1312(a)

Community Relations

Public Complaints

Constructive criticism of the schools is welcome through whatever medium on the assumption that it is motivated by a sincere desire to improve the quality of the educational program and to equip the school or school district to perform its mission more effectively. The policy shall apply except when there is a statutory right of a hearing.

All complaints about the conduct of the schools from the public — with the exception of sexual harassment complaints and complaints regarding instructional material — shall be resolved at the lowest level possible, with the person most directly involved with the issue. Sexual harassment complaints shall be processed in accordance with policies 4118.112, 4218.112, and 5145.5. Instructional material complaints shall be processed in accordance with Policy/Regulation #6161.1.

The administrator shall acknowledge receipt of the complaint either verbally or in writing and subsequently seek resolution.

If any complaint is deemed to be resolved unsatisfactorily at the administrator level, a signed written complaint should be sent to the Superintendent of Schools, who shall seek to achieve resolution.

The complaint should be written in the following format:

- the nature of the complaint
- date(s) of initial complaint(s)
- recap of action(s) taken and reasons for continuing concern(s)
- desired resolution
- contact information

The Superintendent shall investigate the complaint and respond in writing to the complainant in a reasonable period of time on the findings of the investigation and his/her recommendations for resolution.

Community Relations

Public Complaints (continued)

If the complainant is not satisfied with the proposed resolution or the complaint concerns the Superintendent, the complainant may submit a signed written complaint to the Chairperson of the Board of Education, following the format outlined above. Whether or not the Board shall consider such a complaint is within the Board's sole discretion. If the Board elects to consider a complaint, the methods and procedures implemented shall also be within the Board's sole discretion. The Board will not consider or act upon complaints that have not been addressed at the appropriate level or complaints for which specific resolution procedures have been established that do not include Board review.

When Board members are approached directly by persons with concerns or complaints, they should decline to intervene directly and suggest that the complainant meet with the individual at the most immediate level to resolve the complaint.

If the complaint is about an employee, the employee has the right to due process.

Anonymous complaints will not be considered or acted upon.

Legal Reference: Keyishan v. Board of Regents 365 U.S. 589, 603

(1967)

President's Council District 25 v. Community School Board

No. 25, (475 f.2d 289 (1972), cert. denied Nov. 1972

Minarcini v. Strongsville City School District

(514 F2d. 577 (6th Cir. 1976)

Academic Freedom Policy (adopted by Connecticut State Board of

Brookfield, Connecticut

Education, 9/9/88)

(cf. 4118.112 Sexual Harassment) (cf. 4218.112 Sexual Harassment) (cf. 5145.5 Sexual Harassment)

(cf. 6161 Selection of Instructional Materials

Policy BROOKFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Adopted: January 8, 2003 Revised: March 16, 1994 Revised: August 19, 1998 Revised: February 16, 2005 Approved: November 18, 2009

Revised: August 15, 2012

Revised: 6/5/13