

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Date of Approval: 9/4/2015

Purpose

The Board meeting is the final forum under School procedures for resolving disputes between students, parents, staff, and others. This policy sets out the procedures for parties to follow in a dispute, which has not been satisfactorily resolved through the initial resolution procedures provided by the School, to ensure that all parties' rights are protected.

Policy

The Board places great importance on its role as the final authority under School procedures for any disputes brought forward by students, parents, staff, and other parties and strives to resolve disputes in a manner that protects the interests of all stakeholders. Individuals desiring to address the Board shall do so in compliance with the Public Comment Policy adopted by the Board. Individuals bringing a dispute before the Board may be held personally liable for any libel, slander, defamatory or other similar actions brought against the school and Board for any statements made or documents presented regarding other individuals.

Procedure

As set out in the School Handbook, students, parents and members of the public have standing to ask the Board to resolve issues that have not been satisfactorily resolved through the initial resolution procedures provided by the School.

Any individual may present a dispute to the Board at a regularly scheduled Board meeting, consistent with the terms of the Public Comment Policy and in accordance with the Open Meetings Law requirements for placing items on an agenda for deliberation, consideration, or taking any action. Parties to a dispute shall have the ability to have the hearing in a closed session where permitted by the state Open Meeting Laws and otherwise set out in the charter and state laws. Where held in open session, Parties will be reminded that the meeting is open to the public and any information disclosed will be a public record.

Once a dispute has been presented, and as allowable pursuant to Open Meeting Laws, the Board shall decide:

1. Whether the dispute presents an urgent matter that must be addressed as soon as possible,
2. Whether the dispute should be referred to School leadership or a Board committee for further steps, and

3. What other procedures the Board should follow to resolve the dispute.
The Board will revisit the dispute at subsequent meetings until the matter has been resolved.

The party presenting the dispute will have an opportunity to submit written submissions and documentation. If the dispute concerns a student, or if a student will provide personally identifiable information in the course of the dispute resolution, the parent or student, as applicable, must execute a Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Rights Waiver Form acknowledging the potential disclosure of student records and/or personally identifiable information.

Related Documents

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Rights Waiver Form Public Comment Policy
School Handbook

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Rights Waiver Form

Student's Name:

Item(s) of information to be released:

Personally identifiable records and FERPA protected student education records

Other

I hereby understand that the above records and information will be disclosed by school staff, myself, and my student (whichever applicable) to the Board of Directors, guests and members of the public during a meeting of the Board of Directors.

I understand that this is a public forum, minutes are kept of this meeting and in some cases the meeting may be recorded, and that the above information may be released into the public by my engaging the Board of Directors in the meeting in discussion on a specific matter related to myself or my student (whichever applicable).

I hereby understand and agree to waive my or my student's rights to the protection of the above information.

Parent/Eligible Student Signature

Date