

Sherman County S. D.

Code: **KL**
Adopted: 8/14/95

Public Complaints

It is the desire of the Board to rectify any misunderstandings between the public and the district by direct discussions of an informal type among the interested parties. It is only when such informal meetings fail to resolve the differences that more formal procedures shall be employed.

Complaints are handled and resolved as close to their origin as possible.

Although no community member will be denied the right to petition the Board for redress of a grievance, complaints will be referred through the proper administrative channels for solution before investigation or action by the Board. Exceptions are complaints that concern Board actions or Board operations.

The Board advises the public that the proper channeling of complaints involving instruction, discipline or learning materials is as follows:

1. Teacher;
2. Building principal;
3. Superintendent;
4. Board.

Any complaint about school personnel other than the superintendent will be investigated by the administration before consideration and action by the Board. The Board will not hear charges against employees in open session unless an employee requests an open session.

While speakers may offer objective criticism of operations and programs, the Board will not hear personal complaints concerning district personnel nor against any person connected with the school system. To do so could expose the Board to a charge of being party to slander and would prejudice any necessity to act as the final review of administrative recommendations regarding the matter. The Board chairman will direct the visitor to the appropriate means for Board consideration and disposition of legitimate complaints involving individuals.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 192.610 - 192.690](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

[OAR 581-022-1940](#)

Anderson v. Central Point School District No. 6, 554 F. Supp. 600 (D. Oregon 1982); aff'd in part, 746 F.2d 505 (9th Cir. 1984).

Connick v. Myers, 461 U.S. 138 (1983).