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SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGAL STATUS

The United States Constitution grants the individual states responsibility for public education.

The Ohio General Assembly is under mandate by the Ohio Constitution to provide for the organization, administration and control of the public school system supported by public funds. The Ohio Constitution also mandates a State Board of Education (SBOE) and a Superintendent of Public Instruction, the respective powers and duties of which are prescribed by State law.

The Ohio General Assembly has also established a State Department of Education (through which policies and directives of the SBOE and Superintendent of Public Instruction are administered) and has established specific types of school districts.

The Chippewa Local School District is classified as a local school district governed by a locally elected Board of Education.

[Adoption date: January 24, 2011]

[Re-adoption date: September 23, 2013]

[Re-adoption date: April 24, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: U.S. Const. Amend. X
Ohio Const. Art. VI, 2; 3; 4
ORC 3311.01; 3311.02; 3311.03; 3311.04; 3311.05
3311.16 through 3311.19

CROSS REFS.: BBA, School Board Powers and Duties
BBB, School Board Elections
LBB, Cooperative Educational Programs

NONDISCRIMINATION

The Board's policy of nondiscrimination extends to students, staff, job applicants, the general public and individuals with whom it does business and applies to race, color, national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, religion, sex, economic status, age, disability or military status.

The Board does not discriminate on the basis of legally acquired genetic information.

The Board does not permit discriminatory practices and views harassment as a form of discrimination. Harassment is defined as intimidation by threats of or actual physical violence; the creation, by whatever means including the use of electronic communications devices, of a climate of hostility or intimidation; or the use of language, conduct or symbols in such a manner as to be commonly understood to convey hatred, contempt or prejudice or to have the effect of insulting or stigmatizing an individual.

Employees or students who engage in discrimination of another employee or student shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Permission, consent or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to discrimination does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy.

No one shall retaliate against an employee or student because he/she files a grievance; assists or participates in an investigation, proceeding or hearing regarding the charge of discrimination of an individual; or because he/she has opposed language or conduct that violates this policy.

The Board designates the following individual to serve as the District's compliance officer/civil rights coordinator:

Title: Superintendent
Address: 56 N. Portage St., Doylestown, OH 44230
Phone number: 330-658-6368
Email: chip_stebly@tccsa.net

The name, title, and contact information of this individual is annually published in District handbooks and on the District website.

The compliance officer is responsible for coordinating the District's efforts to comply with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations, including the District's duty to address any inquiries or complaints regarding discrimination/retaliation or denial of equal access in a prompt and equitable manner.

Reports and Complaints of Unlawful Discrimination/Harassment

All persons associated with the District, including, but not limited to, the Board, administration, staff, students and third parties are encouraged to promptly report incidents of unlawful discrimination/harassment.

The Board has developed complaint procedures, which are made available to every member of the school community. The Board also has identified disciplinary penalties, which may be imposed on the offender(s).

Matters, including the identity of both the charging party and the accused, are kept confidential to the extent possible.

[Adoption date: January 24, 2011]

[Re-adoption date: October 24, 2011]

[Re-adoption date: April 24, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: Civil Rights Act, Title VI; 42 USC 2000d et seq.
Civil Rights Act, (Amended 1972), Title VII; 42 USC 2000e et seq.
Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681 et seq.
Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375
Equal Pay Act; 29 USC 206
Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008; 42 USC 2000ff et seq.
Rehabilitation Act; 29 USC 794
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; 20 USC 1400 et seq.
Age Discrimination in Employment Act; 29 USC 623
Immigration Reform and Control Act; 8 USC 1324a et seq.
Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008; 42 USC 12101 et seq.
Ohio Const. Art. I, Section 2
ORC Chapter 3323
Chapter 4112
OAC 3301-35-02

CROSS REFS.: ACA, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex
ACAA, Sexual Harassment
ACB, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability
EDE, Computer/Online Services (Acceptable Use and Internet Safety)
GBA, Equal Opportunity Employment
GBO, Verification of Employment Eligibility
IGAB, Human Relations Education
IGBA, Programs for Students with Disabilities
JB, Equal Educational Opportunities
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)
JFCEA, Gangs
JFCF, Hazing and Bullying (Harassment, Intimidation and Dating Violence)
Staff Handbooks
Student Handbooks

CONTRACT REF.: Teachers' Negotiated Agreement
Classified Staff Negotiated Agreement

NONDISCRIMINATION

The Board is committed to providing an equal opportunity for all students, regardless of race, citizenship status, color, creed, disability, religion, gender, ancestry, national origin, military status, place of residence within the boundaries of the District, or social or economic background, to learn through the curriculum offered in this District.

In order to achieve the aforesaid goal, the Board directs the Superintendent to:

Curriculum Content

Review current and proposed curriculum guides and textbooks to detect any bias based upon race, sex, religion, national origin, ancestry, or culture; ascertaining whether or not supplemental materials, singly or taken as a whole, fairly depict the contribution of both sexes, various races, ethnic groups, etc. toward the development of human society.

Safety Training

Develop an ongoing program of in-service training for school personnel designed to identify and solve problems of racial, sexual, religious, national, cultural, or other bias in all aspects of the program.

Student Access

Review current and proposed programs, activities, facilities and practices to verify that all students have equal access thereto and are not segregated on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, disability, or national origin in any duty, work, play, classroom, or school practice, except as may be permitted under State and Federal laws and/or regulations.

District Support

Verify that like aspects of the District program receive like support as to staff size and compensation, purchase and maintenance of facilities and equipment, access to such facilities and equipment, and related matters.

Student Evaluation

Verify that tests, procedures and guidance and counseling materials, which are designed to evaluate student progress, rate aptitudes, analyze personality or in any manner establish or tend to establish a category by which a student may be judged, are not differentiated or stereotyped on

the basis of race, color, creed, sex or national origin. The Superintendent appoints and publicizes the name of the compliance officer whose responsibility it is to coordinate the District's effort to comply with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations, including the District's duty to address in a prompt and equitable manner any inquiries or complaints regarding discrimination or denial of equal access. The Compliance Officer shall also verify that proper notice of nondiscrimination for Title II, Title VI, and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Age Discrimination in Federal Assisted Programs Act is provided to students, their parents, staff members and the general public.

The Superintendent shall annually attempt to identify children with disabilities, ages 3-22, who reside in the District but do not receive public education. In addition, he/she shall establish procedures to identify students who are Limited English Proficient (LEP), including immigrant children and youth, to assess their ability to participate in District programs, and develop and administer a program that meets the English language and academic needs of these students. The program shall include procedures for student placement, services, evaluation and exit guidelines, and shall be designed to provide students with effective instruction that leads to academic achievement and timely acquisition of proficiency in English. As a part of this program, the District will evaluate the progress of students in achieving English language proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing on an annual basis.

The Superintendent shall prepare administrative guidelines as needed in furtherance of the proper implementation of this policy.

(Approval date: January 24, 2011)

NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX/
SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The U.S. Department of Education has published regulations for implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits sex discrimination in federally assisted education programs.

Title IX states, in part: “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”

The Board ensures compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the regulations promulgated through the U.S. Department of Education.

All persons associated with the District, including, but not limited to, the Board, administration, staff, students, and third parties are expected to conduct themselves at all times so as to provide an atmosphere free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment. Sex discrimination and sexual harassment, whether verbal or nonverbal, occurring inside or outside of District buildings, on other District-owned property or at school-sponsored social functions/activities, is illegal and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. The District may have an obligation to investigate and/or respond to sexual harassment occurring off school grounds, when the harassment creates a hostile environment within the school setting. Sexual harassment is strictly prohibited by this policy.

The District takes measures to eliminate harassment, prevent its recurrence and address its effects, and will implement interim measures as deemed necessary.

Definition of Sexual Harassment: Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature may constitute sexual harassment when:

1. submission to such conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of a person’s employment or status in a class, educational program or activity;
2. submission to, or rejection of, such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or education decisions affecting such individual or
3. such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive and has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual’s work or educational performance by creating an intimidating, hostile or abusive environment, or by interfering with one’s ability to participate in or benefit from a class or educational program or activity.

Sexual violence is a form of sexual harassment and refers to physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will, or where a person is incapable of giving consent. Examples of sexual violence include but are not limited to, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual abuse, and sexual coercion.

Sexual harassment includes gender-based harassment, which refers to unwelcome conduct based on an individual's actual or perceived sex, (including harassment based on gender identity and nonconformity with sex stereotypes), and not necessarily involving conduct of a sexual nature.

Examples of sexual harassment-type conduct may include, but are not limited to, unwanted sexual advances; demands for sexual favors in exchange for favorable treatment or continued employment; grooming; repeated sexual jokes, flirtations, advances or propositions; verbal abuse of a sexual nature; graphic verbal commentary relating to an individual's body, sexual prowess or sexual deficiencies; coerced sexual activities; any unwanted physical contact; sexually suggestive or obscene comments or gestures; or displays in the workplace of sexually suggestive or obscene objects or pictures. Whether any act or comment constitutes sexual harassment-type conduct is often dependent on the individual recipient.

All of these types of harassment are considered forms of sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX.

The Board has developed informal and formal discrimination and harassment complaint procedures. The procedures provide for a prompt and equitable investigation and resolution of complaints of sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct. The Board also has identified disciplinary measures that may be imposed upon the offender. Nothing in this policy or procedure prevents an individual from pursuing action through State and/or Federal law, contacting law enforcement, or from filing a complaint with the United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, the Ohio Civil Rights Commission or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The Board designates the following individual to serve as the District's Title IX Coordinator:

Title: Superintendent
Address: 56 N. Portage St., Doylestown, OH 44230
Phone number: 330-658-6368
Email: chip_stebly@tccsa.net

The Title IX Coordinator serves as the grievance officer and coordinates the District's efforts to comply with and carry out responsibilities under Title IX, including any complaint under Title IX. He/She is vested with the authority and responsibility for investigating all sexual harassment complaints in accordance with the procedures set forth in the accompanying regulation and staff and student handbooks. Any investigatory responsibilities of the Title IX Coordinator may be delegated to a designee trained in Title IX compliance and procedures.

Confidentiality/Retaliation

Sexual harassment matters, including the identity of both the reporting party and the responding party, are kept confidential to the extent possible, consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate. Although discipline may be imposed against the responding party upon a finding of guilt, the District prohibits retaliation for an individual's participation in, and/or initiation of a sex discrimination/sexual harassment complaint investigation, including instances where the complaint is not substantiated. The District takes reasonable steps to prevent retaliation and takes strong responsive action if retaliation occurs.

[Adoption date: January 24, 2011]

[Re-adoption date: April 24, 2017]

[Re-adoption date: March 19, 2018]

LEGAL REFS.: Civil Rights Act, Title VI; 42 USC 2000d et seq.
Civil Rights Act, Title VII; 42 USC 2000e et seq.
Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681 et seq.
Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375
Equal Pay Act; 29 USC 206
Ohio Const. Art. I, Section 2
ORC Chapter 4112

CROSS REFS.: AC, Nondiscrimination
GBA, Equal Opportunity Employment
GBD, Board-Staff Communications (Also BG)
GBH, Staff-Student Relations (Also JM)
IGDJ, Interscholastic Athletics
JB, Equal Educational Opportunities
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)
JFCF, Hazing and Bullying (Harassment, Intimidation and Dating Violence)
JHG, Reporting Child Abuse
Staff Handbooks
Student Handbooks

CONTRACT REF.: Teachers' Negotiated Agreement
Classified Staff Negotiated Agreement

NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX/SEXUAL HARASSMENT GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The Board has created informal and formal discrimination and harassment grievance procedures, providing for a prompt and equitable investigation and resolution of complaints of sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct. All students and District employees are encouraged to fully cooperate when asked to participate in an investigation.

Members of the school community and third parties are encouraged to promptly report incidents of sex discrimination or sexual harassment. Complaints may be filed with any District employee, or directly with the Title IX Coordinator. District employees are required to report these incidents to the Title IX Coordinator upon becoming aware of an incident, and failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

Complaints of sex discrimination or sexual harassment must be filed as soon as possible after the alleged incident, as delays in filing complaints can make it difficult to investigate. Both the informal and formal grievance procedures are completed in a timely manner, unless extenuating circumstances exist. Periodic updates are provided to the parties as appropriate during the investigation.

The Title IX Coordinator determines whether or not, by “a preponderance of the evidence,” the alleged victim’s allegations are true. “A preponderance of the evidence” means that evidence must show the alleged discrimination/sexual harassment was more likely than not to have occurred.

Pending the final outcome of an informal or formal investigation, the District institutes interim measures to protect the reporting and/or responding parties and informs him/her of available support services. Interim measures may include, but are not limited to: a District-enforced no contact order, modification of work or class schedules, academic modifications and/or counseling. These measures should ensure that both parties continue to have equal access to all District programs and activities and the safety of all parties is protected.

If the Title IX Coordinator or designee is the responding party or the reporting party, the Board designates an alternate investigator and retains final decision-making authority.

All matters involving sexual harassment complaints remain confidential to the extent possible.

Informal Procedure for Addressing Complaints

An informal grievance procedure can be used when the Title IX Coordinator deems it appropriate and/or when the parties involved (reporting party and responding party) agree that an informal process is appropriate and sufficient. The informal process is not used when the alleged discrimination or harassment may constitute sexual violence or any other criminal act.

The Title IX Coordinator gathers enough information during the informal process to understand and resolve the complaint. The Title IX Coordinator proposes an informal solution based on this fact-gathering process, which may include, but not be limited to: requiring the responding party to undergo training on harassment/discrimination, requiring all students and staff to undergo such training, and instituting protective mechanisms for the reporting party.

Formal Procedure for Addressing Complaints

While the formal grievance procedure may serve as the first step toward the resolution of a charge of sex discrimination or sexual harassment, it also is available when the informal procedure fails to resolve the complaint.

Through the formal grievance procedure, the Title IX Coordinator attempts to resolve the complaint in the following way:

1. The Title IX Coordinator promptly communicates with the reporting party in order to obtain a clear understanding of that party's statement of the alleged facts. The statement is put in writing by the Title IX Coordinator and signed by the reporting party, where possible, as a testament to the statement's accuracy.
2. The Title IX Coordinator communicates with the responding party in order to obtain his/her response to the complaint. The response is put in writing by the Title IX Coordinator and signed by the responding party, where possible, as a testament to the statement's accuracy.
3. The Title IX Coordinator communicates with the parties and witnesses (if any) as necessary to gather all of the relevant facts. The dates of any meetings and the facts gathered are all put in writing. The investigation is prompt and equitable, and allows both parties an equal opportunity to present witnesses and other evidence.
4. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Title IX Coordinator prepares a written report summarizing: the evidence gathered during the investigation and whether the allegations were substantiated; whether any Board policies or student or employee codes of conduct were violated; any recommendations for corrective action. The investigation report indicates if any measures must be instituted to protect the reporting party. Such measures may include, but are not limited to extending any interim measures taken during the investigation. The report also informs the reporting party of available support services, which at a minimum includes offering school counseling services if the reporting party is a student.

Notice of Outcome

Both the reporting party and the responding party are provided written notice of the outcome of the complaint.

The outcome is final and binding.

Disciplinary Action

Any disciplinary action is carried out in accordance with Board policies, student and employee codes of conduct, State and Federal law, and, when applicable, the negotiated agreement. When recommending discipline, the Title IX Coordinator considers the totality of the circumstances involved, including the ages and maturity levels of those involved. The Title IX Coordinator and the Superintendent determine if a recommendation for expulsion for a responding student or discharge for a responding employee should be made. If this recommendation is made and a hearing is required, the hearing shall be held in accordance with Board policy, State law and/or the negotiated agreement. Both parties shall have an equal right to attend the hearing, have a representative and parent (if student) present, present evidence, and question witnesses.

(Approval date: January 24, 2011)

(Re-approval date: April 24, 2017)

(Re-approval date: March 19, 2018)

SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT FORM

Date of Report _____

Reporting Party Name _____

Position or Grade _____ Building _____

Date and Time of Alleged Harassment _____

Location of Alleged Harassment _____

Name of Accused (Responding Party) _____

Position or Grade _____ Building _____

Description of the Incident(s) _____

Name of Witnesses, if any, and Involvement _____

Your Reaction _____

Signature of Reporting Party _____

NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY

The Board maintains that discrimination against a qualified person with a disability solely on the basis of disability is unfair. To the extent possible, a qualified person with a disability should be in the mainstream of life in a school community. In addition, the District is the recipient of federal funds and therefore must be in compliance with all laws and regulations which deal with disabled individuals.

Accordingly, employees of the District comply with the law and Board policy to ensure nondiscrimination on the basis of disability. The following is expected.

1. No one discriminates against qualified persons with a disability in any aspect of school employment solely on the basis of disability.
2. Facilities, programs and activities are made available to qualified persons with a disability.
3. Free appropriate public education at elementary and secondary levels, including nonacademic and extracurricular services and activities, are provided to qualified persons with a disability.
4. No one excludes any qualified person with a disability, solely on the basis of disability, from participation in any preschool education, day care, adult education or career-technical education program.
5. Each qualified person with a disability is provided with the same health, welfare and other social services which are provided to others.

[Adoption date: January 24, 2011]

LEGAL REFS.: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; 20 USC 1400 et seq.
Rehabilitation Act of 1973; 29 USC 794
Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008; 42 USC 12101 et seq.
ORC Chapter 3323
Chapter 4112

CROSS REFS.: AC, Nondiscrimination
GBA, Equal Opportunity Employment
IGBA, Programs for Students with Disabilities
IGDJ, Interscholastic Athletics
JB, Equal Educational Opportunities
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)
JFCF, Hazing and Bullying (Harassment, Intimidation and Dating Violence)
Staff Handbooks
Student Handbooks

DEVELOPMENT OF PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

The Board's philosophy of education gives direction to the educational program and daily operations of the District.

Periodically, the policy committee of the Board and the Superintendent evaluate the philosophy of education. Suggestions from both the staff and community are considered.

The committee revises or confirms the existing philosophy or writes a new statement of philosophy. The committee presents its recommendation regarding a philosophy of education to the Board for adoption or re-adoption.

All building and curriculum philosophies reflect and extend the Board's philosophy. The Superintendent disseminates the Board's philosophy of education to all staff members and directs that it be published in all handbooks.

[Adoption date: January 24, 2011]

LEGAL REFS.: OAC 3301-35-02; 3301-35-03; 3301-35-04; 3301-35-05

CROSS REFS.: ADA, Educational Philosophy
BF, Board Policy Development and Adoption
GBB, Staff Involvement in Decision Making
JFB, Student Involvement in Decision Making
KC, Community Involvement in Decision Making

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

The Board believes that education should contribute to the continuous improvement of our democratic society through the development of concerned, contributing and patriotic citizens. The dignity and worth of the individual should be respected and each individual should be given the opportunity to participate in our society to the best of his/her ability. The educational program should exist within an environment that is conducive to the maximum intellectual, physical, social and emotional development of all youth.

Our ultimate responsibility lies with developing each individual student to his/her fullest potential so that each graduate becomes a productive, effective and responsible adult in our society. Our school must provide exposure to experiences that enable students to live as contributing members of the local community, our state and our nation.

[Adoption date: January 24, 2011]

LEGAL REFS.: OAC 3301-35-02; 3301-35-03

CROSS REFS.: AD, Development of Philosophy of Education
AE, School District Goals and Objectives
IA, Instructional Goals
Continuous Improvement Plan

SCHOOL DISTRICT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

It is the intention of the Board to achieve the following in the governance and operation of the District:

1. provide educational programs, services and instruction that permit each student to reach full intellectual, physical, moral, emotional, aesthetic and social potential;
2. provide the best possible staff, including both certificated/licensed and classified personnel;
3. strive for maximum efficiency in the use of District resources to meet specific objectives of educational programs and services and
4. develop within the community a sense of pride in its schools through frequent communications highlighting the strength of the educational program and invitations to participate in school functions.

All system-wide goals and objectives are consistent with the Board's statement of philosophy and all District personnel direct their efforts toward achieving these goals.

[Adoption date: January 24, 2011]

LEGAL REFS.: OAC 3301-35-02; 3301-35-04

CROSS REFS.: ADA, Educational Philosophy
ADAA, Mission Statement
DBD, Budget Planning (Five-Year Forecast)
IA, Instructional Goals
IAA, Instructional Objectives
KA, School-Community Relations Goals
KC, Community Involvement in Decision Making
Continuous Improvement Plan

EVALUATION OF CERTIFICATED/LICENSED STAFF
(Ohio Teacher Evaluation System)

A determination of the efficiency and effectiveness of the teaching staff is a critical factor in the overall operation of the District. The Board evaluates teachers in accordance with State law and the standards-based statewide teacher evaluation framework adopted by the State Board of Education (SBOE).

The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to implement this policy in accordance with State law. The requirements of this policy prevail over any conflicting provisions of collective bargaining agreements entered into on or after September 24, 2012.

Notwithstanding Ohio Revised Code Section (RC) 3319.09, this policy applies to any person employed under a teacher license issued under RC 3319, or under a professional or permanent teacher's certificate issued under former RC 3319.222, and who spends at least 50% of the time employed providing content-related student instruction. This teacher evaluation policy does not apply to substitute teachers or instructors of adult education.

Credentialed Evaluators

Evaluations carried out under this policy are conducted by persons holding evaluator credentials established by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). Evaluators must complete state-sponsored evaluation training and pass the online credentialing assessment. The Board adopts a list of approved credentialed evaluators chosen from ODE's list.

Effectiveness Rating

Teachers are assigned an effectiveness rating of Accomplished, Skilled, Developing or Ineffective. This rating will be determined based on 50% teacher performance and 50% student growth measures. Student growth will be determined through multiple measures.

Annually, the Board submits to the ODE the number of teachers assigned an effectiveness rating, aggregated by the teacher preparation programs from which, and the years in which, the teachers graduated. The name of, or any personally identifiable information about, any teacher reported in compliance with this provision cannot be required.

Teacher Performance Calculation

Teachers are evaluated via two formal observations and periodic classroom walk-throughs. The teacher performance measure is based on the Ohio Standards for the Teaching Profession.

The Superintendent/designee selects/develops evaluation tools to calculate teacher performance. The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to develop procedures for these evaluation tools.

Student Growth Calculation

For the purpose of this policy, student growth means the change in student achievement for an individual student between two or more points in time. Student growth is evaluated by a combination of: (1) Value-added data or an alternative student academic progress measure if adopted under RC 3302.03(C)(1)(e); (2) ODE-approved assessments and/or (3) Board-determined measures. When available, value-added data or an alternative student academic progress measure if adopted under RC 3302.03(C)(1)(e) shall be included in the multiple measures used to evaluate student growth in proportion to the part of the teacher's schedule of courses or subjects for which the value-added progress dimension is applicable.

If a teacher's schedule is comprised only of courses or subjects for which value-added data is applicable, the entire student academic growth factor of the evaluation for such teachers shall be based on the value-added progress dimension.

Value-added data based on the results of state assessments administered in the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years will not be used to assess student academic growth. Such data also will not be used when making dismissal, retention, tenure or compensation decisions. The Board may administer ODE-approved assessments and/or local measures of student growth using state-designed criteria and guidance for teachers of subjects where value-added scores from state assessments are not available. Evaluations for teachers of grade levels and subject areas for which the value-added progress dimension is applicable, and where no other measure is available to determine student academic growth, shall be based solely on teacher performance.

Students with 45 or more excused or unexcused absences during the full academic year will not be included in the calculation of student academic growth. Data from Board-determined multiple measures will be converted to a score of: (1) Least Effective, (2) Approaching Average, (3) Average, (4) Above Average or (5) Most Effective student growth levels.

Professional Growth and Improvement Plans

Teachers with a final summative rating of Accomplished must develop professional growth plans and choose their credentialed evaluators from the Board-approved evaluator list.

Teachers with a final summative rating of Skilled must develop professional growth plans collaboratively with their credentialed evaluators from the Board-approved evaluator list and will have input on their credentialed evaluator.

Teachers with a final summative rating of Developing must develop professional growth plans with their credentialed evaluators. The Superintendent/designee approves the professional growth plan and assigns the credentialed evaluator.

Teachers with a final summative rating of Ineffective must develop an improvement plan with their credentialed evaluators. The Superintendent/designee approves the improvement plan and assigns the credentialed evaluator.

Evaluation Time Line

District administrators evaluate teachers annually. Annual evaluations include two formal observations at least 30 minutes each and periodic classroom walk-throughs. Teachers, who are on limited or extended limited contracts pursuant to State law and under consideration for nonrenewal, receive at least three formal observations during the evaluation cycle.

All teacher evaluations are completed by May 1. Teachers evaluated under this policy are provided with a written copy of their evaluation results by May 10.

The Board evaluates teachers receiving effectiveness ratings of Accomplished on those teachers' most recent evaluations carried out under this policy, and whose student growth measures are at least average or higher every three years. Such evaluations are completed by May 1 of the evaluation year. Teachers evaluated on this basis are provided a written copy of their evaluation results by May 10 of the evaluation year. In years when an evaluation will not take place, one observation is carried out and at least one conference with the teacher is held.

Testing for Ineffective Teachers in Core Subjects

Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year, teachers of core subject areas, as defined by State law, who have received a rating of Ineffective for two of the three most recent school years must register for and take all written examinations of content knowledge selected by ODE.

Retention and Promotion

The Board uses evaluation results for retention and promotion decisions. The Board adopts procedures for use by District administrators in making retention and promotion decisions based on evaluation results.

Seniority shall not be the basis for making retention decisions, except when choosing between teachers who have comparable evaluations.

Poorly Performing Teachers

The Board uses evaluation results for removing poorly performing teachers. The Board adopts procedures for removing poorly performing teachers based on evaluation results.

Professional Development

The Board allocates financial resources to support professional development in compliance with State law and the SBOE's evaluation framework.

[Adoption date: January 24, 2011]
[Re-adoption date: June 24, 2013]
[Adoption date: May 26, 2015]
[Re-adoption date: December 8, 2015]
[Re-adoption date: October 10, 2016]
[Re-adoption date: April 24, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3319.11; 3319.111; 3319.112; 3319.114; 3319.16; 3319.58
 Chapter 4117
 OAC 3301-35-05

CROSS REFS.: AF, Commitment to Accomplishment
 GBL, Personnel Records
 GCB, Certificated/Licensed Staff Contracts and Compensation Plans

CONTRACT REF.: Teachers' Negotiated Agreement

EVALUATION OF CERTIFICATED/LICENSED STAFF
(Administrators Both Certificated and Classified)

The Superintendent institutes and maintains a comprehensive program for the evaluation of administrative personnel. Administrative personnel are all persons issued contracts in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code. Evaluations should assist administrators in developing their professional abilities in order to increase the effectiveness of District management.

The purpose of administrator evaluations is to assess the performance of administrators, to provide information upon which to base employment and personnel decisions and to comply with State law. All administrators are evaluated annually. In the year an administrator's contract does not expire, the evaluation is completed by the end of the contract year, and a copy is given to the administrator.

In the year an administrator's contract does expire, two evaluations are completed, one preliminary and one final. The preliminary evaluation is conducted at least 60 days prior to June 1 and prior to any Board action on the employee's contract. A written copy of the preliminary evaluation is given to the administrator at this time. Evaluations are considered by the Board in determining whether to re-employ administrators.

The final evaluation includes the Superintendent's intended recommendation for the contract of the employee. A written copy of the final evaluation must be provided to the employee at least five days prior to the Board's action to renew or nonrenew the employee's contract. The employee may request a meeting with the Board prior to any Board action on his/her contract. The employee may have a representative of his/her choice at the meeting.

The evaluation measures the administrator's effectiveness in performing the duties included in his/her written job description and the specific objectives and plans developed in consultation with the Superintendent.

Evaluation criteria for each position are in written form and are made available to the administrator. The results of the evaluations are kept in personnel records maintained in the central office. The evaluated administrator has the right to attach a memorandum to the written evaluation. Evaluation documents, as well as information relating thereto, are accessible to each evaluatee and/or his/her representative.

This evaluation procedure does not create an expectancy of continued employment. Nothing contained herein prevents the Board from making any final determination regarding the renewal or nonrenewal of an administrator's contract.

Ohio Principal Evaluation System (OPES)

Procedures for evaluating principals and assistant principals are based on principles comparable to the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System, but are tailored to the duties and responsibilities of principals and assistant principals and the environment in which they work. Principals and assistant principals are evaluated under the above system, with the inclusion of the following components.

Principals and assistant principals are assigned an effectiveness rating of Accomplished, Skilled, Developing or Ineffective. This rating will be determined based on 50% measures of principal or assistant principal performance and 50% student growth measures. Student academic growth is determined through multiple measures.

Principals and assistant principals are evaluated via two formal observations and periodic building walk-throughs. The 50% principal and assistant principal performance measure is based on the Ohio Standards for Principals. Proficiency on the standards includes consideration of professional goal setting, communication and professionalism, and skills and knowledge.

Student academic growth is evaluated by a combination of: (1) Value-added data; (2) Ohio Department of Education (ODE)-approved assessments and/or (3) Board-determined measures. When available, value-added data shall be included in the multiple measures used to evaluate student growth.

Value-added data based on the results of state assessments administered in the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years will not be used to assess student academic growth. Such data also will not be used when making dismissal, retention, tenure or compensation decisions.

The principal's performance rating is combined with the results of student growth measures to produce a summative evaluation rating according to ODE requirements.

The Superintendent/designee evaluates all principals and assistant principals annually. Annual evaluations include two formal observations at least 30 minutes each and periodic building walk-throughs.

The Board allocates financial resources to support professional development in compliance with State law and the State Board of Education's evaluation framework.

[Adoption date: January 24, 2011]

[Re-adoption date: June 24, 2013]

[Adoption date: May 26, 2015]

[Re-adoption date: December 8, 2015]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2016]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3319.02; 3319.03; 3319.04; 3319.111; 3319.16; 3319.17; 3319.171;
3319.22
OAC 3301-35-05

CROSS REFS.: AF, Commitment to Accomplishment
GBL, Personnel Records

EVALUATION OF SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Professional school counselors offer students access to high-quality services that support students' academic, career and social/emotional development. The Board evaluates school counselors in accordance with State law and the standards-based statewide counselor evaluation framework adopted by the State Board of Education (SBOE). The framework is aligned with the Ohio Standards for School Counselors.

The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to implement this policy in accordance with State law. The policy becomes operative at the expiration of any collective bargaining agreement covering school counselors that is in effect on September 29, 2015. The requirements of this policy prevail over any conflicting provisions of collective bargaining agreements entered into on or after September 29, 2015.

Annually, the Board submits to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) a report regarding implementation of this policy. The name of, or any personally identifiable information about, any counselor reported in compliance with this provision cannot be required.

Effectiveness Rating

School counselors are assigned an effectiveness rating of Accomplished, Skilled, Developing or Ineffective. Each school counselor is evaluated based on multiple factors including performance on all areas identified by the standards for school counselors and the ability to produce positive student outcomes using metrics in order to determine the holistic final summative rating of effectiveness according to ODE requirements. The choice of metrics for student outcomes will be determined locally and will include information from the school or school district's report card when appropriate.

Evaluation Time Line

District administrators evaluate school counselors annually except as otherwise appropriate for high performing school counselors. Annual evaluations include two formal observations of at least 30 minutes each and informal observations. Counselors will be provided with a written report of the evaluation.

The Board evaluates school counselors receiving effectiveness ratings of Accomplished on the counselors' most recent evaluations carried out under this policy, and whose metric of student outcomes for the most recent school year for which data is available is skilled or higher on the evaluation rubric every three years. In years when an evaluation will not take place, one observation is carried out and at least one conference with the counselor is held

Professional Growth and Improvement Plans

School counselors with a final summative rating of Accomplished must develop a professional growth plan.

School counselors with a final summative rating of Skilled must develop a professional growth plan collaboratively with their evaluator.

School counselors with a final summative rating of Developing must develop a professional growth plans with their evaluator. The Superintendent/designee approves the professional growth plan.

School counselors with a final summative rating of Ineffective must develop an improvement plan with their evaluator. The Superintendent/designee approves the improvement plan.

The District has discretion to place a school counselor on an improvement plan at any time based on deficiencies in any individual component of the evaluation system.

Retention and Promotion

The Board uses evaluation results for retention and promotion decisions for school counselors beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. The Board adopts procedures for use by District administrators in making retention and promotion decisions based on evaluation results.

Poorly Performing Counselors

The Board uses evaluation results for removing poorly performing counselors beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. The Board adopts procedures for removing poorly performing school counselors based on evaluation results.

Professional Development

The Board allocates financial resources to support professional development in compliance with State law and the SBOE's evaluation framework.

[Adoption date: August 22, 2016]

[Re-adoption date: April 24, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3319.113; 3319.61
3302.03
Chapter 4117
OAC 3301-35-05

File: AFCA (Also GCNA)

CROSS REFS.: AF, Commitment to Accomplishment
GBL, Personnel Records
GCB, Certificated/Licensed Staff Contracts and Compensation Plans

CONTRACT REF.: Teachers' Negotiated Agreement

EVALUATION OF EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

The Superintendent evaluates the effectiveness of the educational resources used by the District to achieve the District's educational goals and objectives.

The individual resource areas are assessed yearly while the overall program is assessed every three years according to professionally recognized criteria and procedures.

Following are the educational resources listed in the State Board of Education standards.

1. Certificated/licensed and classified staff are recruited, employed, assigned, evaluated and provided in-service education without unlawful discrimination.
2. Instructional materials and equipment support attainment of objectives specified in courses of study.
3. Facilities accommodate the enrollment and the philosophy of education and educational goals of the school.
4. Student health and safety are safeguarded by an organized program of school health services designed to identify student health problems and to coordinate school and community health resources for students.
5. Student cumulative records are maintained.
6. Student admission, placement and withdrawal are processed according to established procedures.
7. Student attendance and conduct are administered according to established objectives and procedures.
8. School guidance services are provided for students in accordance with a written plan adopted by the Board.
9. Student activity programs are operated in accordance with the Board's philosophy of education and educational goals and safeguard the interest of the school, participants and spectators. Schools will not sponsor interscholastic athletics for students in kindergarten through sixth grade.
10. A planned community relations program is implemented to encourage citizen participation in, and support for, the educational program.

[Adoption date: January 24, 2011]

LEGAL REFS.: OAC 3301-35-03; 3301-35-04

CROSS REFS.: AC, Nondiscrimination
FA, Facilities Development Goals
IA, Instructional Goals
IF, Curriculum Development
IGD, Cocurricular and Extracurricular Activities
IJ, Guidance Program
IK, Academic Achievement
IKE, Promotion and Retention of Students
JEC, School Admission
JEDA, Truancy
JHF, Student Safety
JO, Student Records
KA, School-Community Relations Goals