

Resignation of Instructional Staff/Administrative Staff

In accordance with state statutes, a teacher or licensed administrator may cancel a contract prior to the beginning of an academic year by giving written notice no later than 30 days prior to the start of the academic year, during an academic year by giving at least 30 days' written notice, or at any time by mutual agreement with the Board of Education.

A teacher or licensed administrator who fails to honor a contract, except in accordance with the statutes, shall be held responsible for the ordinary and necessary expenses incurred in securing a replacement, or for 1 /12th of his or her annual salary, whichever is less. In addition, the teacher's or administrator's license may be suspended.

A teacher or licensed administrator who resigns during the term of the contract shall be paid the prorated amount of the annual salary for each day the teacher has been on duty.

The district shall comply with the mandatory reporting requirements concerning the allegations of unlawful behavior involving a child and other offenses, In accordance with state law and the regulation accompanying this policy.

State law prohibits school districts from entering into a settlement agreement that would restrict the district's ability to share any relevant information related to a conviction for child abuse or a sexual offense against a child and that pertains to the incident upon which the employee's dismissal or resignation is based. C.R.S. 22-32-109.7 (3). Further, school districts are not authorized to enter into a settlement agreement that would prohibit the district from sharing any other information required by law to be available to CDE, another school district, or a charter school—including information related to an allegation of a sexual act involving an employee and a student who is eighteen years of age or older, regardless of whether the student consented to the sexual act upon which the employee's dismissal or resignation is based. Id.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires school districts that receive ESEA funds to have policies in place that prohibit the district from assisting an employee in obtaining a new job if the district knows, or has probable cause to believe, that such employee engaged in sexual misconduct regarding a student or minor in violation of the law. The district is not prohibited from following routine procedures regarding the transmission of administrative or personnel files, but is prohibited from doing more than that to help the employee obtain new employment. 20 U.S.C. 7926. This provision is intended to prevent teachers or other school staff who have engaged in sexual misconduct with a student or minor at one school from obtaining employment

at another school, without that school's knowledge of the prior misconduct. In sum, districts must ensure that they comply with state law mandatory reporting requirements as well as not offer employment assistance as prohibited by the ESSA when contacted by another school for information regarding an applicant's fitness for employment.

Adopted: January 28, 1969
Revised: August 25, 1998
Revised: December 12, 2006
Revised: September 13, 2011
Revised: December 10, 2013
Revised: April 14, 2020
Revised: November 10, 2021

LEGAL REFS.: 20 U.S.C. 7926 (*ESSA prohibition against employment assistance for school employees who have engaged in sexual misconduct with a student or minor*)
C. R.S. 19-3-301 *et seq.* (*Child Protection Act of 1987*)
C.R.S.22-32-109.7
C.R.S. 22-63-202
1 CCR 301-37, Rules 2202-R-15.05

Garfield School District No. Re-2, Rifle, Colorado