

Public Complaints About Teaching Methods, Activities Or Presentations

Parents/guardians or patrons will be allowed to challenge the use of any teaching methods, activities or presentations but must express such objection through the following procedures:

1. The parent/guardian or patron with a concern is encouraged to meet with the appropriate teachers or other staff involved.
2. If not resolved with the teacher, the school principal will hold a conference with the complainant. A written record will be made of this meeting. Copies will be supplied to all parties involved.
3. After the initial contact of the complainant with the principal, the teacher involved in the challenge will be invited to attend any subsequent meetings. Written minutes will be taken of subsequent meetings. Copies will be supplied to all parties involved.
4. If the complainant is dissatisfied with the results of the conference(s), the principal will inform the complainant of the following procedures and provide the complainant with a copy of these procedures and the "Citizen's Challenge or Objection to Teaching Methods, Activities or Presentations" form to be acted upon by a review committee appointed by the superintendent.
5. Within 10 working days of receiving the completed challenge form, the principal will forward it to the chairman of the review committee together with a written report of the conferences held with the complainant.
6. Copies of the report also will be sent to the superintendent, the complainant and the teacher involved.
7. One copy of the report will be kept in the school file.
8. The principal will provide the chairman of the review committee with a copy or copies or description of the methods, activities or presentations, and the principal involved will be given the opportunity to render a professional opinion on the appropriateness of the methods, activities or presentations utilizing supporting evidence.
9. The complainant will be given the opportunity to render an opinion on the appropriateness of the material utilizing supporting evidence.

10. Within 60 calendar days from receiving the completed and signed challenge form, a written recommendation of the review committee will be forwarded to the superintendent and all parties in interest. (Any deviation due to extenuating circumstances will require the approval of the Board.)
11. If the complainant or teacher involved is not satisfied with the recommendation of the review committee, he or she has the privilege of appealing to the superintendent and if necessary, the Board.
12. If the same methods, activities or presentations are challenged at a future date, the principal and the chairman of the review committee will examine the previous decision in the light of additional points of view. If they find any significant difference in the new challenge, the committee again may review the methods, activities or presentations. Otherwise, the original decision will stand and a copy of the final written recommendation of the committee and any Board action will be sent to the complainant with an explanation that the methods, activities or presentations have been evaluated previously. If the complainant believes his or her challenge is different from the previous one or that significant new evidence exists, the complainant may appeal the decision to the review committee, superintendent or Board.

Nothing herein shall be deemed to modify or repeal any other policy or regulation of the district relative to rights and expression on the part of the professional staff or students.

Approved: January 21, 1992

Revised: January 2001

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School _____

Class, subject or activity: _____

Teacher(s) involved: _____

Request initiated by: _____

Telephone: _____ Address: _____

Complainant represents: _____ himself or herself
_____ (name of organization) _____
_____ (identify other group) _____

The following questions are to be answered by the complainant. If sufficient space is not provided, attach additional sheets. (Please sign your name to each additional attachment.)

1. What are the specifics of your challenge and/or objection? (List all specific objections and/or challenges.) _____

2. Give specific examples related to your objection and/or challenge. _____

3. When and how did this situation come to your attention? _____

4. How do you perceive this situation impacting students? _____

5. What are the positive aspects of this situation? _____

6. Are you aware of any research and/or professional review of this method, presentation or activity? Please list specific references with your comments. _____

7. What specific action are you requesting? _____

8. Please list any other information that will help in understanding and/or resolving this situation. _____

Signature of Complainant

Date

Please return completed form to the school principal.