

Philomath School District 17J

Code: **KL**
Adopted: 8/17/06; 12/95
Orig. Code(s): 8016

Public Complaints

Although no community member will be denied the right to petition, the Board believes that complaints are most effectively resolved when they are handled as close to their origin as possible. Therefore, complaints will be referred through the proper administrative channels for solutions before investigation or action by the Board. Exceptions are complaints that concern the superintendent or Board actions or Board operations.

Any complaint about school personnel will be investigated by the administration before consideration or action by the Board. The Board will not hear charges against employees in open session. During Board meetings, speakers may offer objective criticism of school operations and programs. The Board will not hear personal complaints concerning school personnel nor against any person connected with the school system in public session. 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 Chair will direct the visitor to the appropriate means for Board consideration and disposition of legitimate complaints involving individuals

If the complaint alleges the response is a violation of the Standards for Oregon Public Schools, the District shall, at the conclusion of the complaint review process, provide the complainant with written notice of the process for directing an appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Such an appeal can only be filed after the local complaint procedures have been exhausted or after 45 days of filing the written complaint with the district, whichever first occurs.

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).

HR8/6/97 | MW