

Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Cyberbullying Complaint Procedures – Student

The director or administrator have responsibility for investigations concerning harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyberbullying. The investigator(s) shall be a neutral party having had no involvement in the complaint presented.

All complaints will be investigated in accordance with the following procedures:

- Step 1 Any harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyberbullying information (complaints, rumors, etc.) shall be presented to the director or administrator. Complaints against the administrator shall be filed with the director. Complaints against the director shall be filed with the Board chair. All such information will be reduced to writing and will include the specific nature of the offense and corresponding dates.

- Step 2 The public charter school official(s) receiving the complaint shall promptly investigate. Parents will be notified of the nature of any complaint involving their student. The public charter school official(s) will arrange such meetings as may be necessary with all concerned parties within five working days after receipt of the information or complaint. The parties will have an opportunity to submit evidence and a list of witnesses. All findings related to the complaint will be reduced to writing. The public charter school official(s) conducting the investigation shall notify the complainant and parents as appropriate, in writing, when the investigation is concluded and a decision regarding disciplinary action, as warranted, is determined.

- Step 3 If the complainant is not satisfied with the decision at Step 3, a written appeal may be filed with the Board. Such appeal must be filed within 10 working days after receipt of the Step 2 decision. The Board shall, within 20 working days, conduct a hearing at which time the complainant shall be given an opportunity to present the complaint. The Board shall provide a written decision to the complainant within 10 working days following completion of the hearing.

Direct complaints related to educational programs and services may be made to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.

Documentation related to the incident may be maintained as a part of the student's education records. Additionally, a copy of all harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyberbullying complaints and documentation will be maintained as a confidential file in the designated charter school office.