

**PINE-RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**702 WARRENDALE ROAD**  
**GIBSONIA, PA 15044**  
[www.pinerichland.org](http://www.pinerichland.org)  
**724.625.7773**

## **Title I Complaint Resolution Procedure**

### **Introduction**

The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) legislation requires State Educational Agencies (SEAs) to adopt written procedures for receiving and resolving any complaint alleging violations of the law in administration of programs. In accordance with this legislative requirement, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) requires Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) to adopt written procedures for resolving complaints filed. The procedures for resolving a complaint about Title I programs and services provided by the Pine-Richland School District are as follows:

### **Definition**

A “complaint” is a written, signed statement filed by an individual or an organization. It must include:

- a) A statement that a school has violated a requirement of federal statute or regulation that applies to Title I.
- b) The facts on which the statement is based.
- c) Information on any discussions, meetings, or correspondence with a school regarding the complaint prior to filing the complaint with the school district.

## **Complaint Resolution Procedures**

### **1 Referral**

Complaints against schools should be referred to the District’s Federal/State Programs Officer:

Noel Hustwit, Director of Student Services and Special Education  
3811 Bakerstown Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044  
724-443-7230, ext. 6502  
[nhustwit@pinerichland.org](mailto:nhustwit@pinerichland.org)

### **2 Notice to School**

The Federal/State Programs Officer will notify the school Superintendent and Principal that a complaint has been received. A copy of the complaint will be given to the Superintendent and Principal with directions given for the Principal to respond.

### **3 Investigation**

After receiving the Principal’s response, the Federal/State Programs Officer, along with the Superintendent, will determine whether further investigation is necessary. If necessary, the Federal/State Programs Officer and the Superintendent may do an onsite investigation at the school.

#### **4 Opportunity to Present Evidence**

The Federal/State Programs Officer may provide for the complainant and the Principal to present evidence.

#### **5 Report and Recommended Resolution**

Once the Federal/State Programs Officer has completed the investigation and the taking of evidence, a report will be prepared with a recommendation for resolving the complaint. The report will give the name of the party bringing the complaint, the nature of the complaint, a summary of the investigation, the recommended resolution and the reasons for the recommendation. Copies of the report will be issued to all parties involved. The recommended resolution will become effective upon issuance of the report.

#### **6 Follow up**

The Federal/State Programs Officer and the Superintendent will ensure that the resolution of the complaint is implemented.

#### **7 Time Limit**

The period between the Federal/State Programs Director receiving the complaint and resolution of the complaint shall not exceed sixty (60) calendar days.

#### **8 Right to Appeal**

Either party may appeal the final resolution to the Department of Education. Appeals should be addressed as follows:

Mrs. Susan McCrone, Chief  
Division of Federal Programs  
Pennsylvania Department of Education  
333 Market Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333