## LODI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Policy 1312.3** 

### **Community Relations**

### **Uniform Complaint Procedures**

The Board of Education recognizes that the District has primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The Board encourages early resolution of complaints whenever possible. To resolve complaints which may require a more formal process, the Board adopts the uniform system of complaint processes specified in 5 CCR 4600-4670 and the accompanying administrative regulation.

# **Complaints Subject to Uniform Complaint Procedures**

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

- 1. Any complaint alleging District violation of applicable state or federal law or regulations governing any program subject to the UCP which is offered by the district, including adult education programs; After School Education and Safety programs; agricultural career technical education; federal career technical education; child care and development programs; child nutrition programs; compensatory education; consolidated categorical aid programs; the federal Every Student Succeeds Act; migrant education; Regional Occupational Centers and Programs; school safety plans; California State Preschool Programs; and any other district-implemented state categorical program that is not funded through the local control funding formula pursuant to Education Code 64000.
- 2. Any complaint, by a student, employee, or other person participating in a District program or activity, alleging the occurrence of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) in District programs and activities, including in 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 status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, 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 the person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.
- 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.
- 4. Any complaint alleging District noncompliance with requirements to provide a pregnant or parenting student the accommodations specified in Education Code 46015, including those related to the provision of parental leave, right of return to the school of previous enrollment or to an alternative education program, if desired, and possible enrollment in school for a fifth year of instruction to enable the student to complete state and Board-imposed graduation requirements.
- 5. Any complaint alleging District noncompliance with the prohibition against requiring students to pay fees, deposits, or other charges for participation in educational activities.
- 6. Any complaint alleging District noncompliance with applicable requirements of Education Code 52060-52077 related to the implementation of the local control and accountability plan, including the development of a local control funding formula budget overview for parents/guardians.
- 7. Any complaint alleging noncompliance with requirements related to the development of a school plan for student achievement or the establishment of a school site council, as required for the consolidated application for specified federal and/or state categorical funding.
- 8. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who is a foster youth as defined in Education Code 51225.2, alleging District noncompliance with any 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, district, or country; school or records transfer; or the grant of an exemption from Boardimposed graduation requirements.
- 9. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who transfers into the District after the second year of high school and is a homeless child or youth as defined in 42 USC 11434a, a former juvenile court school student

currently enrolled in the District, a child of a military family as defined in Education Code 49701, or a migrant student as defined in Education Code 54441, or by or on behalf of an immigrant student participating in a newcomer program as defined in Education Code 51225.2 in the third or fourth year of high school, alleging District noncompliance with any requirement applicable to the student regarding the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements

- 10. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who is a homeless child or youth as defined in 42 USC 11434a, a former juvenile court school student, a child of a military family as defined in Education Code 49701, a migrant child as defined in Education Code 54441, or a newly arrived immigrant student who is participating in a newcomer program as defined in Education Code 51225.2, alleging District noncompliance with requirements for the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school, district, or country.
- 11. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirements of Education Code 51228.1 and 51228.2 that prohibit the assignment of a student in grades 9-12 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.
- 12. Any complaint alleging District noncompliance with the physical education instructional minutes requirement.
- 13. Complaints regarding the noncompliance of a license-exempt California State Preschool Program (CSPP) with health and safety standards specified in Health and Safety Code 1596.7925 and related state regulations.
- 14. 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.
- 15. Any other complaint as specified in District policy.

The District shall protect all complainants from retaliation. In investigating complaints, the confidentiality of the parties involved shall be protected as required by law. 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, confidential when appropriate and as long as the integrity of the complaint process is maintained.

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 requirements related to UCP, including the steps and timelines specified in this policy and the accompanying administrative regulation.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of each complaint and subsequent related actions, including steps taken during the investigation and all information required for compliance with 5 CCR 4631 and 4633.

# **Non-UCP Complaints**

The following complaints shall not be subject to the District's UCP but shall be referred to the specified agency:

- 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 Department of Social Services and shall, for licensing-exempt facilities, be referred to the appropriate Child Development regional administrator.
- 3. Any complaint alleging fraud shall be referred to the Legal, Audits and Compliance Branch of the California Department of Education.

Any complaint alleging employment discrimination or harassment shall be investigated and resolved by the District in accordance with the procedures specified in Rule 4030 – Nondiscrimination in Employment, including the right to file the complaint with the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

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 shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with the procedures in Rule 1312.4 – Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures.

### Legal Reference:

**EDUCATION CODE** 

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

222 Reasonable accommodations; lactating students

8200-8498 Childcare and development programs

8500-8538 Adult basic education

18100-18203 School libraries

32280-32289 School safety plan, uniform complaint procedures

33380-33384 California Indian Education Centers

35186 Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures

46015 Parental leave for students

44500-44508 California Peer Assistance and Review Program for Teachers

48853-48853.5 Foster youth

48985 Notices in language other than English

49010-49013 Student fees

49060-49079 Student records, especially:

49069.5 Records of foster youth

49490-49590 Child nutrition programs

49701 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

51210 Courses of study grades 1-6

51222 Physical education, secondary schools

51223 Physical education, elementary schools

51225.1-51225.2 Foster youth, homeless children, former juvenile court school students, and military-connected students, migrant students, and newly arrived immigrant students, course credits; graduation requirements

51226-51226.1 Career technical education

51228.1-51228.3 Course periods without educational content

52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan, especially:

52075 Complaint for lack of compliance with local control and

accountability plan requirements

52300-52462 Career technical education

52500-52616.24 Adult schools

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; school plan for student achievement

65000-65001 School site councils

**GOVERNMENT CODE** 

11135 Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state

12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act

**HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE** 

1596.792 California Child Day Care Act; general provisions and definitions

1596.7925 California Child Day Care Act; health and safety regulations

PENAL CODE

422.55 Hate crime; definition

422.6 Interference with Constitutional right or privilege

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

11023 Harassment and discrimination prevention and correction

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

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, Improving the Academic Achievement of the

Disadvantaged

6801-7014 Title III language instruction for limited English proficient and immigrant students

**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

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

6101-6107 Age Discrimination Act of 1975

12101-12213 Title II equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities

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 504106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX106.9 Notification of nondiscrimination on basis of sex110.25 Notification of nondiscrimination on the basis of age

### Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
Uniform Complaint Procedure 2020-21 Program Instrument
Sample UCP Board Policies and Procedures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS
PUBLICATIONS

Dear Colleague Letter, September 22, 2017

Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015

Dear Colleague Letter: Bullying of Students with Disabilities, October 2014

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/ocr

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

**Policy** 

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