

(LOCAL) Policy Comparison Packet

Each marked-up (LOCAL) policy in this collection reflects an automated comparison of the updated policy with its precursor, as found in the TASB Policy Service records.

The comparison is generated by an automated process that shows changes as follows.

- *Deletions* are shown in a red strike-through font: ~~deleted text~~.
- *Additions* are shown in a blue, bold font: **new text**.
- Blocks of text that have been *moved* without alteration are shown in green, with double underline and double strike-through formatting to distinguish the text's destination from its origin: ~~moved text~~ becomes moved text.
- *Revision bars* appear in the right margin, as above.

While the annotation software competently identifies simple changes, large or complicated changes—as in an extensive rewrite—may be more difficult to follow.

For further assistance in understanding changes, please refer to the explanatory notes in your Localized Policy Manual update packet or contact your policy consultant.

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TERM CONTRACTS
NONRENEWAL

DFBB
(LOCAL)

REASONS

The recommendation to the Board and its decision not to renew a contract under this policy shall not be based on an employee's exercise of Constitutional rights or based unlawfully on an employee's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or age. Reasons for proposed nonrenewal of an employee's term contract shall be:

1. Deficiencies pointed out in observation reports, appraisals or evaluations, supplemental memoranda, or other communications.
2. Failure to fulfill duties or responsibilities.
3. Incompetency or inefficiency in the performance of duties.
4. Inability to maintain discipline in any situation in which the employee is responsible for the oversight and supervision of students.
5. Insubordination or failure to comply with official directives.
6. Failure to comply with Board policies or administrative regulations.
7. Excessive absences.
8. Conducting personal business during school hours when it results in neglect of duties.
9. Reduction in force because of financial exigency or program change. [See DFF]
10. A decision by a campus intervention team ~~under Education Code 39.1324~~ that the employee not be retained at a reconstituted campus. [See AIC]
- 11. The employee is not retained at a campus that has been repurposed in accordance with law. [See AIC]**
- ~~44.~~**12.** Drunkenness or excessive use of alcoholic beverages; or possession, use, or being under the influence of alcohol or alcoholic beverages while on school property, while working in the scope of the employee's duties, or while attending any school- or District-sponsored activity.
- ~~42.~~**13.** The illegal possession, use, manufacture, or distribution of a controlled substance, a drug, a dangerous drug, hallucinogens, or other substances regulated by state statutes.
- ~~43.~~**14.** Failure to meet the District's standards of professional conduct.

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- ~~14.~~**15.** Failure to report any arrest, indictment, conviction, no contest or guilty plea, or other adjudication for any felony, any crime involving moral turpitude, or other offense listed at DH(LOCAL). [See DH]
- ~~15.~~**16.** Conviction of or deferred adjudication for any felony, any crime involving moral turpitude, or other offense listed at DH(LOCAL); or conviction of a lesser included offense pursuant to a plea when the original charged offense is a felony. [See DH]
- ~~16.~~**17.** Failure to comply with reasonable District requirements regarding advanced coursework or professional improvement and growth.
- ~~17.~~**18.** Disability, not otherwise protected by law, that prevents the employee from performing the essential functions of the job.
- ~~18.~~**19.** Any activity, school-connected or otherwise, that, because of publicity given it, or knowledge of it among students, faculty, and community, impairs or diminishes the employee's effectiveness in the District.
- ~~19.~~**20.** Any breach by the employee of an employment contract or any reason specified in the employee's employment contract.
- ~~20.~~**21.** Failure to maintain an effective working relationship, or maintain good rapport, with parents, the community, or colleagues.
- ~~24.~~**22.** A significant lack of student progress attributable to the educator.
- ~~22.~~**23.** Behavior that presents a danger of physical harm to a student or to other individuals.
- ~~23.~~**24.** Assault on a person on school property or at a school-related function, or on an employee, student, or student's parent regardless of time or place.
- ~~24.~~**25.** Use of profanity in the course of performing any duties of employment, whether on or off school premises, in the presence of students, staff, or members of the public, if reasonably characterized as unprofessional.
- ~~25.~~**26.** Falsification of records or other documents related to the District's activities.
- ~~26.~~**27.** Falsification or omission of required information on an employment application.

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- ~~27~~.28. Misrepresentation of facts to a supervisor or other District official in the conduct of District business.
- ~~28~~.29. Failure to fulfill requirements for certification, including passing certification examinations required by state law for the employee's assignment.
- ~~29~~.30. Failure to achieve or maintain "highly qualified" status as required for the employee's assignment.
- ~~30~~.31. Failure to fulfill the requirements of a deficiency plan under an Emergency Permit, a Special Assignment Permit, or a Temporary Classroom Assignment Permit.
- ~~31~~.32. Any attempt to encourage or coerce a child to withhold information from the child's parent or from other District personnel.
- ~~32~~.33. Any reason that makes the employment relationship void or voidable, such as a violation of federal, state, or local law.
- ~~33~~.34. Any reason constituting good cause for terminating the contract during its term.

RECOMMENDATIONS
FROM
ADMINISTRATION

Administrative recommendations for renewal or proposed nonrenewal of professional employee contracts shall be submitted to the Superintendent. Each administrator's recommendation for nonrenewal shall be accompanied by copies of all pertinent information necessary to a decision to recommend proposed nonrenewal. The final decision on the administrative recommendation to the Board on each employee's contract rests with the Superintendent.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
RECOMMENDATION

The Superintendent shall prepare lists of employees whose contracts are recommended for renewal or proposed nonrenewal by the Board. Supporting documentation, if any, and reasons for the recommendation shall be submitted for each employee recommended for proposed nonrenewal. The Board shall consider such information, as appropriate, in support of recommendations for proposed nonrenewal and shall then act on all recommendations.

NOTICE OF
PROPOSED
~~RENEWAL OR~~
NONRENEWAL

The Superintendent shall deliver to the employee by hand or certified mail, return receipt requested, written notice of proposed ~~re-~~
~~newal or~~ nonrenewal not later than the 45th day before the last day of instruction required in the contract.

-If the notice of proposed nonrenewal does not contain a statement of the reason or all of the reasons for the proposed action, and the employee requests a hearing, the District shall give the employee notice of all reasons for the proposed nonrenewal a rea-

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REQUEST FOR
HEARING

sonable time before the hearing. The initial notice or any subsequent notice shall contain the hearing procedures.

If the employee desires a hearing after receiving the notice of proposed nonrenewal, the employee shall notify the Board in writing not later than the 15th day after the date the employee received the notice of proposed nonrenewal. When a timely request for a hearing on a proposed nonrenewal is received by the **presiding officer**~~Board President~~, the hearing shall be held not later than the 15th day after receipt of the request, unless the parties mutually agree to a delay. The employee shall be given notice of the hearing date as soon as it is set.

HEARING
PROCEDURE

Unless the employee requests that the hearing be open, the hearing shall be conducted in closed meeting with only the members of the Board, the employee, the Superintendent, their representatives, and such witnesses as may be called in attendance. Witnesses may be excluded from the hearing until called to present evidence. The employee and the administration may choose a representative. Notice, at least five days in advance of the hearing, shall be given by each party intending to be represented, including the name of the representative. Failure to give such notice may result in postponement of the hearing.

The conduct of the hearing shall be under the **presiding officer's**~~Board President's~~ control and shall generally follow the steps listed below:

1. After consultation with the parties, the **presiding officer**~~Board President~~ shall impose reasonable time limits for presentation of evidence and closing arguments.
2. The hearing shall begin with the administration's presentation, supported by such proof as it desires to offer.
3. The employee may cross-examine any witnesses for the administration.
4. The employee may then present such testimonial or documentary proof, as desired, to offer in rebuttal or general support of the contention that the contract be renewed.
5. The administration may cross-examine any witnesses for the employee and offer rebuttal to the testimony of the employee's witnesses.
6. Closing arguments may be made by each party.

A record of the hearing shall be made so that a certified transcript can be prepared, if required.

BOARD DECISION

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The Board may consider only evidence presented at the hearing. After all the evidence has been presented, if the Board determines that the reasons given in support of the recommendation to not renew the employee's contract are lawful, supported by the evidence, and not arbitrary or capricious, it shall so notify the employee by a written notice not later than the 15th day after the date on which the hearing is concluded. This notice shall also include the Board's decision on renewal, which decision shall be final.

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TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT
RESIGNATION

DFE
(LOCAL)

GENERAL
REQUIREMENTS

All resignations shall be submitted in writing to the Superintendent **or designee**. The employee shall give reasonable notice and shall include in the letter a statement of the reasons for resigning. A prepaid certified or registered letter of resignation shall be considered submitted upon mailing.

AT-WILL EMPLOYEES

The Superintendent or designee shall be authorized to accept the resignation of an at-will employee at any time.

CONTRACT
EMPLOYEES

~~BEFORE THE
START OF THE
SCHOOL YEAR~~

The Superintendent or designee shall be authorized to **receive a contract employee's** ~~accept the~~ resignation ~~of a contract em-~~
~~ployee submitted and~~ effective ~~at before~~ the ~~end~~**start** of the school year ~~or~~ ~~If the resignation is~~ submitted after the **last day of the school year and before the** penalty-free resignation date. **The resignation is accepted upon receipt** ~~established by law, acceptance is contingent on finding a suitable replacement.~~

THE SUPERINTENDENT OR DESIGNEE SHALL BE AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

~~For~~ a **contract employee's** resignation **submitted or** ~~that is~~ effective **at any other time.** ~~The~~ ~~during the school year after the con-~~
~~tract employee has begun duty,~~ the Superintendent or designee shall either accept the resignation or submit the matter to the Board in order to pursue sanctions allowed by law.

~~THE SCHOOL YEAR~~

~~The Superintendent or designee shall be authorized to accept a contract employee's resignation if submitted during the school year and effective at the end of the school year.~~

WITHDRAWAL OF
RESIGNATION

Once submitted and accepted, the resignation of a contract employee may not be withdrawn without consent of the Board.

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EMPLOYEE WELFARE

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**DRUG-FREE
AWARENESS
PROGRAM**

~~DRUG ABATEMENT~~

The District shall maintain a drug-free environment and shall establish, as needed, a **drug-free awareness** program complying with federal ~~and state~~ requirements. [See DH] The program shall provide applicable information to employees in the following areas:

1. The dangers of drug use and abuse in the workplace.
2. The District's policy of maintaining a drug-free environment. [See DH(LOCAL)]
3. Drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs that are available in the community, if any.
4. The penalties that may be imposed on employees for violation of drug use and abuse prohibitions. [See DI(EXHIBIT)]

EMPLOYEE
RESPONSIBILITY

All fees or charges associated with drug/alcohol abuse counseling or rehabilitation shall be the responsibility of the employee.

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EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

FB
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TITLE IX
COORDINATOR

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

Name: Dr. Roger Rutherford
Position: Assistant Superintendent
Address: 1307 North Locust Street, Denton, TX 76201
Telephone: (940) 369-0000

ADA / SECTION 504
COORDINATOR

Reports of discrimination based on disability may be directed to the ADA/Section 504 coordinator. The District designates the following **personemployee** 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: Dr. Roger Rutherford
Position: Assistant Superintendent
Address: 1307 North Locust Street, Denton, TX 76201
Telephone: (940) 369-0000

SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent shall serve as coordinator for purposes of District compliance with all other antidiscrimination laws.

COMPLAINTS

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

RECORDS
RETENTION

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

The Section 504 coordinator and members of the Section 504 committee shall receive training in the procedures and requirements for identifying and providing educational and related services to those students who have disabilities, but who are not in need of special education in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). [See EHBA]

The Section 504 committee shall be composed of at least two persons, including persons knowledgeable about the student, the

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	<p>meaning of the evaluation data, the placement options, and the legal requirements regarding least restrictive environment and comparable facilities for students with disabilities.</p>
REFERRALS	<p>A student may be referred by parents, teachers, counselors, administrators, or any other District employee for evaluation to determine if the student has disabilities and is in need of special instruction or services.</p>
PARENTAL CONSENT	<p>The Section 504 coordinator shall 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. Parental consent shall be obtained before the initial student evaluation procedures for the identification, diagnosis, and prescription of specific education services.</p>
NOTICE TO PARENTS	<p>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.</p>
PREPLACEMENT EVALUATION	<p>The results of the evaluation shall be considered before any action is taken to place a student with disabilities or make a significant change in placement in an instructional program. The evaluation shall include consideration of adaptive behavior. Adaptive behavior is the effectiveness with which the individual meets the standards of personal independence and social responsibility expected of his or her age and cultural group.</p>
IMPARTIAL HEARING	<p>Parents shall be given written notice of their due process right to an impartial hearing if they have a concern or complaint about the District's actions regarding the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of a student with disabilities. The impartial hearing shall be conducted by a person who is knowledgeable about the issues involved in Section 504 and who is not employed by the District or related to a 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.</p>
STATE-MANDATED ASSESSMENTS	<p>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]</p>

STUDENT WELFARE
FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION

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. For provisions regarding bullying, see FFI.

STATEMENT OF
NONDISCRIMINATION

The District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any student on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, 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.

DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination against a student is defined as conduct directed at a student on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, 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, gender, national origin, disability, 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 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.-

SEXUAL HARASSMENT
BY AN EMPLOYEE

Sexual harassment of a student by a District employee includes both welcome and unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sex-

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ual 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. [\[See DF\]](#)

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

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.

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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

Examples of dating violence against a student may include 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.

RETALIATION The District prohibits retaliation against a student alleged to have experienced discrimination or harassment, including dating violence, or another student who, in good faith, makes a report, serves as a witness, or otherwise participates in an investigation.

A student who intentionally makes a false claim, offers false statements, or refuses to cooperate with a District investigation regarding discrimination or harassment, including dating violence, is subject to appropriate discipline.

EXAMPLES

Examples of retaliation include threats, unjustified punishments, or unwarranted grade reductions. Unlawful retaliation does not include petty slights or annoyances, such as negative comments that are justified by a student's performance in the classroom.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

In this policy, the term "prohibited conduct" includes discrimination, harassment, dating violence, and retaliation as defined by this policy, even if the behavior does not rise to the level of unlawful conduct.

REPORTING PROCEDURES

Any student who believes that he or she has experienced prohibited conduct or believes that another student has experienced

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prohibited conduct should immediately report the alleged acts to a teacher, counselor, principal, or other District employee.

Alternatively, a student may report prohibited conduct directly to one of the District officials below:

DEFINITION OF
DISTRICT
OFFICIALS

For the purposes of this policy, District officials are the Title IX coordinator, the **ADA**/Section 504 coordinator, and the Superintendent.

TITLE IX
COORDINATOR

Reports of discrimination based on sex, including sexual harassment, may be directed to the Title IX coordinator. The District designates the following **person**~~employee~~ to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended:

Name: Dr. Roger Rutherford
Position: Assistant Superintendent
Address: 1307 North Locust Street, Denton, TX 76201
Telephone: (940) 369-0000

ADA / SECTION
504
COORDINATOR

Reports of discrimination based on disability may be directed to the **ADA**/Section 504 coordinator. The District designates the following **person**~~employee~~ 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: Dr. Roger Rutherford
Position: Assistant Superintendent
Address: 1307 North Locust Street, Denton, TX 76201
Telephone: (940) 369-0000

SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent shall serve as coordinator for purposes of District compliance with all other 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.

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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 promptly report may impair the District's ability to investigate and address the prohibited conduct.
NOTICE OF REPORT	Any District employee who receives notice that a student has or may have experienced prohibited conduct shall immediately notify the appropriate District official listed above and take any other steps required by this policy.
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	<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 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 official shall immediately authorize or undertake an investigation, regardless of whether a criminal or regulatory investigation regarding the same or similar allegations is pending.</p> <p>If appropriate, the District shall promptly take interim action calculated to prevent prohibited conduct 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>
CONCLUDING THE INVESTIGATION	<p>Absent extenuating circumstances, 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.</p> <p>The investigator shall prepare a written report of the investigation. The report shall be filed with the District official overseeing the investigation.</p>

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- DISTRICT ACTION If the results of an investigation indicate that prohibited conduct occurred, the District shall promptly respond by taking appropriate disciplinary or corrective action reasonably calculated to address the conduct.
- The District may take action based on the results of an investigation, even if the conduct did not rise to the level of prohibited or unlawful 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 who is dissatisfied with the outcome of the investigation may appeal through FNG(LOCAL), beginning at the appropriate level. A student 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 Retention of records shall be in accordance with FB(LOCAL) and CPC(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.