policy may include:

1. Grievances concerning an employee's wages, hours, or conditions of work;
2. Specific allegations of unlawful discrimination in employment based on the employee's sex, race, religion, national origin, age, or disability;
3. Specific allegations of unlawful discrimination or retaliation based on the employee's exercise of legally protected rights; or
4. Specific allegations of adverse personnel action based on the employee's good faith report to an appropriate law enforcement authority of a violation of a law by the District or a District employee, i.e., "whistleblower complaints." [See DG]
5. Complaints arising from the dismissal or termination of an at-will employee. [See DCD]
6. Complaints arising from the termination at end of year of the probationary contract of a professional employee. [See DFAA]

FILING

Complaint forms and appeal notices may be filed by hand-delivery, fax, or U.S. Mail. Hand-delivered filings shall be timely filed if received by the appropriate administrator or designee by the close of business on the deadline. Fax filings shall be timely filed if they are received on or before the deadline, as indicated by the date/time shown on the fax copy. Mail filings shall be timely filed if they are postmarked by U.S. Mail on the deadline and received by the appropriate administrator or designated representative no more than three days after the deadline.

RESPONSE

At Levels One and Two, "response" shall mean a written communication to the employee from the appropriate administrator. Responses may be hand-delivered or sent by U.S. Mail to the employee's mailing address of record. Mailed responses shall be timely if they are postmarked by U.S. Mail on the deadline and received by the employee or designated representative no more than three days after the response deadline.

PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS:
EMPLOYEE COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES

DGBA
(LOCAL)

DAYS	<p>"Days" shall mean District business days. In calculating time lines under this policy, the day a document is filed is "day zero," and all deadlines shall be determined by counting the following day as "day one."</p>
REPRESENTATIVE	<p>"Representative" means any person who or an organization that does not claim the right to strike and is designated by the employee to represent him or her in the complaint process.</p> <p>The employee may designate a representative through written notice to the District at any level of this process. If the employee designates a representative with fewer than three days' notice to the District before a scheduled conference or hearing, the District may reschedule the conference or hearing to a later date, if desired, in order to include the District's counsel.</p>
WHISTLEBLOWER COMPLAINTS	<p>Whistleblower complaints shall be filed within the time specified by law. Such complaints shall first be filed in accordance with LEVEL TWO, below. Time lines for the employee and the District set out in this policy may be shortened to allow the Board to make a final decision within 60 days of the initiation of the complaint. [See DG]</p>
GENERAL PROVISIONS	<p>Complaints arising out of an event or a series of related events shall be addressed in one complaint. Employees shall not bring separate or serial complaints arising from any event or series of events that have been or could have been addressed in a previous complaint.</p> <p>When two or more complaints are sufficiently similar in nature and remedy sought to permit their resolution through one proceeding, the District may consolidate the complaints.</p>
UNTIMELY FILINGS	<p>All time limits shall be strictly followed unless modified by mutual written consent.</p> <p>If a complaint form or appeal notice is not timely filed, the complaint may be dismissed, on written notice to the employee, at any point during the complaint process. The employee may appeal the dismissal by seeking review in writing within ten days, starting at the level at which the complaint was dismissed. Such appeal shall be limited to the issue of timeliness.</p>
COSTS INCURRED	<p>Each party shall pay its own costs incurred in the course of the complaint.</p>
COMPLAINT FORM	<p>Complaints under this policy shall be submitted in writing on a form provided by the District.</p> <p>Copies of any documents that support the complaint should be attached to the complaint form. If the employee does not have</p>

PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS:
EMPLOYEE COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES

DGBA
(LOCAL)

copies of these documents, they may be presented at the Level One conference. After the Level One conference, no new documents may be submitted.

A complaint form that is incomplete in any material aspect may be dismissed, but may be refiled with all the requested information if the refiled is within the designated time for filing a complaint.

LEVEL ONE

Complaint forms must be filed:

1. Within 15 days of the date the employee first knew, or with reasonable diligence should have known, of the decision or action giving rise to the complaint or grievance; and
2. With the lowest level administrator who has the authority to remedy the alleged problem.

In most circumstances, employees on a school campus shall file Level One complaints with the campus principal; other District employees shall file Level One complaints with their immediate supervisor.

If the only administrator who has authority to remedy the alleged problem is the Superintendent or designee, the complaint may begin at Level Two following the procedure, including deadlines, for filing the complaint form at Level One.

If the complaint is not filed with the appropriate administrator, the receiving administrator must note the date and time the complaint form was received and immediately forward the complaint form to the appropriate administrator.

The appropriate administrator shall hold a conference with the employee within ten days after receipt of the written complaint.

The administrator shall have 14 days following the conference to provide the employee a written response.

LEVEL TWO

If the employee did not receive the relief requested at Level One or if the time for a response has expired, the employee may request a conference with the Superintendent or designee to appeal the Level One decision.

The appeal notice must be filed in writing, on a form provided by the District, within seven days after receipt of a response or, if no response was received, within seven days of the response deadline at Level One.

The Superintendent or designee shall hold a conference within ten days after the appeal notice is filed. At the conference, the Super-

PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS:
EMPLOYEE COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES

DGBA
(LOCAL)

LEVEL THREE

intendent or designee shall consider only the issues and documents presented at Level One and identified in the Level Two appeal notice. The Superintendent or designee shall have 14 days following the conference to provide the employee a written response.

If the employee did not receive the relief requested at Level Two or if the time for a response has expired, the employee may appeal the decision to the Board.

The appeal notice must be filed in writing, on a form provided by the District, within seven days after receipt of a response or, if no response was received, within seven days of the response deadline at Level Two.

The Superintendent or designee shall inform the employee of the date, time, and place of the Board meeting at which the complaint will be on the agenda for presentation to the Board.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide the Board with copies of the complaint form, all responses, all appeal notices, and all written documentation previously submitted by the employee or the administration. The Board shall consider only those issues and documents presented at the preceding levels and identified in the appeal notice.

The District shall determine whether the complaint will be presented in open or closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act and other applicable law. [See BE]

The presiding officer may set reasonable time limits and guidelines for the presentation. The Board shall hear the complaint and may request that the administration provide an explanation for the decisions at the preceding levels.

In addition to any other record of the Board meeting required by law, the Board shall prepare a separate record of the Level Three presentation. The Level Three presentation, including the presentation by the employee or the employee's representative, any presentation from the administration, and questions from the Board with responses, shall be recorded by audio recording, video/audio recording, or court reporter.

The Board shall then consider the complaint. It may give notice of its decision orally or in writing at any time up to and including the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. If for any reason the Board fails to reach a decision regarding the complaint by the end of the next regularly scheduled meeting, the lack of a response by the Board upholds the administrative decision at Level Two.

PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS
EMPLOYEE COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES

DGBA
(LOCAL)

GUIDING PRINCIPLES
INFORMAL
PROCESS

The Board encourages employees to discuss their concerns and complaints through informal conferences with their supervisor, principal, or other appropriate administrator.

Concerns should be expressed as soon as possible to allow early resolution at the lowest possible administrative level.

New Section
DIRECT
COMMUNICATION
WITH BOARD
MEMBERS

Employees shall not be prohibited from communicating with Board members regarding District operations except when communication between an employee and a Board member would be inappropriate because of a pending hearing or appeal related to the employee.

FORMAL PROCESS

If an informal conference regarding a complaint fails to reach the outcome requested by the employee, he or she may initiate the formal process described below by timely filing a written complaint form.

Even after initiating the formal complaint process, employees are encouraged to seek informal resolution of their concerns. An employee whose concerns are resolved may withdraw a formal complaint at any time.

The process described in this policy shall not be construed to create new or additional rights beyond those granted by law or Board policy, nor to require a full evidentiary hearing or "mini-trial" at any level.

FREEDOM FROM
RETALIATION

Neither the Board nor any District employee shall unlawfully retaliate against an employee for bringing a concern or complaint. [See DG]

NOTICE TO
EMPLOYEES

The principal of each campus and other supervisory personnel shall inform employees of this policy.

SPECIFIC
COMPLAINTS

For more information on how to proceed with complaints regarding:

1. Alleged discrimination, including violations of Title IX or Section 504, see DAA.
2. Instructional materials, see EFA.
3. A commissioned peace officer who is an employee of the District, see CKE.

OTHER REVIEW
PROCESSES

Complaints alleging certain forms of harassment, including harassment by a supervisor, shall be processed in accordance with DIA.

Complaints arising from any of the following must be addressed through the local and statutory processes indicated below:

PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS
EMPLOYEE COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES

DGBA
(LOCAL)

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DGBA
(LOCAL)

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A complaint form that is incomplete in any material aspect may be dismissed, but may be refiled with all the requested information if the refiling is within the designated time for filing a complaint.

New
COMPLAINTS
AGAINST
SUPERVISORS

Complaints alleging a supervisor's violation of law may be made to the Superintendent beginning at Level Two. A complaint alleging a violation of law by the Superintendent may be made directly to the Board beginning at Level Three.

LEVEL ONE

Complaint forms must be filed:

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DGBA
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The Superintendent or designee shall hold a conference within ten days after the appeal notice is filed. At the conference, the Superintendent or designee shall consider only the issues and documents presented at Level One and identified in the Level Two appeal notice. The Superintendent or designee shall have 14 days following the conference to provide the employee a written response.

LEVEL THREE

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The District shall determine whether the complaint will be presented in open or closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act and other applicable law. [See BE]

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tation by the employee or the employee's representative, any presentation from the administration, and questions from the Board with responses, shall be recorded by audio recording, video/audio recording, or court reporter.

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ADMISSIONS

FD
(LOCAL)

In fairness to taxpayers and as required or excepted in policy and law [see FDA(LOCAL)], nonresidents shall not be permitted to attend school in the District. The Board makes every effort to distinguish between residents and nonresidents and encourages patrons to report suspected violations.

The District shall utilize the civil and criminal penalties provided in law to discourage violations of this policy. The District shall include on its registration forms notice in both English and Spanish, of criminal and civil penalties and liabilities for intentionally or knowingly falsifying information on the form. In instances where there is reason to believe that intentional or knowing falsification has occurred, the District shall conduct an investigation and, where appropriate, file complaints with criminal authorities. Additionally, the District shall proceed to recover maximum civil damages permitted by law against persons who so falsify.

ADMISSIONS OFFICER The Superintendent or his designee shall be the admissions officer for the District.

REGISTRATION FORMS Appropriate registration forms shall be completed annually and signed by the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control under a court order. Students who have reached age 18 shall be permitted to complete and sign these forms themselves.

BIRTH CERTIFICATE All students entering District schools for the first time shall submit a birth certificate or its equivalent.

HOST FAMILY When the child's parent(s) together with the child reside on a full-time permanent basis [See FD(EXHIBIT), Exhibit B] within the District in the home of another family, the parent(s) shall provide documentation of the "host family" to include the following:

1. "Host family" affidavit form or notarized of fact.
2. Host family documents that confirm residency.

"Host family" status is valid only for the current school year and must therefore be renewed on an annual basis. As deemed necessary by the principal, the "host family" status shall be reviewed and confirmed.

FALSE INFORMATION A person who knowingly falsifies information on a form required for a student's enrollment in the District shall be liable to the District if the student is not eligible for enrollment, but is enrolled on the basis of false information. For the period during which the ineligible student is enrolled, the person is liable for the maximum tuition fee the District may charge or the amount the District has budgeted per

ADMISSIONS

FD
(LOCAL)

student as maintenance and operating expense, whichever is greater.

The District shall include on its enrollment form notice of the legal penalties and liability for falsifying information on the form.

STUDENT RECORDS

The minimum student records data that must be transferred within 30 days includes the following:

1. Student enrollment information — District ID, statewide student ID (social security number or state-assigned alternative number), local student ID, course credits, promotions, discipline-expelled students, attendance, enrollment and withdrawal dates.
2. Student demographic information — first, middle, and last name, sex, ethnicity, date of birth, special education handicapping condition, special education instructional setting, home language, migrant information.
3. Student achievement information — exit-level TAKS, most recent TAKS scores.
4. Student immunization/health information. Based on the above criteria and other factual inquiries, the principal or designee shall make an initial determination of residence and of whether or not the applicant's presence in the District is for the primary purpose of participation in extracurricular activities, and thereafter advise.
5. The District may verify residence prior to enrollment.

MINOR LIVING APART
PERSON STANDING
IN PARENTAL
RELATION

A minor student residing in the District but whose parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control under a court order does not reside in the District shall present a power of attorney assigning responsibility for the student in all school-related matters to an adult resident of the District.

MISCONDUCT

Any such student who has engaged in misconduct that results in any of the consequences found in Education Code 25.001(d) shall not be permitted to attend a District school. [See FD(LEGAL)]

EXCEPTIONS

Based on the individual student's circumstance, the Superintendent or designee shall have authority to grant exceptions to the power of attorney requirement and to the exclusion for misconduct.

PROOF OF
RESIDENCY

Proof of residency within the District attendance boundaries shall be presented prior to a student being enrolled. See FD(EXHIBIT) for a list of acceptable documents.

ADMISSIONS

FD
(LOCAL)

RESIDENCY
REVIEW

The Superintendent or Superintendent's designee shall determine whether a minor student residing in the District separate and apart from a parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control under a court order is present in the District for the primary purpose of participating in extracurricular activities.

NONRESIDENT
STUDENT IN
GRANDPARENT'S
AFTER-SCHOOL
CARE

The parent and grandparent of a nonresident student requesting admission under Education Code 25.001(b)(9) shall provide to the Superintendent the required information on the grandparent's residency and complete a form provided by the District describing the extent of after-school care to be provided by the grandparent.

The Superintendent shall have authority to approve such admissions requests in accordance with criteria approved by the Board. [See FD(REGULATION)]

AUTHORITY OF
SUPERINTENDENT

The Board delegates to the Superintendent or designee the authority to develop and modify regulations, forms, and processes for determining student residency as required to carry out the intent of this policy.

AUTHORITIES AND
SOURCES

The determination of residence is a question of fact and law. In determining residence, the District shall consider information furnished by the applicant and may consider all relevant information, including, but not limited to, that provided by the administration and its agents, statements of third parties, court decisions, Commissioner's decisions, Attorney General opinions, Board policy, laws, and regulations.

PROCEDURES FOR
APPEAL OF INITIAL
DECISION

If the applicant, parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control of the applicant under court order, or the person(s) with whom the applicant resides in this District disagrees with the initial determination of residence by the principal or designee, an appeal of that decision may be taken to the Superintendent's designee by making a written request within ten school days of the decision. The admissions officer shall take one of the following actions:

1. Affirm the initial decision of the principal.
2. Send the matter back to the principal for further factual inquiry.
3. Reverse the initial decision and make an independent finding of residence that the applicant's presence in the District is not for the primary purpose of participation in extracurricular activities and, therefore, the applicant may be admitted as a student of the District.

ADMISSIONS

FD
(LOCAL)

PROCEDURE FOR APPEAL OF SUBSEQUENT DECISION(S)	If the applicant, parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control of the applicant under court order, or the person(s) with whom the applicant resides in this District disagrees with the determination of residence by the Superintendent or designee an appeal of that decision may be taken to the Board by making a written request within ten school days of the decision.
BOARD REVIEW	The Superintendent's or designee's determination shall be reviewed by a student admissions committee selected by the Board President. The committee shall report its determination and recommendation to the full Board at the next regular meeting of the Board.
BOARD ACTION	The Board shall take one of the following actions: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Affirm the decision of the Superintendent or designee.2. Send the matter back to the Superintendent or designee for further factual inquiry.3. Reverse the initial decision and make an independent finding of residence that the applicant's presence in the District is not for the primary purpose of participation in extracurricular activities and, therefore, the applicant may be admitted as a student of the District.
ADMISSION PENDING	Pending a decision from the Board, the student who is the subject of an appeal shall attend school in his or her attendance area.
PROHIBITION ON DUAL ENROLLMENT	Students enrolled in private schools or charter schools, including homeschools, are not eligible for concurrent enrollment in schools of the District, except as required by law.
NONENROLLED STUDENTS	Only students currently enrolled in the District shall be allowed to participate in the academic or extracurricular programs of the District, with the exception of special education programs as provided by current law or State Board rules.
PLACEMENT ACCREDITED SCHOOLS	Students entering a District school from accredited public, private, or parochial schools after grade 1 shall provide evidence of prior schooling outside the District. They shall be placed initially at the grade level reached elsewhere, pending observation by the classroom teacher, guidance personnel, and the principal. On the basis of these observations and results of tests that may be administered by appropriate District personnel, the principal shall determine the final grade placement.
STUDENTS UNDER AGE SIX	Students who are not six years old at the beginning of the current school year are eligible for the first grade if the student has com-

ADMISSIONS

FD
(LOCAL)

pleted kindergarten in a Texas Education Agency accredited school.

For the purposes of this policy, "accredited" shall be defined as accreditation by TEA, an equivalent agency from another state, or an accrediting association recognized by the Commissioner of Education.

NONACCREDITED
SCHOOLS

Students entering a District school from nonaccredited public, private, or parochial schools, including homeschools, shall be placed initially at the discretion of the principal, pending observation by classroom teachers, guidance personnel, and the principal. Criteria for placement may include:

1. Scores on achievement tests, which may be administered by appropriate District personnel.
2. Recommendation of the sending school.
3. Prior academic record.
4. Chronological age and social and emotional development of the student.
5. Other criteria deemed appropriate by the principal.

TRANSFER
CREDIT

The District shall validate high school credit for courses of transfer students from nonaccredited public, private, or parochial schools by testing or by other evidence that the courses meet State Board requirements and standards.

CREDIT
VALIDATION

If a student transferring into a District high school from an accredited school has successfully completed the second and/or third year of a foreign language course that is in a sequence of courses, but there is no record of completion of the first course in the sequence, credit shall be awarded for the first and/or second course based on the successful completion of the second and/or third course in the sequence. Credit shall be awarded but no grade posted.

WITHDRAWAL

Prior to withdrawal from school, the student and parent/guardian must meet with the school principal to complete the proper withdrawal documentation.

[For District withdrawal of students no longer in attendance, see FEA(LOCAL)]

In fairness to taxpayers and as required or excepted in policy and law [see FDA(LOCAL)], nonresidents shall not be permitted to attend school in the District. The Board makes every effort to distinguish between residents and nonresidents and encourages patrons to report suspected violations.

FALSE INFORMATION

The District shall include on its registration forms notice, in both English and Spanish, of criminal and civil penalties and liabilities for intentionally or knowingly falsifying information on the form. A person who knowingly falsifies information on a form required for a student's enrollment in the District shall be liable to the District if the student is not eligible for enrollment, but is enrolled on the basis of false information. For the period during which the ineligible student is enrolled, the person is liable for the maximum tuition fee the District may charge or the amount the District has budgeted per student as maintenance and operating expense, whichever is greater.

new <

PERSONS AGE 21
AND OVER

The District shall not admit into its public schools any person age 21 or over unless otherwise required by law.

REGISTRATION
FORMS

Appropriate registration forms shall be completed annually and signed by the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control under a court order. Students who have reached age 18 shall be permitted to complete and sign these forms themselves.

BIRTH CERTIFICATE

All students entering District schools for the first time shall submit a birth certificate or its equivalent.

STUDENT RECORDS

The minimum student records data that must be transferred within 30 days includes the following:

1. Student enrollment information — District ID, statewide student ID (social security number or state-assigned alternative number), local student ID, course credits, promotions, discipline-expelled students, attendance, enrollment and withdrawal dates.
2. Student demographic information — first, middle, and last name, sex, ethnicity, date of birth, special education handicapping condition, special education instructional setting, home language, migrant information.
3. Student achievement information — exit-level TAKS, most recent TAKS scores.
4. Student immunization/health information.

ADMISSIONS

FD
(LOCAL)

	<p>Based on the above criteria and other factual inquiries, the principal or designee shall make an initial determination of residence and of whether or not the applicant's presence in the District is for the primary purpose of participation in extracurricular activities, and thereafter advise. The District may verify residence prior to enrollment.</p>
PROOF OF RESIDENCY	<p>Proof of residency within the District attendance boundaries shall be presented prior to a student being enrolled. See FD(EXHIBIT) for a list of acceptable documents.</p>
AUTHORITY OF SUPERINTENDENT	<p>The Board delegates to the Superintendent or designee the authority to develop and modify regulations, forms, and processes for determining student residency as required to carry out the intent of this policy.</p>
AUTHORITIES AND SOURCES	<p>The determination of residence is a question of fact and law. In determining residence, the District shall consider information furnished by the applicant and may consider all relevant information, including, but not limited to, that provided by the administration and its agents, statements of third parties, court decisions, Commissioner's decisions, Attorney General opinions, Board policy, laws, and regulations.</p>
HOST FAMILY	<p>When the child's parent(s) together with the child reside on a full-time permanent basis [See FD(EXHIBIT), Exhibit B] within the District in the home of another family, the parent(s) shall provide documentation of the "host family" to include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Host family affidavit form or notarized document of fact.2. Host family documents that confirm residency. <p>"Host family" status is valid only for the current school year and must therefore be renewed on an annual basis. As deemed necessary by the principal, the "host family" status shall be reviewed and confirmed.</p>
MINOR LIVING APART PERSON STANDING IN PARENTAL RELATION	<p>A minor student residing in the District but whose parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control under a court order does not reside in the District shall present a power of attorney assigning responsibility for the student in all school-related matters to an adult resident of the District.</p>
MISCONDUCT	<p>Any such student who has engaged in misconduct that results in any of the consequences found in Education Code 25.001(d) shall not be permitted to attend a District school. [See FD(LEGAL)]</p>

ADMISSIONS

FD
(LOCAL)

EXCEPTIONS	Based on the individual student's circumstance, the Superintendent or designee shall have authority to grant exceptions to the power of attorney requirement and to the exclusion for misconduct.
RESIDENCY REVIEW	The Superintendent or Superintendent's designee shall determine whether a minor student residing in the District separate and apart from a parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control under a court order is present in the District for the primary purpose of participating in extracurricular activities.
NONRESIDENT STUDENT IN GRANDPARENT'S AFTER-SCHOOL CARE	<p>The parent and grandparent of a nonresident student requesting admission under Education Code 25.001(b)(9) shall provide to the Superintendent the required information on the grandparent's residency and complete a form provided by the District describing the extent of after-school care to be provided by the grandparent.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall have authority to approve such admissions requests in accordance with criteria approved by the Board. [See FD(REGULATION)]</p>
APPEALS INITIAL DECISION	<p>If the applicant, parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control of the applicant under court order, or the person(s) with whom the applicant resides in this District disagrees with the initial determination of residence by the principal or designee, an appeal of that decision may be taken to the Superintendent by making a written request within ten school days of the decision. The Superintendent or designee shall take one of the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Affirm the initial decision of the principal.2. Send the matter back to the principal for further factual inquiry.3. Reverse the initial decision and make an independent finding of residence that the applicant's presence in the District is not for the primary purpose of participation in extracurricular activities and, therefore, the applicant may be admitted as a student of the District.
SUBSEQUENT DECISION	If the applicant, parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control of the applicant under court order, or the person(s) with whom the applicant resides in this District, disagrees with the determination of residence by the Superintendent or designee, an appeal of that decision may be taken to the Board by making a written request within ten school days of the decision.
BOARD REVIEW	The initial appeal and related action shall be reviewed by a student admissions committee selected by the Board President. The committee shall report its determination and recommendation to the full Board at the next regular meeting of the Board.

BOARD ACTION	<p>The Board shall take one of the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Affirm the decision of the Superintendent or designee.2. Send the matter back to the Superintendent or designee for further factual inquiry.3. Reverse the initial decision and make an independent finding of residence that the applicant's presence in the District is not for the primary purpose of participation in extracurricular activities and, therefore, the applicant may be admitted as a student of the District.
ADMISSION PENDING	<p>Pending a decision from the Board, the student who is the subject of an appeal shall attend school in his or her attendance area.</p>
PROHIBITION ON DUAL ENROLLMENT	<p>Students enrolled in private schools or charter schools, including homeschools, are not eligible for concurrent enrollment in schools of the District, except as required by law.</p>
NONENROLLED STUDENTS	<p>Only students currently enrolled in the District shall be allowed to participate in the academic or extracurricular programs of the District, with the exception of special education programs as provided by current law or State Board rules.</p>
PLACEMENT ACCREDITED SCHOOLS	<p>Students entering a District school from accredited public, private, or parochial schools after grade 1 shall provide evidence of prior schooling outside the District. They shall be placed initially at the grade level reached elsewhere, pending observation by the classroom teacher, guidance personnel, and the principal. On the basis of these observations and results of tests that may be administered by appropriate District personnel, the principal shall determine the final grade placement.</p>
STUDENTS UNDER AGE SIX	<p>Students who are not six years old at the beginning of the current school year are eligible for the first grade if the student has completed kindergarten in a Texas Education Agency accredited school.</p> <p>For the purposes of this policy, "accredited" shall be defined as accreditation by TEA, an equivalent agency from another state, or an accrediting association recognized by the Commissioner of Education.</p>
NONACCREDITED SCHOOLS	<p>Students entering a District school from nonaccredited public, private, or parochial schools, including homeschools, shall be placed initially at the discretion of the principal, pending observation by classroom teachers, guidance personnel, and the principal. Criteria for placement may include:</p>

ADMISSIONS

FD
(LOCAL)

1. Scores on achievement tests, which may be administered by appropriate District personnel.
2. Recommendation of the sending school.
3. Prior academic record.
4. Chronological age and social and emotional development of the student.
5. Other criteria deemed appropriate by the principal.

TRANSFER
CREDIT

The District shall validate high school credit for courses of transfer students from nonaccredited public, private, or parochial schools by testing or by other evidence that the courses meet State Board requirements and standards.

CREDIT
VALIDATION

If a student transferring into a District high school from an accredited school has successfully completed the second and/or third year of a foreign language course that is in a sequence of courses, but there is no record of completion of the first course in the sequence, credit shall be awarded for the first and/or second course based on the successful completion of the second and/or third course in the sequence. Credit shall be awarded but no grade posted.

WITHDRAWAL

Prior to withdrawal from school, the student and parent/guardian must meet with the school principal to complete the proper withdrawal documentation.

[For District withdrawal of students no longer in attendance, see FEA(LOCAL)]

**ATTENDANCE:
COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE**

**FEA
(LOCAL)**

Students in violation of the compulsory attendance law shall be reported to the District attendance officer, who may institute court action as provided by law.

**WITHDRAWAL FOR
NONATTENDANCE**

The District may initiate withdrawal of a student under the age of 18 for nonattendance under the following conditions:

1. The student has been absent ten consecutive school days;
and
2. Repeated efforts by the attendance officer and/or principal to locate the student have been unsuccessful.

For withdrawal of students 18 or older, see FEA(LEGAL). Each student case shall be reviewed on an individual basis by the campus Attendance Review Committee (ARC) and may be withdrawn by the ARC's and/or principal's recommendation.

**STUDENTS IN
HOMESCHOOLS**

When the District becomes aware that a student is being or will be homeschooled, the Superintendent or designee may request in writing a letter of notification from the parents of their intention to homeschool using a curriculum designed to meet basic education goals of reading, spelling, grammar, mathematics, and a study of good citizenship.

If the parents refuse to submit a letter of notification or if the District has evidence that the school-age child is not being homeschooled within legal requirements, the District may investigate further and, if warranted, shall pursue legal action to enforce the compulsory attendance law.

ATTENDANCE
COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

FEA
(LOCAL)

New

STUDENTS AGE 18
AND OVER

Students in violation of the compulsory attendance law shall be reported to the District attendance officer, who may institute court action as provided by law.

A student who voluntarily attends school after the student's eighteenth birthday shall be required to attend school until the end of the school year.

WITHDRAWAL FOR
NONATTENDANCE

The District may initiate withdrawal of a student under the age of 18 for nonattendance under the following conditions:

1. The student has been absent ten consecutive school days; and
2. Repeated efforts by the attendance officer and/or principal to locate the student have been unsuccessful.

For withdrawal of students 18 or older, see FEA(LEGAL). Each case shall be reviewed on an individual basis by the campus Attendance Review Committee (ARC) and the student may be withdrawn upon recommendation of the ARC and/or principal.

STUDENTS IN
HOMESCHOOLS

When the District becomes aware that a student is being or will be homeschooled, the Superintendent or designee may request in writing a letter of notification from the parents of their intention to homeschool using a curriculum designed to meet basic education goals of reading, spelling, grammar, mathematics, and a study of good citizenship.

If the parents refuse to submit a letter of notification or if the District has evidence that the school-age child is not being homeschooled within legal requirements, the District may investigate further and, if warranted, shall pursue legal action to enforce the compulsory attendance law.

ATTENDANCE:
ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT

FEC
(LOCAL)

ATTENDANCE
COMMITTEES

The Board shall establish an attendance committee or as many committees as necessary for efficient implementation of Education Code 25.092.

The Superintendent or designee shall make the specific appointments in accordance with legal requirements.

PARENTAL NOTICE
OF EXCESSIVE
ABSENCES

After three absences in a particular class, the parents shall be notified by mail. After the fifth absence, a second written notice shall be sent to the parents. When a student's attendance drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered, the student and his or her parents shall be notified by mail that credit will not be granted for the class unless the attendance review committee receives acceptable documentation to reinstate credit as a result of extenuating circumstances. This letter shall request that the parents call to make an appointment to meet with the attendance review committee (ARC) and discuss the student's attendance problem.

After a student loses credit, he or she must still attend class and do any required work. Failure to attend class after loss of credit may result in court action and/or disciplinary action. [See FEA]

The student, parent, or representative may request award of credit by submitting a written petition to the appropriate attendance committee. The attendance committee shall review the student's entire attendance record and the reasons for absences, and shall determine whether to award credit.

Petitions for credit may be filed at any time the student receives notice, but in any event, no later than 30 days after the last day of classes.

The attendance committee may review the records of all students whose attendance drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered, whether or not a petition is filed.

Students who have lost credit because of excessive absences may regain credit by fulfilling the requirements established by the attendance committee.

GUIDELINES ON
EXTENUATING
CIRCUMSTANCES

The attendance committee shall adhere to the following guidelines to determine attendance for credit:

DAYS OF
ATTENDANCE

1. All absences shall be considered in determining whether a student has attended the required percentage of days. If make-up work is completed, absences for religious holy days and health care appointments shall be considered days of attendance for this purpose. [See FEB]

TRANSFERS /
MIGRANT
STUDENTS

2. A transfer or migrant student incurs absences only after his or her enrollment in the District.

ATTENDANCE:
ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT

FEC
(LOCAL)

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| BEST INTEREST
STANDARD | 3. In reaching consensus regarding a student's absences, the committee shall attempt to ensure that its decision is in the best interest of the student. |
| | 4. The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations addressing the committee's documentation of the decision. |
| DOCUMENTATION | 5. The committee shall consider the acceptability and authenticity of documented reasons for the student's absences. |
| CONSIDERATION
OF CONTROL | 6. The committee shall consider whether the absences were for reasons out of the student's or parent's control. |
| STUDENT'S
ACADEMIC
RECORD | 7. The committee shall consider whether or not the student has completed assignments, mastered the essential knowledge and skills, and maintained passing grades in the course or subject. |
| INFORMATION
FROM STUDENT
OR PARENT | 8. The student or parent shall be given an opportunity to present any information to the committee about the absences and to discuss ways to earn or regain credit. |
- IMPOSING
CONDITIONS FOR
AWARDING CREDIT
- Absences for which a student has shown extenuating circumstances shall be considered as days of attendance for computing the 90 percent of days of attendance required for a class, and credit shall be granted as long as all make-up work has satisfactorily been completed. However, the ARC may determine that additional work is required. This might include imposing one or more of the following conditions:
1. Satisfying time-on-task requirements before and/or after school.
 2. Attending tutorial sessions as scheduled.
 3. Attending Saturday classes.
 4. Maintaining the attendance standards for the rest of the semester.
 5. Taking an examination to earn credit.
 6. Completing independent study projects.
 7. Attending computer-assisted instruction.
 8. Completing the provisions of student contracts.
 9. Completing summer school.

In all cases, the student must also earn a passing grade in order to receive credit.

United ISD
240903

ATTENDANCE:
ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT

FEC
(LOCAL)

APPEAL PROCESS

A parent or student may appeal the decision of the attendance committee in accordance with FNG(LOCAL) beginning at Level Three.

ATTENDANCE
ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT

FEC
(LOCAL)

ATTENDANCE
COMMITTEES

The Board shall establish an attendance committee or as many committees as necessary for efficient implementation of Education Code 25.092.

The Superintendent or designee shall make the specific appointments in accordance with legal requirements.

PARENTAL NOTICE
OF EXCESSIVE
ABSENCES

A student and the student's parent or guardian shall be given written notice prior to and at such time when a student's attendance in any class drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

METHODS FOR
REGAINING CREDIT

When a student's attendance drops below 90 percent but remains at least at 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student may earn credit for the class by completing a plan approved by the principal. This plan must provide for the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class as determined by the principal.

If the student fails to successfully complete the plan, or when a student's attendance drops below 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student, parent, or representative may request award of credit by submitting a written petition to the appropriate attendance committee.

After a student loses credit, he or she must still attend class and do any required work. Failure to attend class after loss of credit may result in court action and/or disciplinary action. [See FEA]

Petitions for credit may be filed at any time the student receives notice, but in any event, no later than 30 days after the last day of classes.

The attendance committee shall review the student's entire attendance record and the reasons for absences and shall determine whether to award credit. The committee may also, whether a petition is filed or not, review the records of all students whose attendance drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

Students who have lost credit because of excessive absences may regain credit by fulfilling the requirements established by the attendance committee.

GUIDELINES ON
EXTENUATING
CIRCUMSTANCES

The attendance committee shall adhere to the following guidelines to determine attendance for credit:

DAYS OF
ATTENDANCE

1. All absences shall be considered in determining whether a student has attended the required percentage of days. If make-up work is completed, absences for religious holy days, required court appearances, and health care appointments

ATTENDANCE
ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT

FEC
(LOCAL)

shall be considered days of attendance for this purpose. [See FEB]

- | | | |
|--|----|---|
| TRANSFERS /
MIGRANT
STUDENTS | 2. | A transfer or migrant student incurs absences only after his or her enrollment in the District. |
| BEST INTEREST
STANDARD | 3. | In reaching consensus regarding a student's absences, the committee shall attempt to ensure that its decision is in the best interest of the student. |
| | 4. | The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations addressing the committee's documentation of the decision. |
| DOCUMENTATION | 5. | The committee shall consider the acceptability and authenticity of documented reasons for the student's absences. |
| CONSIDERATION
OF CONTROL | 6. | The committee shall consider whether the absences were for reasons out of the student's or parent's control. |
| STUDENT'S
ACADEMIC RECORD | 7. | The committee shall consider whether or not the student has completed assignments, mastered the essential knowledge and skills, and maintained passing grades in the course or subject. |
| INFORMATION
FROM STUDENT OR
PARENT | 8. | The student or parent shall be given an opportunity to present any information to the committee about the absences and to discuss ways to earn or regain credit. |
- IMPOSING
CONDITIONS FOR
AWARDING CREDIT
- Absences for which a student has shown extenuating circumstances shall be considered as days of attendance for computing the 90 percent of days of attendance required for a class, and credit shall be granted as long as all make-up work has satisfactorily been completed. However, the ARC may determine that additional work is required. This might include imposing one or more of the following conditions:
1. Satisfying time-on-task requirements before and/or after school.
 2. Attending tutorial sessions as scheduled.
 3. Attending Saturday classes.
 4. Maintaining the attendance standards for the rest of the semester.
 5. Taking an examination to earn credit.
 6. Completing independent study projects.
 7. Attending computer-assisted instruction.

United ISD
240903

ATTENDANCE
ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT

FEC
(LOCAL)

8. Completing the provisions of student contracts.
9. Completing summer school.

In all cases, the student must also earn a passing grade in order to receive credit.

APPEAL PROCESS

A parent or student may appeal the decision of the attendance committee in accordance with FNG(LOCAL) beginning at Level Three.

STUDENT WELFARE:
FREEDOM FROM HARASSMENT

FFH
(LOCAL)

Note: This policy addresses harassment of District students. For provisions regarding harassment of District employees, see DIA. For reporting requirements related to child abuse and neglect, see FFG.

The District prohibits sexual harassment and harassment based on a person's race, color, gender, national origin, disability, or religion.

Employees shall not tolerate harassment of students and shall make reports as required at REPORTING PROCEDURES, below.

SEXUAL
HARASSMENT

BY AN EMPLOYEE

Sexual harassment of a student by a District employee includes both welcome and unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; sexually motivated physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct; or other conduct or communication of a sexual nature when:

1. A District employee causes the student to believe that the student must submit to the conduct in order to participate in a school program or activity, or that the employee will make an educational decision based on whether or not the student submits to the conduct; or
2. The conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it:
 - a. Affects the student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities; or
 - b. Creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or abusive educational environment.

Romantic or inappropriate social relationships between students and District employees are prohibited. Any sexual relationship between a student and a District employee is always prohibited, even if consensual.

BY OTHERS

Sexual harassment of a student, including harassment committed by another student, includes unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; or sexually motivated physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct when the conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it:

1. Affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;

STUDENT WELFARE:
FREEDOM FROM HARASSMENT

FFH
(LOCAL)

2. Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance; or
3. Otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities.

EXAMPLES

Examples of sexual harassment of a student may include, but are not limited to, sexual advances; touching intimate body parts or coercing physical contact that is sexual in nature; jokes or conversations of a sexual nature; and other sexually motivated conduct, communications, or contact.

Necessary or permissible physical contact such as assisting a child by taking the child's hand, comforting a child with a hug, or other physical contact not reasonably construed as sexual in nature is not sexual harassment.

OTHER PROHIBITED
HARASSMENT

Prohibited harassment of a student is defined as physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct based on the student's race, color, gender, national origin, disability, or religion that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that the conduct:

1. Affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
2. Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance; or
3. Otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities.

EXAMPLES

Examples of prohibited harassment may include, but are not limited to, offensive or derogatory language directed at another person's religious beliefs or practices, accent, skin color, or need for accommodation; threatening or intimidating conduct; offensive jokes, name calling, slurs, or rumors; physical aggression or assault; display of graffiti or printed material promoting racial, ethnic, or other negative stereotypes; or other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property.

REPORTING
PROCEDURES

Any student who believes that he or she has experienced prohibited harassment should immediately report the alleged acts to a teacher, counselor, principal, or other District employee.

Any District employee who receives notice that a student has or may have experienced prohibited harassment is required to immediately report the alleged acts to an appropriate person designated below.

Any other person who knows or believes that a student has experienced prohibited harassment should immediately report the alleged acts to the appropriate person designated below.

STUDENT WELFARE:
FREEDOM FROM HARASSMENT

FFH
(LOCAL)

TIMELY
REPORTING

Reports of known or suspected child abuse or neglect shall be made as required by law. [See FFG]

Reports of harassment shall be made as soon as possible after the alleged acts. A failure to promptly report alleged harassment may impair the District's ability to investigate and address the harassment.

Oral or written reports of prohibited harassment shall normally be made to the campus principal. A person shall not be required to report harassment to the alleged harasser; nothing in this policy prevents a person from reporting harassment directly to one of the District officials below:

DISTRICT
OFFICIALS

1. For sexual harassment, the Title IX coordinator. [See FB(LOCAL)]

2. For all other prohibited harassment, the Superintendent.

A report against the Title IX coordinator may be made directly to the Superintendent; a report against the Superintendent may be made directly to the Board.

NOTIFICATION OF
REPORT

Upon receipt of a report of harassment, a principal shall immediately notify the appropriate District official listed above.

NOTICE TO PARENTS

The principal or District official shall promptly notify the parents of any student alleged to have experienced prohibited harassment by a District employee or another adult associated with the District. In cases of student-to-student harassment, the District shall promptly notify the parents of any student alleged to have experienced harassment when the allegations presented, if proven, would constitute sexual harassment or other prohibited harassment as defined by District policy.

CONFIDENTIALITY

To the greatest extent possible, the District shall respect the privacy of the complainant, persons against whom a report is filed, and witnesses. Limited disclosures may be necessary in order to conduct a thorough investigation and comply with applicable law.

INVESTIGATION OF
THE REPORT

The District may request, but shall not insist upon, a written report. If a report is made orally, the District official shall reduce the report to written form.

Upon receipt or notification of a report, the District official shall determine whether the allegations, if proven, would constitute sexual harassment or other prohibited harassment as defined by District policy. If so, the District official shall immediately authorize or undertake an investigation.

If appropriate, the District shall promptly take interim action to prevent harassment during the course of an investigation.

STUDENT WELFARE:
FREEDOM FROM HARASSMENT

FFH
(LOCAL)

The investigation may be conducted by the District official or a designee, such as the campus principal, or by a third party designated by the District, such as an attorney. When appropriate, the campus principal shall be involved in or informed of the investigation.

The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the person making the report, the person against whom the report is filed, and others with knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the allegations. The investigation may also include analysis of other information or documents related to the allegations.

The District's obligation to conduct an investigation is not satisfied by the fact that a criminal or regulatory investigation regarding the same or similar allegations is pending.

CONCLUDING THE
INVESTIGATION

Absent extenuating circumstances, the investigation should be completed within ten business days from the date of the report; however, the investigator shall take additional time if necessary to complete a thorough investigation.

The investigator shall prepare a written report of the investigation. The report shall be filed with the District official overseeing the investigation.

DISTRICT ACTION

If the results of an investigation indicate that prohibited harassment occurred, the District shall promptly respond by taking appropriate disciplinary or corrective action reasonably calculated to address the harassment.

The District may take disciplinary action based on the results of an investigation, even if the District concludes that the conduct did not rise to the level of harassment prohibited by law or District policy.

APPEAL

A student, including a complainant, may appeal through FNG(LOCAL), beginning at the appropriate level. A complainant shall be informed of his or her right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.

RETALIATION
PROHIBITED

Retaliation against a student alleged to have experienced harassment, a witness, or another person who makes a report or participates in an investigation is strictly prohibited. A person who makes a good faith report of prohibited harassment shall not suffer retaliation for making the report. A person who intentionally makes a false claim, offers false statements, or refuses to cooperate with a District investigation regarding prohibited harassment is subject to appropriate discipline.

RECORDS
RETENTION

Retention of records shall be in accordance with FB(LOCAL).

United ISD
240903

**STUDENT WELFARE:
FREEDOM FROM HARASSMENT**

**FFH
(LOCAL)**

ACCESS TO POLICY

Information regarding this policy shall be distributed annually to District employees and included in the student handbook. Copies of the policy shall be readily available at each campus and the District's administrative offices.

Note: This policy addresses harassment of District students. For provisions regarding harassment of District employees, see DIA. For reporting requirements related to child abuse and neglect, see FFG.

The District prohibits sexual harassment, dating violence, and harassment based on a person's race, color, gender, national origin, disability, or religion.

Employees shall not tolerate harassment of students and shall make reports as required at REPORTING PROCEDURES, below.

SEXUAL
HARASSMENT
BY AN EMPLOYEE

Sexual harassment of a student by a District employee includes both welcome and unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; sexually motivated physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct; or other conduct or communication of a sexual nature when:

1. A District employee causes the student to believe that the student must submit to the conduct in order to participate in a school program or activity, or that the employee will make an educational decision based on whether or not the student submits to the conduct; or
2. The conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it:
 - a. Affects the student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities; or
 - b. Creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or abusive educational environment.

Romantic or inappropriate social relationships between students and District employees are prohibited. Any sexual relationship between a student and a District employee is always prohibited, even if consensual.

BY OTHERS

Sexual harassment of a student, including harassment committed by another student, includes unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; or sexually motivated physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct when the conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it:

1. Affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
2. Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance; or

STUDENT WELFARE
FREEDOM FROM HARASSMENT

FFH
(LOCAL)

3. Otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities.

EXAMPLES

Examples of sexual harassment of a student may include, but are not limited to, sexual advances; touching intimate body parts or coercing physical contact that is sexual in nature; jokes or conversations of a sexual nature; and other sexually motivated conduct, communications, or contact.

Necessary or permissible physical contact such as assisting a child by taking the child's hand, comforting a child with a hug, or other physical contact not reasonably construed as sexual in nature is not sexual harassment.

New ↙

DATING VIOLENCE

Dating violence occurs when one partner in a dating relationship, either past or current, intentionally uses physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control the other partner.

Examples of dating violence against a student may include, but are not limited to, physical or sexual assaults, name-calling, put-downs, threats to hurt the student or the student's family members or members of the student's household, destroying property belonging to the student, threats to commit suicide or homicide if the student ends the relationship, attempts to isolate the student from friends and family, stalking, or encouraging others to engage in these behaviors.

For purposes of this policy, dating violence is considered prohibited harassment if the conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that the conduct:

1. Affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
2. Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance; or
3. Otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities.

OTHER PROHIBITED
HARASSMENT

Prohibited harassment of a student is defined as physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct based on the student's race, color, gender, national origin, disability, or religion that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that the conduct:

1. Affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;

STUDENT WELFARE
FREEDOM FROM HARASSMENT

FFH
(LOCAL)

2. Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance; or
3. Otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities.

EXAMPLES

Examples of prohibited harassment may include, but are not limited to, offensive or derogatory language directed at another person's religious beliefs or practices, accent, skin color, or need for accommodation; threatening or intimidating conduct; offensive jokes, name calling, slurs, or rumors; physical aggression or assault; display of graffiti or printed material promoting racial, ethnic, or other negative stereotypes; or other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property.

REPORTING
PROCEDURES

Any student who believes that he or she has experienced prohibited harassment should immediately report the alleged acts to a teacher, counselor, principal, or other District employee.

Any District employee who receives notice that a student has or may have experienced prohibited harassment is required to immediately report the alleged acts to an appropriate person designated below.

Any other person who knows or believes that a student has experienced prohibited harassment should immediately report the alleged acts to the appropriate person designated below.

Reports of known or suspected child abuse or neglect shall be made as required by law. [See FFG]

TIMELY REPORTING

Reports of harassment shall be made as soon as possible after the alleged acts. A failure to promptly report alleged harassment may impair the District's ability to investigate and address the harassment.

Oral or written reports of prohibited harassment shall normally be made to the campus principal. A person shall not be required to report harassment to the alleged harasser; nothing in this policy prevents a person from reporting harassment directly to one of the District officials below:

DISTRICT
OFFICIALS

1. For sexual harassment, the Title IX coordinator. [See FB(LOCAL)]
2. For all other prohibited harassment, the Superintendent.

A report against the Title IX coordinator may be made directly to the Superintendent; a report against the Superintendent may be made directly to the Board.

STUDENT WELFARE
FREEDOM FROM HARASSMENT

FFH
(LOCAL)

NOTIFICATION OF REPORT	Upon receipt of a report of harassment, a principal shall immediately notify the appropriate District official listed above.
NOTICE TO PARENTS	The principal or District official shall promptly notify the parents of any student alleged to have experienced prohibited harassment by a District employee or another adult associated with the District. In cases of student-to-student harassment, the District shall promptly notify the parents of any student alleged to have experienced harassment when the allegations presented, if proven, would constitute sexual harassment or other prohibited harassment as defined by District policy.
CONFIDENTIALITY	To the greatest extent possible, the District shall respect the privacy of the complainant, persons against whom a report is filed, and witnesses. Limited disclosures may be necessary in order to conduct a thorough investigation and comply with applicable law.
INVESTIGATION OF THE REPORT	<p>The District may request, but shall not insist upon, a written report. If a report is made orally, the District official shall reduce the report to written form.</p> <p>Upon receipt or notification of a report, the District official shall determine whether the allegations, if proven, would constitute sexual harassment or other prohibited harassment as defined by District policy. If so, the District official shall immediately authorize or undertake an investigation.</p> <p>If appropriate, the District shall promptly take interim action to prevent harassment during the course of an investigation.</p> <p>The investigation may be conducted by the District official or a designee, such as the campus principal, or by a third party designated by the District, such as an attorney. When appropriate, the campus principal shall be involved in or informed of the investigation.</p> <p>The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the person making the report, the person against whom the report is filed, and others with knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the allegations. The investigation may also include analysis of other information or documents related to the allegations.</p> <p>The District's obligation to conduct an investigation is not satisfied by the fact that a criminal or regulatory investigation regarding the same or similar allegations is pending.</p>
CONCLUDING THE INVESTIGATION	Absent extenuating circumstances, the investigation should be completed within ten business days from the date of the report; however, the investigator shall take additional time if necessary to complete a thorough investigation.

STUDENT WELFARE
FREEDOM FROM HARASSMENT

FFH
(LOCAL)

- The investigator shall prepare a written report of the investigation. The report shall be filed with the District official overseeing the investigation.
- DISTRICT ACTION** If the results of an investigation indicate that prohibited harassment occurred, the District shall promptly respond by taking appropriate disciplinary or corrective action reasonably calculated to address the harassment.
- The District may take disciplinary action based on the results of an investigation, even if the District concludes that the conduct did not rise to the level of harassment prohibited by law or District policy.
- APPEAL** A student, including a complainant, may appeal through FNG(LOCAL), beginning at the appropriate level. A complainant shall be informed of his or her right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.
- RETALIATION PROHIBITED** Retaliation against a student alleged to have experienced harassment, a witness, or another person who makes a report or participates in an investigation is strictly prohibited. A person who makes a good faith report of prohibited harassment shall not suffer retaliation for making the report. A person who intentionally makes a false claim, offers false statements, or refuses to cooperate with a District investigation regarding prohibited harassment is subject to appropriate discipline.
- RECORDS RETENTION** Retention of records shall be in accordance with FB(LOCAL).
- ACCESS TO POLICY** Information regarding this policy shall be distributed annually to District employees and included in the student handbook. Copies of the policy shall be readily available at each campus and the District's administrative offices.

United ISD
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COMMUNITY RELATIONS
VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS

GKC
(LOCAL)

All visitors to the schools, including parents and Board members, are welcome to visit the campus; however, prominent notices shall be posted at each campus that all visitors must first report to the principal's office. Visits to individual classrooms during instructional time shall be permitted only with the principal's approval, and such visits shall not be permitted if their duration or frequency interferes with the delivery of instruction or disrupts the normal school environment.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS

GKC
(LOCAL)

Prominent notices shall be posted at each campus requiring all visitors to first report to the campus administrative office. This shall apply to parents, Board members, volunteers, social service workers, invited speakers, maintenance and repair persons not employed by the District, vendors, representatives of the news media, former students, and any other visitors.

Visits to individual classrooms during instructional time shall be permitted only with the principal's and teacher's approval, and such visits shall not be permitted if their duration or frequency interferes with the delivery of instruction or disrupts the normal school environment.

REGISTERED SEX
OFFENDERS ON
DISTRICT PREMISES

The Superintendent, working with campus administrators, shall develop and implement procedures regarding campus visitors who are identified as sex offenders. These procedures shall address:

1. Parental rights;
2. Escort by District personnel;
3. Access to common areas of the campus;
4. Access to classrooms;
5. Drop off and release of students;
6. Eligibility to serve as volunteers; and
7. Any other relevant issues.