

Subject: Community Relations
Policy No. 1050 – Access to Records

Public Access to School Records - Examination, Making Memoranda, and Copying

1. The School District, through the Superintendent, shall provide interested persons access to the records of the School District as required by law. Such access shall include the opportunity to examine School District records, when permitted by law. The School District shall not make records of individual students, personnel, or other confidential material available, except as allowed by law or compelled by court order.
2. Records may be examined at the School District offices during the hours such offices are open for the ordinary transaction of business. School district offices will be open for the ordinary transaction of business (a) during the school year on such days as school is in session, and (b) during the summer months when school is not in session, Monday through Friday, except legal holidays or other days the District is closed.
3. Records may be obtained in the form in which the record is maintained including, but not limited to, printouts, electronic data, and photocopies. The School District will not be required to produce or generate any record in a new or different form or format modified from that of the original School District record. Copies of records may be made as follows:
 - (a) Copies may be made by persons using their own copying or photocopying equipment, provided that such copies shall be made on the premises of the School District offices or at a location mutually agreed to by the requester and the School District.
 - (b) Copies may be obtained from the School District if the School District has copying equipment reasonably available, and upon payment of a fee for providing copies. The Superintendent shall determine a reasonable fee for the copying of school district records, provided that such fee is not to exceed the actual cost of making the copies available. If the copies requested are estimated by the School District to be more than fifty dollars (\$50.00), the School District may require the requester to furnish a deposit prior to fulfilling such request.
4. For residents of Nebraska and news media desiring to submit a public records request to the School District, a requester must submit a written request to the School District. Upon written request for access to records, the School District will provide to the requester as soon as is practicable and without delay, but not more than four (4) business days after actual receipt of the request:
 - (a) Access to or, if copying equipment is reasonably available, copies of the school district records requested;
 - (b) A written denial of the request, or portion thereof, if there is a legal basis for such denial of access to school district records on a written form from the school district; or
 - (c) If the entire request cannot with reasonable good faith efforts be fulfilled within four (4) business days after actual receipt of the request due to the significant difficulty or extensiveness of the request, the school district shall provide a written explanation, including the earliest practicable date for fulfilling the request, and estimate of the expected cost of any copies, and an opportunity to modify or prioritize the items within the request. If the response to the request is

expected to require more than eight cumulative hours of staff time spent searching, identifying, physically redacting, or copying, the District may require the requester to furnish a deposit, as permitted under the Public Records Request Laws.

5. For nonresidents of Nebraska, a requester must submit a written request to the School District. The School District may then require the requester to submit a deposit, as permitted under the Public Records Request Laws.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 84-712 et seq.

Date of Adoption: 7/15/2024

Subject: Community Relations

Policy No. 1101 - Use of School Facilities: Student Groups

1. Access by Youth Organizations. The District will allow, upon request, a representative of a recognized youth organization to provide: (1) oral or written information to students regarding the youth organization and how such youth organization furthers the educational interests and civic involvement of students in a manner consistent with good citizenship; and (2) services and activities to any student who is a member of such youth organization. A “recognized youth organization” is limited to those group listed in 36 U.S.C. Subtitle II, Part B. Each requesting youth organization will be permitted to provide information at school at least once during each school year. The administration will make a good faith effort to find a mutually agreeable date, time, and location for each requesting youth organization, though the administration shall have the ultimate authority to select the date, time, and location for any requesting youth organization. Under no circumstances will any requesting youth organization be permitted to provide oral information to students during instructional time, unless previously approved by the Superintendent or Superintendent’s designee. Every representative from a requesting youth organization must submit to, at the organization’s cost, a background check. The Superintendent or Superintendent’s designee may refuse to allow an individual to be on school grounds if the individual's background check discloses a prior felony conviction or if, in the Superintendent’s discretion, the background check otherwise reveals concerns about student safety. Nothing in this Paragraph preempts or undermines any provision of the District’s Parental Involvement Policy.
2. Equal Access to Student Groups. In the event any of the secondary schools (grades 6-12) have a limited open forum as defined in the Equal Access Act, such school(s) shall not deny equal access or a fair opportunity to, or discriminate against, any students who wish to conduct a meeting within that limited open forum on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings. A limited open forum for this purpose exists if the secondary school grants an offering to or opportunity for one or more non-curriculum related student groups to meet on school premises during noninstructional time.

All such student meetings at school are subject to the following requirements:

- a. the meeting must be voluntary and student-initiated;
- b. there must be no sponsorship of the meeting by the school or its agents or employees;
- c. employees or agents of the school are present at religious meetings only in a nonparticipatory capacity;
- d. the meeting must not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school; and
- e. non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of the student group.

The administration shall in all respects maintain the District in compliance with the Equal Access Act.

3. Equal Access to Outside Groups Meeting at School. If the District provides an opportunity for one or more outside youth or community groups to meet on school premises or in school facilities before or after school hours, the District shall make that opportunity available to other similarly situated groups. The administration shall in all respects maintain the District in compliance with the Equal Access Act.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. Section 4071-4074 (Equal Access Act) / 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7905 (Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act) & 34 CFR Part 108 / LB 705, § 126.

Date of Adoption: July 14, 2023

Subject: Community Relations

Policy No. 1200 - Personnel - All Employees and Students

Anti-discrimination

A. **Elimination of Discrimination.**

The policy of Allen Consolidated Schools is to not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, in admission or access to, or treatment with regard to employment or with regard to its programs and activities.

Allen Consolidated Schools and its staff shall comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. The Board of Allen Consolidated Schools intends to take any necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination and directs its staff to take all actions necessary to meet this objective.

The Superintendent shall be the Coordinator for anti-discrimination laws (including Title VI, Title IX; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)) and complaints or concerns involving discrimination or compliance with those laws should be addressed to said Coordinator.

B. **Preventing Harassment and Discrimination of Employees and Students.**

1. **Purpose:** Allen Consolidated Schools is committed to offering employment and educational opportunity to its employees and students based on ability and performance in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination or harassment of any kind by administrators, teachers, co-workers or other persons is prohibited. In addition, Allen Consolidated Schools will try to protect employees or students from reported discrimination or harassment by non-employees or others in the work place and educational environment.

For purposes of this policy, discrimination or harassment based on a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, is prohibited. The following are general definitions of what might constitute prohibited harassment.

a. In general, ethnic or racial slurs or other verbal or physical conduct relating to a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, constitutes harassment when they unreasonably interfere with the person's work performance or create an intimidating work, instructional or educational environment.

- b. Age harassment has been defined by federal regulations as a form of age discrimination. It can consist of demeaning jokes, insults or intimidation based on a person's age.
- c. Sexual harassment has been defined by federal and state regulations as a form of sex discrimination. It can consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature by supervisors or others in the work place, classroom or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may exist when:

- (a) Supervisors or managers make submission to such conduct either an explicit or implicit term and condition of employment (including hiring, compensation, promotion, or retention);
- (b) Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used by supervisors or managers as a basis for employment related decisions such as promotion, performance evaluation, pay adjustment, discipline, work assignment, etc.
- (c) The conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, class room or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", "practical jokes", jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, displays of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact, such as patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

2. **Procedures:**

- a. Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination or harassment to their immediate supervisor or teacher. However, if the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student is encouraged to go to the next level of supervision.
- b. If the report is not satisfactorily resolved within ten calendar days, or if the discrimination or harassment continues, please report your complaint to the Superintendent of [Name] Public Schools.
- c. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.
- d. The person to whom the complaint is made is to thoroughly investigate the complaint and work with the person filing the complaint to seek an appropriate resolution so the discrimination or harassment can be remedied and put to an end.
- e. Complaints of discrimination or harassment will be treated with the utmost

confidence, consistent with resolution of the problem.

- f. Based on the results of the investigation, appropriate corrective action, up to and including discharge of offending employees, etc., may be taken.
- g. Under no circumstances will a supervisor or a teacher or the Board threaten or retaliate against a person for alleging discrimination or harassment.

Legal Reference: Title VI, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000d, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000e, Title IX; 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, and the Nebraska Fair Employment Practices Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 48-1101 et seq.
Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), the Older Workers Benefit Protection Act (OWBPA), 29 U.S.C. Sec. 621 et seq., and the Nebraska Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 48-1001 et seq.;
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)
Pregnancy Discrimination Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000e(k)
Uniform Service Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. Sec. 4301 et seq.
Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-2,115, et seq

Date of Adoption: 7/12/2021

Subject: Community Relations

Policy No. 1220 - Personnel - Title IX - Procedure for Complaints of Sexual Harassment

A. Complaint Procedure - Generally

1. Reporting Procedures: All employees are responsible for helping to prevent sexual harassment. Employees or students who believe they have been subjected to, or believe they have witnessed sexual harassment should follow these procedures:

1. Directly inform the person engaging in the discrimination or harassment that such conduct is offensive and must stop.
2. For employee reporters, contact your principal or supervisor, the principal or supervisor of the offending person, or the Title IX Coordinator if you do not wish to communicate directly with the person whose conduct is offensive or if direct communication with the offending person has been ineffective.
3. Report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator if the offending conduct continues or has not been resolved to your satisfaction after you have reported the matter to a principal or supervisor.
4. For student reporters, contact any teacher, counselor, or administrator, or the Title IX Coordinator.
5. Report to the Title IX Coordinator if you are the adult to whom the student has made a report so that the matter can be properly resolved. The Title IX Coordinator is:

TITLE IX COORDINATOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Michael Pattee
PO Box 190
Allen, NE 68710
(402) 635-2484 ext. 400
mpattee@allenschools.org

2. District Actions upon Report of Sexual Harassment or Sexual Misconduct: Upon receipt of a report of sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator, or designee, including but not limited to a building principal or assistant principal, will conduct an initial inquiry. The first step of the inquiry will typically include a preliminary meeting between the individual whom the reporting party alleges has been subjected to sexual harassment or sexual misconduct and the Title IX Coordinator, or designee. The initial inquiry may also include a meeting between the Title IX Coordinator, or designee, and the individual whom the reporting party alleges has committed sexual harassment or sexual misconduct. The purpose of these meetings is to gain a basic understanding of the nature and circumstances of the report, it is not intended to be a full investigative interview. During the initial assessment, the reporting party may also receive

information about resources, rights, procedural options, and supportive measures. The Title IX Coordinator, or designee, may inquire into whether the person who has is alleged to have been subject to sexual harassment or misconduct requests resources, no further action, supportive measures, and/or initiation of the "Formal Complaint" process. The Title IX Coordinator will make a reasonable effort to respect the wishes of the person who experienced sexual harassment or sexual misconduct; however, if the reported incident constitutes an imminent or ongoing threat to school safety, based on the assessment of the Title IX Coordinator, then the Title IX Coordinator may file a Formal Complaint, on behalf of the District, with or without the consent or permission of the person who has experienced sexual harassment or sexual misconduct.

With or without a Formal Complaint, allegations of sexual harassment or discrimination shall be investigated and if substantiated, corrective or disciplinary action will be taken, up to and including dismissal from employment, if the offender is an employee, or suspension and/or expulsion, if the offender is a student. Retaliatory action will not be taken against any person for reporting discrimination or harassment. This policy does not limit or prohibit the District from instituting disciplinary measures pursuant to other Board Policy, rules, or other expectations if the District determines that a person violated District rules or expectations.

B. Formal Complaint Process

The following procedures apply only in the event that a Formal Complaint is filed. All other reports of sexual harassment shall be resolved using the general complaint procedure. Any timelines set forth in the following procedures may be extended by the Title IX Coordinator with notice to the parties.

1. Misconduct Which May Be Investigated Under a Formal Complaint: The Formal Complaint process is only available if the Formal Complaint alleges: (i) conduct which occurs on District grounds or property owned or controlled by the District; (ii) conduct which occurs in the context of District employment or an education program or District-sponsored activity within the United States, and (iii) conduct which occurs when the District has substantial control over both the Respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment or sexual misconduct occurs. The conduct must also fall within one of the following categories: (a) an employee of the District conditioning an aid, service, or benefit of the District on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual contact; (b) unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a student equal access to the District's education program or activity; (c) sexual assault; (d) domestic violence; (e) dating violence; or (f) stalking.

2. Parties to a Formal Complaint: The only parties to a Formal Complaint are the Complainant, who is the person alleged to have been subject to misconduct, and the Respondent, the person who is alleged to have committed the misconduct.

3. Filing a Formal Complaint: A Formal Complaint may only be filed by a Complainant or the Title IX Coordinator. An employee or student Complainant may file a Formal Complaint in writing with the Title IX Coordinator in person or by mail, or by electronic mail. The Formal Complaint must be signed by the Complainant or by the Title IX Coordinator.

4. Immediate Actions Upon Receipt of Formal Complaint: Upon receipt of a Formal Complaint, the Title IX Coordinator will conduct an initial assessment of the allegations contained within the Formal Complaint to determine if the allegations in the Formal Complaint, if true, allege misconduct which may be investigated under the Formal Complaint process. If the allegations in the Formal Complaint do not allege misconduct which may be investigated under the Formal Complaint process, the Title IX Coordinator must dismiss the Formal Complaint and may proceed under other District policies or procedures. The Complainant will be provided notice in writing if the Formal Complaint is dismissed.

If the allegations in the Formal Complaint allege misconduct which may be investigated under the Formal Complaint process, the Title IX Coordinator shall provide the following to all known parties: (1) The complaint procedure as outlined in this policy; and (2) Notice of the allegations of sexual harassment, known by the District at the time of filing the Notice, including (i) the identities of the parties involved, if known, (ii) the conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment, and (iii) the date and location of the alleged incident.

The Title IX Coordinator shall then provide the Formal Complaint and the Notice of the Formal Complaint to the District's Title IX Investigator.

5. Investigation of Formal Complaint: Upon receipt of a Formal Complaint, the Investigator will promptly investigate the allegations contained within, even if an outside entity or law enforcement agency is investigating a complaint involving the same facts and allegations. The Investigator will not wait for the conclusion or outcome of a criminal investigation or proceeding to begin an investigation required by this complaint procedure. If the allegation(s) involve possible criminal conduct, the District will notify the Complainant of his or her right to file a criminal complaint, and District employees will not dissuade the Complainant from filing a criminal complaint either during or after the District's investigation.

The Investigator will contact the Complainant, Respondent, and relevant witnesses to schedule interviews. All parties may bring up to two people to this meeting: (1) Support Person and/or (2) Advisor of Choice. The Advisor of Choice may or may not be an attorney. Neither the Support Person nor the Advisor of Choice can direct questions or comments to the Investigator, nor may the Support Person or Advisor of Choice advise a student or employee how to answer the Investigator's questions.

The Investigator will also aim to collect all tangible evidence relevant to the investigation.

The Investigator will complete the investigation within a reasonable time frame, as

determined by the Title IX Coordinator. The factors to determine a reasonable time frame include, but are not limited to, the allegations of the Formal Complaint and the number of witnesses that may need to be interviewed. The time frame originally set by the Title IX Coordinator may be extended by the

Title IX Coordinator, upon notice to the parties, as deemed necessary to complete the investigation. Periodic status updates will be given to the parties, when appropriate.

(A) *Neutrality*: The Title IX Coordinator, Investigator, Decision-Maker, or any person designated by the District to facilitate this Formal Complaint process, shall not have any conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or an individual Complainant or Respondent. The District shall ensure that Title IX Coordinator, Investigator, Decision-Maker, and any person who facilitates this Formal Complaint process shall receive training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the District's education program or activity, how to conduct an investigation and complaint process including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes, as applicable, and how to serve impartially, including by avoiding prejudgment of the fact at issue, conflicts of interest, and bias.

(B) *Burden of Production*: It shall be the Investigator's burden to gather evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding the outcome of the Formal Complaint. To reach a determination, the investigation will include, but is not limited to:

1. Providing the parties with the opportunity to present witnesses and provide evidence.
- ii. An evaluation of all relevant information and documentation relating to the alleged discriminatory conduct.
- iii. A consideration of various factors, including: (1) the nature of the conduct and whether the conduct was unwelcome, (2) the surrounding circumstances, expectations, and relationships, (3) the degree to which the conduct affected one or more students' education, (4) the type, frequency, and duration of the conduct, (5) the identity of and relationship between the alleged harasser and the suspect or suspects of the harassment, (6) the number of individuals involved, (7) the age and sex, if applicable, of the alleged harasser and the alleged victim(s) of the harassment, (8) the location of the incidents and the context in which they occurred, (9) the totality of the circumstances, and (10) other relevant evidence.
- iv. A review of the evidence using a "preponderance of the evidence" standard. To meet the "preponderance of the evidence" standard, the evidence must show that the discrimination, harassment, or retaliation more likely occurred than did not occur.

(C) *Rights of the Parties*: The Respondent is entitled to a presumption that the Respondent is not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the complaint process. The Investigator must provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence. The Investigator shall not restrict the ability of either party to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence.

The District retains the right to place any person on administrative leave during the pendency of the investigation. The District also retains the right to remove a Respondent from the District's educational program prior to the conclusion of the investigation. In the event of a

removal, the Respondent shall have the opportunity to challenge the decision for removal by meeting with the Title IX Coordinator to discuss the removal.

(D) *Conclusion of Investigation:* Prior to the conclusion of the investigation, the Investigator shall send each party the evidence that is subject to inspection and review in an electronic format or a hard copy. This information shall be known as the "Draft Investigative Report." The Draft Investigative Report shall include all evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in the Formal Complaint, including the evidence upon which the Investigator does not intend to relay to the Decision-Maker. The parties shall then have ten (10) calendar days to submit a written response, which the Investigator will consider. Responses may not be submitted by the parties' Advisor of Choice or Support Person, unless such person is the parent or guardian of the Complainant or Respondent. Responses may include corrections to the Investigator's summary of the parties' interviews, suggestions for additional investigation, or additional information not known at the time of the interviews. Any new information provided by the parties during the response period will not result in an additional time period for response by the other party unless determined necessary by the Title IX Coordinator. The Investigator is not obliged to respond to any question or requests for information in the parties' responses. The Investigator will consider the information provided by the parties and will incorporate relevant information into the Final Investigative Report. The Final Investigative Report will fairly summarize the relevant evidence. The Investigator shall then submit the Final Investigation Report to the Decision-Maker. The parties shall each receive a copy of the Final Investigative Report at the same time as the Decision-Maker.

6. Actions Taken By Decision-Maker Upon Receipt of Final Investigative Report: Upon receipt of the Final Investigative Report, the Decision-Maker shall provide 10 days for each party to submit written, relevant questions that a party wants asked of any party or witness. Questions shall be submitted to the Title IX Coordinator who shall determine whether questions are relevant. The Title IX Coordinator shall contact parties or witnesses to request answers to the parties' relevant questions. The Title IX Coordinator will provide each party, and the Decision-Maker with the answers provided by the opposing party or witness and allow for additional, limited follow-up questions from each party.

7. Notice of Determination: Once the Decision-Maker has received the answers to relevant questions submitted by the parties, the Decision-Maker shall consider the answers and the Decision-Maker shall issue a written determination regarding responsibility by a preponderance of the evidence within a reasonable time frame, as determined by the Title IX Coordinator. The Decision-Maker shall consider all relevant evidence, including inculpatory and exculpatory evidence, and will not consider the credibility of the evidence to be based on a person's status, such as the Complainant, Respondent, or witness. The Decision-Maker shall provide the written determination to both parties simultaneously. The written determination shall include:

- (a) Identification of the allegations potentially constituting sexual harassment;
- (b) A description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt of the Formal Complaint through the determination, including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, and methods used to gather evidence;
- (c) Findings of fact supporting the determination;
- (d) Conclusions regarding the application of each recipient's code of conduct to the facts;
- (e) A statement of, and rationale for, the results as to each allegation, including a

determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions the recipient imposes on the Respondent, and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the recipient's education program or activity will be provided by the recipient to the Complainant; and

- (f) The recipient's procedures and permissible bases for the Complainant and Respondent to appeal.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) permits the District to disclose relevant information to a student who was discriminated against or harassed.

8. Sanctions: At the conclusion of the investigation, the Decision-Maker may institute disciplinary measures against the Respondent if the Decision-Maker determines that the Respondent engaged in sexual abuse or harassment. Disciplinary measures may include, but are not limited to, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, expulsion, and, in the case of an employee disciplinary action, up to and including immediate termination from employment.

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the implementation of supportive measures for the victim(s).

C. Appeals

If either party is not satisfied with the outcome of the investigation and the decision of the Decision-Maker, they may appeal on the following bases:

1. Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
2. New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; and
3. The Title IX Coordinator, Investigator, or Decision-Maker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against the Complainant or Respondent generally or the individual Complainant or Respondent that affected the outcome of the matter.

The request for an appeal shall be in writing and submitted on the appropriate document. The appeal document shall be submitted to the Superintendent.

Upon notice of an appeal by either party, the Superintendent of Schools shall notify the other party in writing when the appeal is filed and of the appeal procedures, which apply equally to both parties.

The Superintendent shall give both parties a reasonable and equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of or challenging the outcome.

The Superintendent shall review the investigative report, Decision-Maker's determination, and written statements of the parties and then issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result. The Superintendent shall provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties.

D. Informal Resolution

If a Formal Complaint is filed, the District may offer the Complainant and Respondent the opportunity to participate in an informal resolution process. The informal resolution process may take place at any time prior to reaching a determination regarding responsibility. The informal resolution process shall only take place upon:

1. Written notice to both parties disclosing: the allegations, the requirements of the informal resolution process including the circumstances under which it precludes the parties from resuming a Formal Complaint arising from the same allegations, provided, however, that at any time prior to agreeing to a resolution, any party has the right to withdraw from the resolution process and resume the complaint process with respect to the Formal Complaint, and any consequences resulting from participating in the informal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained or could be shared;
2. The parties' voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution process; and
3. That the allegations of the Formal Complaint do not involve any allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student.

E. Record Keeping

The District will maintain relevant documentation obtained during the investigation and documentation supportive of the findings and any subsequent determinations, including the investigative report, witness statements, interview summaries, and any transcripts or audio recordings, pertaining to the investigative and appeal proceedings for a period of seven (7) years.

Legal Reference: Title IX

Adopted: July 11, 2022

Reorganized: _____

Last Reviewed: _____

Subject: Community Relations
Policy No. 1250 - Visitors/Outsiders

Parent and/or Guardians are always welcome as school visitors. We do request that all visitors check with the Superintendent before visiting classrooms. The building administrator determines that if the presence of any person is disruptive of, or detrimental to, any or all phases of the school program he may prohibit that individual's presence on school property.

Adopted: _____
Reorganized: 2000
Last Reviewed: 2005

Subject: Community Relations
Policy No. 1310 Parent Relations Goals

It is the general goal of the district to foster relationships with parents which encourage cooperation between the home and school in establishing and achieving common education goals for students. The board believes parents should be active participants in education by demonstrating interest in and support for their school and the district, by becoming informed about their role as partners in education, and by becoming involved in the education of their children; and

While parents are individually responsible for their children, the district provides direct services of education and indirect services of child care for students during the time when they are within the supervision of school personnel. Consistent with these shared responsibilities and as appropriate to the maturity of the student, members of the school staff will consult with parents regarding student progress and achievement, methods to enhance student development, and matters of correction.

Additionally, parental involvement in the schools is encouraged through regular communication with the school principal and staff, the parent/teacher organizations, the school volunteer programs, and other opportunities for participation in school activities and district programs. It is assumed that the relationship described in the general goal is fostered if the district will:

- Consult with and encourage parents to share in school planning, in setting objectives, and evaluating programs;
- Help parents understand the education process and their role in promoting this process;
- Provide for parent understanding of school operations;
- Provide opportunities for parents to be informed of their child's development and the criteria for its measurement; and
- Help parents improve in their role as parents.

Adopted: _____
Reorganized: 2000
Last Reviewed: 2005

Subject: Community Relations
Policy No. 1310.1 Parental Involvement in the Schools

It is the policy of the district to provide full access to the parent of any student of the district to review textbooks, tests, curriculum and instructional materials, records of a student of any such parent, unless otherwise prohibited by law, and to any surveys of students done by the school district. Summary information regarding the district's curriculum, testing, and surveys will be provided at the beginning of each school year. Requests for access to specific instructional materials should be addressed to the teacher or building principal.

Requests by parents to attend and monitor courses, assemblies, counseling sessions and other instructional activities shall also be made to the building principal or teacher. While requests to monitor are usually granted, if the request is denied, reasons for the denial will be provided.

It is the policy of the district to provide as consistent an experience as possible in all classroom instruction, testing, surveys, and other school experiences. It is the policy of the district not to excuse students from classroom instruction, testing, and other school experiences unless an objection is submitted to the building principal or teacher outlining the specific experience, the basis for the objection and a proposed solution for dealing with the objection that would be satisfactory to the parent.

The request for the student to be excused will be reviewed by the building principal and a decision provided to the parents. While verbal objections and decisions are valid, written follow-up to verbal communications is required from the parent and the principal. If a student is excused from the requested activity no penalty will be assessed but an agreed upon alternative activity must be performed to the satisfaction of the teacher and principal.

It is the policy of the district to use only testing methods and testing instruments that are not of an experimental nature and to avoid using any testing materials or testing techniques that are not generally recognized by educational professionals to be within sound educational standards and both educationally and academically appropriate. It is the policy of the district to notify parents of any standardized testing that may be scheduled within the school district.

It is the policy of the district to notify parents of any survey which may be scheduled and to conduct student surveys judiciously, with full consideration of the fact that parents may find items of the survey objectionable.

The parents or guardian of a student may have access to that student's records during normal business hours of the district (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

Adopted: _____
Reorganized: 2000
Last Reviewed: December 2015

Subject: Community Relations
Policy No. 1312 Public Complaints

The board recognizes that concerns regarding the operation of the school district will arise. The board further believes that constructive criticism can assist in improving the quality of the education program and in meeting individual student needs more effectively. The board also places trust in its employees and desires to support their actions in a manner which frees them from unnecessary or unwarranted criticism and complaints.

Procedures for dealing with complaints concerning programs or practices should be governed by the following principles:

- Where action/investigation is desired by the complainant, or where it seems appropriate, the matter should be handled as near the source as possible;
- Complaints should both be investigated and, if possible, resolved expeditiously;
- Complaints should be dealt with courteously and in a constructive manner; and
- Individuals directly affected by the complaint should have an opportunity to respond.

Specific procedures for handling complaints may be established in policies. The board, consistent with its board policy-making role, will deal with complaints concerning specific programs or procedures only after the usual channels have been exhausted. Complaints regarding employees or complaints by students will follow the more specific policies on those issues.

When a complaint requiring attention is received by the board or a board member it will be referred to the superintendent. After all of the channels have been exhausted, the complainant may appeal to the board by requesting a place on the board agenda or during the public audience portion of the board meeting. If the complainant appeals to the board, the appeal shall be in writing, signed and explain the process followed by the complainant prior to the appeal to the board.

Adopted: March 14, 2005

Reorganized: _____

Last Reviewed: 2005

Subject: Community Relations
Policy No. 1325 - Advertising & Promotion

Advertising and Soliciting.

No advertising of any kind except for school events shall be permitted in the school building or on the school grounds. This policy does not pertain to advertising in the school paper or the school annuals. Neither does it apply to special programs, athletic events and so forth. No advertising referring to tobacco or alcoholic drinks shall be used in any school publication. No soliciting except for school books and supplies shall be permitted in school buildings or school grounds. (Exceptions may be made in special instances that will benefit the school and community).

Adopted: _____
Reorganized: 2000
Last Reviewed: 2005

Subject: Community Relations
Policy No. 1326.1 Annual School Census

The board will direct the superintendent to establish a permanent, continuing census of school children in the district. A list of the names of district residents and all children from birth through 20 years shall be maintained at the superintendent's office.

Adopted: March 14, 2005
Reorganized: _____
Last Reviewed: 2005

Subject: Community Relations
Policy No. 1330 - Use of School Facilities

School District facilities, sites and equipment will be made available to local nonprofit entities without charge. "Entities" shall include organizations, groups and individuals and their agents. Such use will be permitted only when the use does not interfere with or disrupt the education program or a school-related activity, the use is consistent with state law, and will end no later than midnight. It is within the discretion of the board to selectively allow for-profit entities to use school district facilities, sites and equipment of a fee basis. It shall be within the discretion of the superintendent to allow use of school district facilities, sites and equipment on Sundays or holidays.

Those who wish to use school district facilities, sites or equipment must apply at the superintendent's office. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to determine whether the school district facility or equipment requested is available and whether the application for use meets board policy and administrative regulations. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to provide application forms, obtain proof of insurance, and draw up the contract (when required) for use of school district facilities, sites and equipment.

A school district employee may supervise use of school district facilities or be on hand for maintenance duties, sites and equipment by entities unless special prior arrangements are made with the superintendent. The school district employee shall not accept a fee from the entity using school district facilities and equipment. If appropriate, the school district employee will be paid by the school district.

Entities that use school district buildings or sites must leave the building or site in the same condition it was in prior to its use. Inappropriate use of school district facilities, sites or equipment may result in additional fees charged to, or the inability of, the entity to use school district facilities, site or equipment in the future.

Adopted: _____
Reorganized: 2000
Last Reviewed: 2005

Subject: Community Relations
Policy No. 1330.1 - Lending Equipment

School equipment shall not be loaned to outside persons or groups for use outside the school building.
(Exceptions may be made in special instances that will benefit the school and community).

Adopted: _____
Reorganized: 2000
Last Reviewed: 2005

Subject: Community Relations

Policy No. 1330.2 - Use of Buses by Outside Persons

Use of school buses or school vehicles by groups or organizations not directly connected with the school will not be allowed. (Exceptions may be made in special instances that will benefit the school and community).

Any group or organizations using school owned buses will be required to use drivers with current school bus driving permits. If a school employed bus driver is used, the District will pay the wages and charge the group or organization a fee for use of school owned vehicles.

Adopted: March 14, 2005

Reorganized: 2000

Last Reviewed: 2005

Subject: Community Relations
Policy No. 1330.3 – Donated Items

The Allen Consolidated Schools policy of accepting donations is encouraged by the School District. Donated paints, solvents, fertilizers, herbicides and all other materials, products and chemicals are items that the District discourages from being donated. Any donated items that are donated to the School District will be carefully evaluated in terms of the potential benefit and cost to the School District, considering hazard assessment and waste disposal challenges.

Adopted: August, 2004
Reorganized: _____
Last Reviewed: 2005

Subject: Community Relations

Policy No. 1330.4 Skateboarding and Rollerblading

In the interest of maintaining a safe injury-free environment and preventing damage to school equipment, skateboarding and rollerblading are prohibited on the sidewalks, driveways and playgrounds of the school at all times.

Adopted: March 14, 2005

Reorganized: _____

Last Reviewed: 2005

Subject: Community Relations
Policy No. 1330.5 Distribution or Posting of Materials

The board recognized that students, employees, parents or citizens may want to distribute materials within the school district that are noncurricular. Noncurricular materials to be distributed must be approved by the building principal and meet certain standards prior to their distribution.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the building principal to draft administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Materials shall be reviewed based on legitimate educational concerns. Such concerns include: the material is or may be defamatory; the material is inappropriate based on the age, grade level and/or maturity of the reading audience; the material is poorly written, inadequately researched, biased or prejudiced; the material contains information that is not factual; the material is not free of racial, ethnic, religious or sexual bias; or the material contains advertising that violates public school laws, rules and/or policy, is deemed inappropriate for students or that the public might reasonable perceive to bear the sanction or approval of the district.

The superintendent or designee shall determine distribution procedures for noncurricular materials. Such procedures may include:

1. Distribution to each student before or after class if materials are not directly related to the instructional goals;
2. Notification to students or parents of the availability of the materials in a specified location if this procedure is deemed less disruptive to the educational process; or
3. Solicitation of school-related groups such as parent organizations to distribute materials.

The practice of distributing pamphlets, booklets, flyers, brochures and other similar materials shall be periodically reviewed to ensure that mere volume of requests has not become an interruption to the educational process.

Adopted: March 14, 2005
Reorganized: _____
Last Reviewed: 2005

Subject: Community Relations
Policy No. 1340 Public Examination of School District Records

Public records of the school district may be viewed by the public during the regular business hours of the administration offices of the school district. These hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays and recesses.

Records defined by law as confidential records shall be viewed or copied upon receipt of written permission by the administration office from the person or entity whose confidential records are being requested. Lacking such permission, the superintendent will issue a written denial of the request.

Persons wishing to view the school district's public records shall contact the central administration office and make arrangements for the viewing. The board secretary or designee will make arrangements for viewing the records as soon as practicable, and within 4 business days if possible.

Persons wanting copies may be assessed a fee for the copies not to exceed the actual costs. If the estimated cost of the records exceeds \$50.00, the secretary or designee will obtain an advance deposit equal to the estimated cost. Records will not be made available in any form in which that record is not already maintained or produced. Persons making requests to use their own copying equipment must make arrangements satisfactory to the secretary or designee.

It shall be the responsibility of the board secretary or designee to maintain accurate and current records of the school district. It shall be the responsibility of the board secretary or designee to respond in a timely manner to requests for viewing and receiving public information of the school district. If the secretary or designee is unable to provide the requested records within 4 business days, the secretary or designee will issue a written explanation with a revised date for completion, an estimate cost, and allow the requester to modify or prioritize the information request.

Adopted: March 14, 2005
Reorganized: _____
Last Reviewed: 2005