



Santa Ana Unified School District

BOARD POLICY NO: 1312.3

EFFECTIVE: 2/23/2021

SUBJECT: Community Relations – Uniform Complaint Procedures

CATEGORY: Personnel

RESPONSIBLE OFFICE(S): Human Resources Department

SCOPE:

The Board recognizes its primary responsibility is to comply with applicable state and federal law and bring resolutions to complaints when possible and appropriate through the Uniform Complaint Procedure.

POLICY:

The Governing Board recognizes the district is primarily responsible for complying with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The Board encourages the early, informal resolution of complaints whenever possible and appropriate. To resolve complaints which cannot be resolved through such informal process, the Board shall adopt a uniform system of complaint processes specified in 5 CCR 4600-4670 and the accompanying administrative regulation.

The district's uniform complaint procedures (UCP) shall be used to investigate and resolve the following complaints:

1. Any complaints alleging the district's failure to comply with state and/or federal laws in adult education programs, consolidated categorical aid programs, migrant education, career technical and technical education and training programs, including regional occupational programs, child care and development programs, child nutrition programs, special education programs, (5 CCR 4610)

- (cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)
- (cf. 3555 – Nutrition Program Compliance)
- (cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)
- (cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)
- (cf. 5148 – Child Care and Development)
- (cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
- (cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)
- (cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)
- (cf. 6175 – Migrant Education Program)
- (cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)
- (cf. 6178.1 – Work-Based Learning)

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(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)

(cf. 6175 – Migrant Education Program)

(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)

(cf. 6178.1 – Work-Based Learning)

2. Any complaint alleging the occurrence of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) against any person in district programs and activities, including, but not limited to, those programs or activities funded directly by or that receive or benefit from any state financial assistance, based on the person's actual or perceived characteristics of race or ethnicity, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Government Code 11135, or Penal Code 422.55, or based on his/her association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics:

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

3. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirement to provide reasonable accommodation to a lactating student on school campus to express breast milk, breastfeed an infant child, or address other breastfeeding-related needs of the student (Education Code 222)

(cf. 5146-Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

4. Any complaint alleging district non-compliance with the prohibition against requiring students to pay fees, deposits, or other charges for participation in educational activities (5 CCR 4610).



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(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions against the District)

5. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with legal requirements related to the implementation of the local control and accountability plan (Education Code 52075)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

6. Any complaint, by or on behalf of any student who is a foster youth, alleging district noncompliance with any legal requirement applicable to the student regarding placement decisions, the responsibilities of the district's educational liaison to the student, the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school or district, school transfer, or the grant on an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 48853, 48853.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, 51225.2)

(cf. 6173.1 – Education for Foster Youth)

7. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a homeless student as defined in 42 USC 11434a, alleging district noncompliance with any requirement applicable to the student regarding the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school or district or the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 51225.1, 51225.2)

(cf. 6173 – Education for Homeless Children)

8. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirements of Education Code 51228.1 and 51228.2 that prohibit the assignment of a student to a course without educational content for more than one week in any semester or to a course the student has previously satisfactorily completed, without meeting specified conditions (Education Code 51228.3)

(cf. 6152 – Class Assignment)

9. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the physical education instructional minutes requirement for students in elementary school (Education Code 51210, 51223)

(cf. 6142.7 – Physical Education and Activity)

10. Any complaint alleging retaliation against a complainant or other participant in the complaint process or anyone who has acted to uncover or report a violation subject to this policy

11. Any other complaint as specified in a district policy



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The Board recognizes that alternative dispute resolution (ADR) can, depending upon the nature of the allegations, offer a process to reach a resolution to the complaint that is acceptable to all parties. ADR such as mediation may be offered to resolve complaints that involve more than one student and no adult. If the parties agree to mediation, they shall agree in writing to either withdraw the complaint or toll the complaint process timelines pending successful mediation or return to the complaint procedures. However, mediation shall not be offered or used to resolve any complaint involving sexual assault or where there is a reasonable risk that a party to the mediation would feel compelled to participate. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the results are consistent with state and federal laws and regulations.

The district shall protect all complainants from retaliation. In investigating complaints, the confidentiality of the parties involved shall be protected as required by law. As appropriate for any complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the Superintendent or designee shall keep confidential the identity of the complainant and/or the subject of the complaint, if he/she is different from the complainant, as long as the integrity of the complaint process is maintained.

cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 – Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)
cf. 5125 – Student Records)
cf. 9011 – Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

When an allegation that is not subject to the UCP is included in a UCP complaint, the district shall refer the non-UCP allegation to the appropriate staff or agency and shall investigate and, if appropriate, resolve the UCP-related allegation(s) through the district's UCP.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to district staff to ensure awareness and knowledge of current law and related requirements, including the steps and timelines specified in this policy and the accompanying administrative regulation.

(cf.4131 – Staff Development)
(cf.4231 – Staff Development)
(cf.4331 – Staff Development)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records of all UCP complaints and the investigations of those complaints. All such records shall be destroyed in accordance with applicable state law and district policy.

(cf.3580 – District Records)

Non-UCP Complaints



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The following complaints shall not be subject to the district's UCP but shall be referred to the specified agency: (5CCR 4611)

1. Any complaint alleging child abuse or neglect shall be referred to the County Department of Social Services, the County Protective Services Division, and the appropriate law enforcement agency.
2. Any complaint alleging health and safety violations by a child development program shall, for licensed facilities, be referred to the appropriate Child Development regional administrator.
3. Any complaint alleging employment discrimination shall be sent to the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing and the compliance officer shall notify the complainant by first class mail of the transfer.
4. Any complaint alleging fraud shall be referred to the California Department of Education.

In addition, the district's Williams uniform complaint procedures, AR 1312.4, shall be used to investigate and resolve any complaint related to sufficiency of textbooks or instructional materials, emergency or urgent facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health or safety of students or staff, or teacher vacancies and misassignments. (Education Code 35186)

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

DESIRED OUTCOME:

Through this policy, the District shall comply with applicable state and federal law and bring resolutions to complaints when possible and appropriate through the Uniform Complaint Procedure.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS:

Legal Reference:

- Education Code
- 200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination
- 222 Reasonable accommodations; lactating students
- 8200-8498 Child care and development programs
- 8500-8538 Adult basic education
- 18100-18203 School libraries
- 32289 School safety plan, uniform complaint procedures
- 35186 Williams uniform complaint procedures
- 48853-48853.5 Foster youth
- 48985 Notices in language other than English
- 49010-49013 Student fees
- 49060-49079 Student records



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49069.5 Rights of parents
49490-49590 Child nutrition programs
51210 Courses of study grades 1-6
51223 Physical Education, elementary schools
51225.1-51225.2 Foster youth and homeless children; course credits; graduation requirements
51228.1-51228.3 Course periods without educational content
52060-52077 Local Control and Accountability Plan
52075 Complaint for lack of compliance with local control and accountability plan requirements
52160-52178 Bilingual education programs
52300-52490 Career-technical education
52500-52616.24 Adult schools
52800-52870 School-based coordinated programs
54400-54425 Compensatory education programs
54440-54445 Migrant education
54460-54529 Compensatory education programs
56000-56867 Special education programs
59000-59300 Special schools and centers
64000-64001 Consolidated application process

GOVERNMENT CODE

11135 Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state

12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act

PENAL CODE

422.55 Hate crime; definition

422.6 Interference with constitutional right or privilege

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

3080 Application of section

4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedures

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1221 Application of laws

1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

6301-6577 Title I Basic Programs

6801-6871 Title III, Language instruction for limited English proficient and immigrant students

7101-7184 Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act

7201-7283g Title V Promoting Informed Parental Choice and Innovative Programs

7301-7372 Title V Rural and Low-Income School Programs



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12101-12213 Title II equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000d-2000e-17 Title VI and Title VII Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended

2000j-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

6101-6107 Age Discrimination Act of 1975

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.107 Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

99.1-99.67 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

100.3 Prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color or national origin

104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504

106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX

106.9 Notification of nondiscrimination on basis of age

110.25 Notification of nondiscrimination on the basis of age

Management Resources:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS

Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015

Questions and Answers on Title IX and Sexual Violence, April 2014

Dear Colleague Letter: Bullying of Students with Disabilities, August 2013

Dear Colleague Letter: Sexual Violence, April 2011

Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010

Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students or Third Parties, January 2001

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PUBLICATIONS

Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons, 2002

WEB SITES:

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

Family Policy Compliance Office: <http://familypolicy.ed.gov>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

U.S. Department of Justice: <http://www.justice.gov>



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ADOPTION AND REVISION HISTORY:

(9/13/2016) 2/23/21