

MEETING DATE: March 21, 2016

**AGENDA ITEM:** Action Item on Policy Updates Related to Update 104

**PRESENTER:** Kathy Allen

### **ALIGNS TO BOARD PRIORITIES(S):**

• Learning – The District shall provide an aligned, rigorous curriculum, preparing students to meet or exceed educational standards.

 Parents/Community – Parents and members of the community shall have meaningful opportunities to communicate and participate in the educational processes of the District.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

- Update 104 includes policies that are recommended for revision to remain in compliance with recent legislative changes.
- Six policies are Local and sixteen are Legal.
- E Policy: Instructional Arrangements
  - EEH(LOCAL) INSTRUCTIONAL ARRANGEMENT HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION
    - The 2015 -16 Student Attendance Accounting Handbook (SAAH) explains that a student who receives special education services is eligible to be placed in a special education homebound instructional setting if the student is expected to be confined for a minimum of four weeks to a hospital or homebound setting. However, the four weeks of confinement need not be consecutive if the student is chronically ill and if permitted by local district policy. Additional changes task the ARD committee of a chronically ill student to determine whether the weeks of confinement need to be consecutive. Clarification is also provided on the decision making process for determining the type of instruction offered to chronically ill students.
- F Policy: Students
  - FB(LOCAL) EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY
    - Recommended policy changes to existing text will eliminate the need for the Board to readopt these policies every time the district's Title IX coordinator or ADA/Section 504 coordinator changes. This will ensure the coordinators visibility to the school community without the cost and administrative burden associated with staffing

changes. The contact information for these positions have been moved to the FB(EXHIBIT). Other revisions capture the district's obligation to provide equal educational opportunities to all students, including the protections under Section 504 and other laws.

Revisions to this policy focus on Section 504 Committees, referrals, notice of consent, evaluation and placement, review and reevaluation procedures, records examination, and right to an impartial hearing.

#### FD(LOCAL) - Admissions

The SAAH requires a district to maintain written local board-adopted policies that provide information on the district's attendance accounting system and written policy for documents to establish student residency. The superintendent is responsible for developing an administrative regulation including a list of documents that may be used to verify residency, a provision requiring a parent to present proof of residency in accordance with administrative regulations is recommend at FD(LOCAL).

To better accommodate the completion of REGISTRATION FORMS electronically, the reference to a signature is recommended for deletion. The requirement to complete registration forms can incorporate either a written signature on paper or an electronic acknowledgement or affirmation on an electronic form.

New provisions are also recommended to clarify TRANSFER OF CREDIT from accredited and non-accredited schools. Revisions at WITHDRAWAL reflect that a parent wishing to withdraw a student presents a statement of withdrawal rather than a request.

### FEB(LOCAL) – STUDENT WELFARE WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES

- The 2015-16 SAAH requires districts to maintain written local board-adopted policies that provide detailed information on the district's attendance accounting system, including the district's written policy for documentation to establish student residency. To tie this policy in attendance accounting with the district's residency provisions at FD(LOCAL) TASB has added a cross-reference to FD for admissions and residency requirements related to student attendance accounting.
- FFC(LOCAL) Student Welfare Student Support Services
  - To eliminate the need for the board to readopt policy every time the district's liaison for homeless students changes, we have moved

the contact information for this position to FFC(EXHIBIT), which is not a board-adopted document. As a result, this policy is recommended for deletion.

- FFH(LOCAL) STUDENT WELFARE FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARRASSMENT, AND RETALIATION
  - Recommended revisions add "sex" and "age" in accordance with Title IX and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, respectively. In addition, to eliminate the need for the board to readopt policy every time the district's liaison for Title IX or ADA/Section 504 coordinator changes, we have the contact information for this position to FFH(EXHIBIT), which is not a board-adopted document.

### (LOCAL) Policy Action List

### ALEDO ISD(184907) - Update / LDU 104

EEH(LOCAL): INSTRUCTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS - HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

FB(LOCAL): EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

FD(LOCAL): ADMISSIONS

FEB(LOCAL): ATTENDANCE - ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING

FFC(LOCAL): STUDENT WELFARE - STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

FFH(LOCAL): STUDENT WELFARE - FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION,

HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION

# INSTRUCTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

EEH (LOCAL)

#### **GENERAL EDUCATION**

Consistent with TEA's Student Attendance Accounting Handbook (SAAH), a student may be eligible for general education homebound services if the student is to be confined for a minimum of four weeks to a hospital or homebound setting for medical reasons specifically documented by a physician licensed to practice in the United States. The weeks of confinement need not may be consecutive.eligible for general education homebound services. The parent's request for services shall be submitted tomade through the principal in accordance with TEA's SAAH and administrative procedures.

The principal or designee shall convene a placement committee composed of at least a campus administrator, a teacher of the student, and the parent or guardian of the student to consider the necessity of providing general education homebound instruction to the student. If the committee determines that such instruction is appropriate, the committee shall determine the type and amount of instruction to be provided and, if applicable when the student is able to return to the regular educational setting, the length of the transition period to the school-based setting based on current medical information.

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION

Consistent with state rule and the SAAH, a student receivingFer special education services may be eligible for special education homebound services if the student is to be confined for a minimum of four weeks to a hospital or homebound setting for medical reasons specifically documented by a physician licensed to practice in the United States. If a student is chronically ill, the student's admission, review, and dismissal (students, the ARD) committee shall determine whether the weeks of confinement need to be consecutive.

If the ARD committee determines that homebound instruction is appropriate, the committee shall determine the type and amount of instruction to be provided in accordance with law, and, if applicable and, when the student is able to return to the regular educational setting, the length of the transition period to the school-based setting based on current medical information.

# DOCUMENTATION OF SERVICES

The District shall maintain, in accordance with administrative procedures, full documentation about students receiving homebound services, in accordance with administrative procedures, the SAAH, and a student's individualized education program (IEP), as applicable.

FB (LOCAL)

Note:

The following provisions address equal educational opportunity for all students in accordance with law. For provisions addressing discrimination, harassment, and retaliation involving District students, see FFH.

## TITLE IX COORDINATOR

The District has designated a Title IX coordinator for students designates the following person to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended. [See FB(EXHIBIT)]:

Name: Lynn McKinney

Position: Deputy Superintendent

Address: 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008

Telephone: (817) 441-8327

ADA / SECTION 504 COORDINATOR The District has designated an Reports of discrimination based on disability may be directed to the ADA/Section 504 coordinator for students. The District designates the following person to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, which incorporates and expands upon the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504"), as amended. [See FB(EXHIBIT)]:

Name: Cheryl Wooten

Position: Director of Special Programs

Address: 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008

Telephone: (817) 441-5199

SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent shall serve as coordinator for purposes of District compliance with all other <u>nondiscrimination</u> antidiscrimination laws.

**COMPLAINTS** 

Allegations of unlawful discrimination, prohibited harassment, including sexual harassment, or retaliation shall be made according to FFH(LOCAL).

RECORDS RETENTION

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

GENERAL EDUCATION

The District shall provide necessary services and supports to provide students equal access to educational opportunities. [See EHBC] Certain instructional or other accommodations, including on state-mandated assessments, may be made when necessary, when allowable, and when these accommodations do not modify the rigor or content expectations of a subject, course, or assessment. [See EKB]

DATE ISSUED: 2/11/201617/2014 <u>UPDATE 104LDU 2014.01</u>

FB (LOCAL)

ADDITIONAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTS If the District has reason to believe that a student has a disability that may require additional services and supports in order for the student to receive an appropriate education as this term is defined by law, Section 504 and/or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) shall govern the evaluation, services, and supports provided by the District. [See also EHBA series]

[For information regarding dyslexia and related disorders, see EHB.]

#### Note:

The following provisions address the District's compliance efforts and system of procedural safeguards as required by federal regulations for a student with a disability as defined by Section 504. A report of discrimination or harassment based on a student's disability shall be made in accordance with FFH.

Copies of reports alleging discrimination, prohibited harassment, including sexual harassment, and retaliation; investigation reports; and related records shall be maintained by the District for a period of at least three years. If the person alleged to have experienced discrimination, prohibited harassment, or retaliation was a minor, the records shall be maintained until the person reaches the age of 21.

SECTION 504
COMMITTEE
COMMITTEES

The District shall form Section 504 committees as necessary. The Section 504 coordinator and members of <a href="eachthe-section-soo-section-section-soo-section-section-soo-section-soo-section-soo-section-soo-section-soo-section-soo-section-soo-section-soo-section-soo-section-soo-section-section-section-soo-section-soo-section-soo-section-soo-section-s

<u>Each</u>The Section 504 committee shall be composed of <u>a group</u> <u>ofat least two persons</u>, <u>including</u> persons knowledgeable about the student, the meaning of the evaluation data, the placement options, and the legal requirements regarding least restrictive environment and comparable facilities for students with disabilities.

**REFERRALS** 

If a teacher, school counselor, administrator A student may be referred by parents, teachers, counselors, administrators, or any other District employee for evaluation to determine if the student has reason to believe that a student may have a disability as defined by disabilities and is in need of special instruction or services.

DATE ISSUED: 2/11/201617/2014 <u>UPDATE 104LDU 2014.01</u> FB(LOCAL)-A

FB (LOCAL)

## PARENTAL CONSENT

The-Section 504, the District coordinator shall evaluate the notify parents prior to any individual evaluation conducted to determine if their child has disabilities or to determine what educational or related services should be provided to the student. A student may also be referred for evaluation by the student's parent Parental consent shall be obtained before the initial student evaluation procedures for the identification, diagnosis, and prescription of specific education services.

NOTICE AND CONSENT TO PARENTS

The District shall seek written parental consent prior to conducting a formal evaluation. Ordinary observations in the classroom or other school setting shall not require prior parental consent.

Parents shall be given written notice of the District's refusal to evaluate a student or to provide specific aids and services the parents have requested.

PREPLACEMENT
EVALUATION AND
PLACEMENT

The results of <u>anthe</u> evaluation shall be considered before any action is taken to place a student with <u>a disabilitydisabilities</u> or make a significant change in placement in an instructional program. <u>The Superintendent shall ensure that the District's procedures for tests and other evaluation materials comply with the minimum requirements of law. In interpretingThe evaluation <u>data</u> and when making <u>decisions</u> related to necessary services and supports, each <u>Section 504</u> committee shall carefully consider and document information from a variety of sources in accordance with law.</u>

REVIEW AND REEVALUATION PROCEDURE

To address the periodic reevaluation requirement of law, the District shall adhere to the reevaluation timelines inshall include consideration of adaptive behavior. Adaptive behavior is the effectiveness with which the individual meets the IDEA regulations.

A parent, teacher, or other District employee may request a review of a student's services and supports at any time, but a formal reevaluation shall generally occur no more frequently than once a year.

EXAMINING RECORDS

A parent shall make any request to review standards of personal independence and social responsibility expected of his or her child's education records to the campus principal or other identified custodian of records. [See FL]age and cultural group.

RIGHT TO IMPARTIAL HEARING A parentParents shall be given written notice of thetheir due process right to an impartial hearing if the parent hasthey have a concern or complaint about the District's actions regarding the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of a student with a disabilitydisabilities. The impartial hearing shall be conducted by a person who is knowledgeable about the issues involved in Section 504 issues and who is not employed by the District or related to a

FB(LOCAL)-A

FB (LOCAL)

member of the Board in a degree that would be prohibited under the nepotism statute [see DBE]. The impartial hearing officer is not required to be an attorney. The District and the parent shall be entitled to legal representation at the impartial hearing.

STATE-MANDATED ASSESSMENTS

MODIFICATIONS IN TAKING THE STATE-MANDATED

ASSESSMENTS MAY

BE MADE FOR A SECTION 504

STUDENT WHEN

THE

**MODIFICATIONS** 

HAVE BEEN

**DETERMINED NOT** 

TO DESTROY THE

**VALIDITY OF THE** 

**TEST, ARE** 

**NECESSARY FOR** 

THE STUDENT TO

TAKE THE TEST,

**ARE CONSISTENT** 

WITH

**MODIFICATIONS** 

**PROVIDED THE** 

STUDENT IN THE

**CLASSROOM, AND** 

ARE APPROVED BY

TEA. [SEE

**EKB**RECORDS

**RETENTION** 

Records specific to identification, evaluation, and placement as these pertain to Section 504 shall be retained by the District in accordance with law and the District's local records retention schedules. [See CPC]

FB (EXHIBIT)

The District designates the following person to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, for students:

Name: Lynn McKinney

Position: Deputy Superintendent

Address: 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008

Telephone: (817) 441-8327

The District designates the following person to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, which incorporates and expands upon the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, for students:

Name: Cheryl Wooten

Position: Director of Special Programs

Address: 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008

Telephone: (817) 441-5199

DATE ISSUED: 2/11/2016

UPDATE 104 FB(EXHIBIT)-A ADMISSIONS FD (LOCAL)

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

The student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control shall annually complete and sign-registration forms. A student who has reached age 18 shall be permitted to complete and sign these forms.

PROOF OF RESIDENCY

At the time of initial registration and on an annual basis thereafter, the parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control of the student under order of a court shall present proof of residency in accordance with administrative regulations developed by the Superintendent. The District may investigate stated residency as necessary.

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 or an authorization agreement as provided in Chapter 34 of the Family Code assigning responsibility for the student in all school-related matters to an adult resident of the District.

**MISCONDUCT** 

A minor student living apart 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.

**EXCEPTIONS** 

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

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Superintendent shall determine whether a minor student living apart 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 or deny such admissions requests in accordance with criteria approved by the Board.

"ACCREDITED"
DEFINED

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.

DATE ISSUED: 2/11/201612/20/2010

UPDATE <u>10489</u> FD(LOCAL)-A ADMISSIONS

FD (LOCAL)

### **GRADE-LEVEL**

**PLACEMENT** 

ACCREDITED SCHOOLS

The parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control of a student enrolling in a District school from an accredited public, private, or parochial school shall provide evidence of the prior schooling outside the District. The student 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.

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.

## NONACCREDITED SCHOOLS

A student enrolling in a District school from a nonaccredited public, private, or parochial school, including a homeschool, 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 OF CREDIT

ACCREDITED
TEXAS PUBLIC
SCHOOLS
OTHER
ACCREDITED OR
NONACCREDITED
SCHOOLS

Credit toward state graduation requirements earned in an accredited public school district in Texas shall be transferable and recognized by the District.

Before recognizing credit in a course earned in an accredited non-public school, an accredited school outside of Texas, or a nonaccredited school, appropriate personnel shall evaluate a student's records and transcript. The District may require the student to demonstrate mastery of the content or use alternative methods to verify course content for the award of credit. [See EI]

Before granting credit, the District shall validate, by testing or other evidence, that any course taken by a student at a nonaccredited public, private, or parochial school meets State Board requirements. [See EHDB]

WITHDRAWAL

A parent or guardian wishing to withdraw a minor student shall present a signed <u>statement that includes</u> the reason for

DATE ISSUED: 2/11/201612/20/2010

2 of 3

UPDATE <u>104</u>89 FD(LOCAL)-A Aledo ISD 184907

ADMISSIONS

FD (LOCAL)

the withdrawal. A student who is 18 or older may <u>submit arequest</u> withdrawal <u>statement</u> without a parent's or guardian's signature.

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

DATE ISSUED: <u>2/11/2016</u>12/20/2010

UPDATE <u>10489</u> FD(LOCAL)-A

# ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING

FEB (LOCAL)

ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING SYSTEM The Superintendent shall be responsible for maintaining a student attendance accounting system in accordance with statutory and TEA requirements. [See also FD for admissions and residency requirements.]

ALTERNATIVE ALTER NATE RECORDING TIME

When appropriate, the Superintendent shall establish written procedures permitting a campus to specify an <u>alternative</u> time for taking attendance other than the second or fifth instructional hour. Exceptions may be authorized for an entire campus or for a designated group of students at a campus. The <u>alternative</u> alternative time for recording attendance shall be determined in accordance with TEA's *Student Attendance Accounting Handbook*.

PARENTAL CONSENT TO LEAVE CAMPUS The Superintendent shall establish procedures regarding parental consent for a student to leave campus, including procedures for documenting a student's absence. The procedures shall be communicated in the employee and student handbooks.

DATE ISSUED: 2/11/20161/16/2013 UPDATE 10496 FEB(LOCAL)-A

# STUDENT WELFARE STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

FFC (LOCAL)

HOMELESS STUDENTS The District has designated the following staff person as the liaison for homeless students:

Name: Scott Kessel

Position: Coordinator of Student Services and Safety

Address: 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008

ADOPTED:

Telephone: (817) 441-5161

Aledo ISD 184907

### STUDENT WELFARE STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

FFC (EXHIBIT)

The District has designated the following employee as the liaison for homeless students:

Name: Scott Kessel

Position: Coordinator of Student Services and Safety

Address: 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008

Telephone: (817) 441-5161

DATE ISSUED: 2/11/2016

UPDATE 104 FFC(EXHIBIT)-A

FFH (LOCAL)

#### Note:

This policy addresses discrimination, harassment, and retaliation involving District students. For provisions regarding discrimination, harassment, and retaliation involving District employees, see DIA. For reporting requirements related to child abuse and neglect, see FFG. Note that FFH shall be used in conjunction with FFI (bullying) for certain prohibited conduct.

# STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any student on the basis of race, color, religion, <a href="mailto:sex">sex</a>, gender, national origin, disability, <a href="mailto:age">age</a>, or any other basis prohibited by law. The District prohibits dating violence, as defined by this policy. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of District policy and is prohibited.

#### DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination against a student is defined as conduct directed at a student on the basis of race, color, religion, <u>sex</u>, gender, national origin, disability, <u>age</u>, or on any other basis prohibited by law, that adversely affects the student.

## PROHIBITED HARASSMENT

Prohibited harassment of a student is defined as physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct based on the student's race, color, religion, <a href="mailto:sex">sex</a>, gender, national origin, disability, <a href="mailto:age">age</a>, or any other basis prohibited by law 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.

Prohibited harassment includes dating violence as defined by this policy.

#### **EXAMPLES**

Examples of prohibited harassment may include offensive or derogatory language directed at another person's religious beliefs or practices, accent, skin color, or need for accommodation; threatening, intimidating, or humiliating 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.

DATE ISSUED: <u>2/11/20163/17/2014</u> UPDATE <u>10499</u> FFH(LOCAL)-A

**FFH** (LOCAL)

### 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:
  - 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. [See DHDF]

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

**EXAMPLES** 

FFH(LOCAL)-A

Examples of sexual harassment of a student may include 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.

DATE ISSUED: 2/11/20163/17/2014 **UPDATE 10499** 

FFH (LOCAL)

## GENDER-BASED HARASSMENT

Gender-based harassment includes physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct based on the student's gender, the student's expression of characteristics perceived as stereotypical for the student's gender, or the student's failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity. For purposes of this policy, gender-based harassment 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.

#### **EXAMPLES**

Examples of gender-based harassment directed against a student, regardless of the student's or the harasser's actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity, may include offensive jokes, name-calling, slurs, or rumors; physical aggression or assault; threatening or intimidating conduct; or other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property.

#### **DATING VIOLENCE**

Dating violence occurs when a person in a current or past dating relationship uses physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control the other person in the relationship. Dating violence also occurs when a person commits these acts against a person in a marriage or dating relationship with the individual who is or was once in a marriage or dating relationship with the person committing the offense.

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.

**EXAMPLES** 

Examples of dating violence against a student may include physical or sexual assaults; name-calling; put-downs; or threats directed at the student, the student's family members, or members of the

**FFH** (LOCAL)

student's household. Additional examples may include destroying property belonging to the student, threatening to commit suicide or homicide if the student ends the relationship, attempting to isolate the student from friends and family, stalking, threatening a student's spouse or current dating partner, or encouraging others to engage in these behaviors.

RETALIATION The District prohibits retaliation by a student or District employee

against a student alleged to have experienced discrimination or harassment, including dating violence, or another student who, in good faith, makes a report of harassment or discrimination, serves

as a witness, or participates in an investigation.

**EXAMPLES** Examples of retaliation may include threats, rumor spreading, os-

> tracism, assault, destruction of property, unjustified punishments. or unwarranted grade reductions. Unlawful retaliation does not in-

clude petty slights or annoyances.

**FALSE CLAIM** A student who intentionally makes a false claim, offers false state-

> ments, or refuses to cooperate with a District investigation regarding discrimination or harassment, including dating violence, shall

be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

**PROHIBITED** In this policy, the term "prohibited conduct" includes discrimination, CONDUCT

harassment, dating violence, and retaliation as defined by this policy, even if the behavior does not rise to the level of unlawful con-

duct.

Any student who believes that he or she has experienced prohib-REPORTING

> ited conduct or believes that another student has experienced prohibited conduct should immediately report the alleged acts to a teacher, school counselor, principal, other District employee, or the

appropriate District official listed in this policy.

Any District employee who suspects or receives notice that a stu-**EMPLOYEE REPORT** 

dent or group of students has or may have experienced prohibited conduct shall immediately notify the appropriate District official

listed in this policy and take any other steps required by this policy.

**DEFINITION OF** For the purposes of this policy, District officials are the Title IX coor-DISTRICT

dinator, the ADA/Section 504 coordinator, and the Superintendent. **OFFICIALS** 

> ment or gender-based harassment, may be directed to the designated Title IX coordinator for students. [See FFH(EXHIBIT)] Title IX coordinator. The District designates the following person to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title IX of the Education Amend-

Reports of discrimination based on sex, including sexual harass-

ments of 1972, as amended:

TITLE IX

COORDINATOR

PROCEDURES

STUDENT REPORT

FFH (LOCAL)

Name: Lynn McKinney

Position: Deputy Superintendent

Address: 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008

Telephone: (817) 441-8327

ADA / SECTION 504 COORDINATOR Reports of discrimination based on disability may be directed to the designated ADA/Section 504 coordinator for students. [See FFH(EXHIBIT)]ADA/Section 504 coordinator. The District designates the following person to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, which incorporates and expands upon the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended:

Name: Cheryl Wooten

Position: Director of Special Programs

Address: 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008

Telephone: (817) 441-5199

SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent shall serve as coordinator for purposes of District compliance with all other <u>nondiscrimination</u> antidiscrimination laws.

ALTERNATIVE REPORTING PROCEDURES A student shall not be required to report prohibited conduct to the person alleged to have committed the conduct. Reports concerning prohibited conduct, including reports against the Title IX coordinator or ADA/Section 504 coordinator, may be directed to the Superintendent.

A report against the Superintendent may be made directly to the Board. If a report is made directly to the Board, the Board shall appoint an appropriate person to conduct an investigation.

TIMELY REPORTING

Reports of prohibited conduct shall be made as soon as possible after the alleged act or knowledge of the alleged act. A failure to immediately report may impair the District's ability to investigate and address the prohibited conduct.

NOTICE TO PARENTS

The District official or designee shall promptly notify the parents of any student alleged to have experienced prohibited conduct by a District employee or another adult.

INVESTIGATION OF THE REPORT

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

DATE ISSUED: 2/11/20163/17/2014

UPDATE <u>10499</u> FFH(LOCAL)-A

FFH (LOCAL)

#### INITIAL ASSESSMENT

Upon receipt or notice of a report, the District official shall determine whether the allegations, if proven, would constitute prohibited conduct as defined by this policy. If so, the District shall immediately undertake an investigation, except as provided below at CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION.

If the District official determines that the allegations, if proven, would not constitute prohibited conduct as defined by this policy, the District official shall refer the complaint for consideration under FFI.

#### **INTERIM ACTION**

If appropriate and regardless of whether a criminal or regulatory investigation regarding the alleged conduct is pending, the District shall promptly take interim action calculated to address prohibited conduct or bullying prior to the completion of the District's investigation.

## DISTRICT INVESTIGATION

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

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

If a law enforcement or regulatory agency notifies the District that a criminal or regulatory investigation has been initiated, the District shall confer with the agency to determine if the District investigation would impede the criminal or regulatory investigation. The District shall proceed with its investigation only to the extent that it does not impede the ongoing criminal or regulatory investigation. After the law enforcement or regulatory agency has finished gathering its evidence, the District shall promptly resume its investigation.

## CONCLUDING THE INVESTIGATION

Absent extenuating circumstances, such as a request by a law enforcement or regulatory agency for the District to delay its investigation, the investigation should be completed within ten District 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 include a determination of whether prohibited conduct or bullying occurred. The report shall be filed with the District official overseeing the investigation.

FFH (LOCAL)

NOTIFICATION OF OUTCOME

Notification of the outcome of the investigation shall be provided to both parties in compliance with FERPA.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

If the results of an investigation indicate that prohibited conduct occurred, the District shall promptly respond by taking appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and may take corrective action reasonably calculated to address the conduct.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Examples of corrective action may include a training program for those involved in the complaint, a comprehensive education program for the school community, counseling to the victim and the student who engaged in prohibited conduct, follow-up inquiries to determine if any new incidents or any instances of retaliation have occurred, involving parents and students in efforts to identify problems and improve the school climate, increasing staff monitoring of areas where prohibited conduct has occurred, and reaffirming the District's policy against discrimination and harassment.

**BULLYING** 

If the results of an investigation indicate that bullying occurred, as defined by FFI, the District official shall refer to FFI for appropriate notice to parents and District action. The District official shall refer to FDB for transfer provisions.

IMPROPER CONDUCT

If the investigation reveals improper conduct that did not rise to the level of prohibited conduct or bullying, the District may take disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct or other corrective action reasonably calculated to address the conduct.

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.

**APPEAL** 

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

RECORDS RETENTION

The District shall retain copies of allegations, investigation reports, and related records regarding any prohibited conduct in accordance with the District's records retention schedules, but for no less than the minimum amount of time required by law. [See CPC]

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

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UPDATE <u>10499</u> FFH(LOCAL)-A Aledo ISD 184907

STUDENT WELFARE FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION

FFH (LOCAL)

ACCESS TO POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Information regarding this policy and any accompanying procedures shall be distributed annually in the employee and student handbooks. Copies of the policy and procedures shall be posted on the District's website, to the extent practicable, and readily available at each campus and the District's administrative offices.

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# STUDENT WELFARE FFH FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION (EXHIBIT)

The District designates the following person to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, for students:

Name: Lynn McKinney

Position: Deputy Superintendent

Address: 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008

Telephone: (817) 441-8327

The District designates the following person to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, which incorporates and expands upon the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, for students:

Name: Cheryl Wooten

Position: Director of Special Programs

Address: 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008

Telephone: (817) 441-5199

DATE ISSUED: 2/11/2016

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