

## GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

DATE OF MEETING: May 7, 2019

TITLE: Study of Proposed Revisions to the Student Code of Conduct for the 2019-2020

School Year.

## **BACKGROUND:**

State law mandates that each school district Governing Board establish rules for student behavior and that such rules include consequences deemed appropriate. In some respects, state and federal law also compel specific outcomes to some degree, such as where a student threatens the safety or security of a school campus or a student possesses a firearm. The Governing Board's Student Code of Conduct is the mechanism through which the Board communicates its expectations for student behavior and the consequences for violating those rules, consistent with state and federal law. A student's failure or refusal to comply with the rules of the District and/or his school makes the student subject to disciplinary action.

Prior to submission of this Item to the Governing Board, the District solicited suggestions for revisions and clarifications of the 2018-2019 Student Code of Conduct from District and site administrators. Administrators responsible for maintaining safety and security in the District work closely with the Student Code of Conduct on a daily basis. They have experience with applications of the Code's provisions and can provide invaluable insight about any necessary revisions.

The State of Arizona also requires the District to report certain violations on an annual basis. Some of the recommended amendments to definitions set forth in the District's Code are being proposed to remain consist with the State's definitions.

An effective Code must explain expectations for behavior so that all members of the school community can fully understand them; it must also provide fair and consistent guidelines for consequences to be applied when behavioral incidents do occur to help ensure schools are safe places for students, staff, and the public.

The attached draft of the recommended revisions to the 2019-2020 Code of Conduct is intended to be easy to read, but at the same time comply with legal mandates for public schools which include the requirement for clear expectations and precise definitions.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

This Board item is presented to permit the Board to study and provide any direction concerning the proposed Code of Conduct for the 2019-2020 school year.

**INITIATED BY:** 

Michelle H. Tong, J.D.,

Associate to the Superintendent and General Counsel

Date: April 29, 2019

Fodd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent