

## **Public Concerns/Complaints about Teaching Methods, Activities, or Presentations**

Parents/guardians or citizens shall be allowed to challenge the use of any teaching methods, activities, or presentations in accordance with this policy.

1. The individual with the concern must first meet with the teacher or staff member involved.
2. If not resolved with the teacher, the school director shall hold a conference with the complainant. Written minutes shall be taken and copies shall be supplied to all parties involved.
3. After the initial conference between the complainant and the school director, the teacher or staff member involved shall be invited to attend any subsequent meetings. Written minutes shall be taken and copies shall be supplied to all parties involved.
4. If the complainant is dissatisfied with the results of the conference(s), the school director shall inform the complainant of this policy and his/her ability to further challenge the teaching method, activity, or presentation.
5. To further challenge the teaching method, activity, or presentation, the complainant must submit a complaint in writing detailing his/her concerns and proposed solution. The written complaint shall be submitted to the school director.
6. Within ten (10) working days of receiving the written complaint, the school director shall forward it to the appropriate administrator or committee along with any written minutes from conference(s) held with the complainant. Copies of these materials shall also be provided to the Superintendent, the teacher or staff member involved, the complainant, and a copy shall be retained in the school file.
7. The school director shall provide a description of the method, activity, or presentation being challenged, and shall render a professional opinion on its appropriateness utilizing supporting evidence.\
8. The complainant shall also be given the opportunity to render an opinion on its appropriateness utilizing supporting evidence.
9. Within 60 calendar days from receiving the written complaint, a written recommendation shall be forwarded to the Superintendent and all parties in interest.

10. If the complainant or teacher/staff member involved is not satisfied with the recommendation, he or she may appeal to the Superintendent and/or the Board of Education.
11. Any party may be represented by counsel at any step of this procedure.

In the event that the complaint involves a method, activity, or presentation that has been challenged and reviewed in accordance with this policy, the school director shall examine the previous decision in the light of the new complaint. If the new complaint is significantly different, the school director shall handle the complaint as outlined herein. If the complaint is not significantly different, the original decision shall stand and a copy of the final written recommendation and any Board action shall be sent to the complainant with an explanation that the method, activity, or presentation in question has been evaluated previously. If the complainant believes his or her challenge is different or that significant new evidence exists, the complainant may appeal the decision to the Superintendent and/or the Board of Education.

Nothing herein shall be construed to modify or repeal any other District policy or regulation relative to rights and expression of staff or students.

*Adopted January 23, 2018, by the Board of Education for Mapleton Public Schools.*