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GAA Goals and Objectives (See BDA, CM, CMA and JA) **GAA**

The goal of the personnel policies set forth in this policy section is to create the best possible educational climate for the students of the school district. To this end, these personnel policies are designed to prevent misunderstanding by the district's personnel of their duties, responsibilities, and privileges.

All employees shall follow all applicable board policies, rules, regulations, and supervisory directives.

All personnel handbooks shall be approved by the board and adopted, by reference, as a part of these policies and rules.

Approved:
9/19

KASB Recommendation – 2/98; 4/07; 12/13; 6/19

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GAAA Equal Employment Opportunity and Nondiscrimination GAAA

The board shall hire all employees on the basis of ability and the district's needs.

The district is an equal opportunity employer and shall not discriminate in its employment practices and policies with respect to hiring, compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment because of an individual's race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, or genetic information. Discrimination on any of these characteristics will not be tolerated. The district will make reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees who need them for medical or religious reasons, as required by law.

Inquiries regarding compliance may be directed to (position, address, phone number of the district compliance coordinator) or to:

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
Gateway Tower II
400 State Ave., Suite 905
Kansas City, KS 66101
(913) 551-5655
kansascityintake@eeoc.gov

or

Kansas Human Rights Commission
900 SW Jackson, Suite 568-S
Topeka, KS 66612-1258
(785) 296-3206
khrc@ks.gov

or

United States Department of Education
Office for Civil Rights
One Petticoat Lane
1010 Walnut Street, Suite 320
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
(816) 268-0550
OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov

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Approved: 9/19

KASB Recommendation- 2/98; 8/98; 6/06; 4/07; 12/15 · 6/19

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GAAA-R **Equal Opportunity Employment and Nondiscrimination** **GAAA-R**

The district shall maintain a working environment free from discrimination, insult, intimidation, or harassment due to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or disability.

Any incident of discrimination in any form shall promptly be reported to the immediate supervisor or other level of management for investigation and corrective action by the compliance officer .

Any employee who engages in discrimination shall be reprimanded and counseled to refrain from such conduct. Any employee who continues to engage in discriminatory conduct shall be disciplined.

Approved:

GAAD **Child Abuse** (See JCAC and JGEC) **GAAD**

Any district employee who has reason to know or suspect a child has been injured as a result of physical, mental, or emotional abuse or neglect or sexual abuse, shall promptly report the matter to the local Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) office or to the local law enforcement agency if the DCF office is not open**.** Employees may file a report of suspected abuse anonymously to either DCF by phoning 1-800-922-5330 or to local law enforcement officials. The Code for Care of Children also provides civil immunity from prosecution if the report is made in good faith.

The employee making the report will not contact the child's family or any other persons to determine the cause of the suspected abuse or neglect.

DCF or Law Enforcement Access to Students on School Premises

The building principal shall allow a student to be interviewed by DCF or law enforcement representatives on school premises to investigate suspected child abuse and shall act as appropriate to facilitate the agency's access to the child and to protect the student's interests during the process. State law grants the investigating agency the authority to determine whether a school employee may be present while the interview is being conducted, taking into account the child's best interests. If asked to sit in on the interview by the agency representative conducting it, the building principal or designee thereof shall oblige such request in order to provide comfort to the child throughout the process and to facilitate the investigation.

Cooperation Between School and Agencies

Principals shall work with DCF and law enforcement agencies to develop a plan of cooperation for investigating reports of suspected child abuse or neglect. To the extent that safety is not compromised, law enforcement officers

investigating complaints of suspected child abuse or neglect on school property shall not be in uniform.

Reporting Procedure

The employee shall promptly report to the local DCF office or law enforcement if DCF is closed. It is recommended the building administrator also be notified after the report is made.

If the building principal has been notified, the principal shall immediately notify the superintendent that the initial report to DCF has been made. If appropriate, the principal may confer with the school's social worker, guidance counselor or psychologist. At no time shall the principal or any other staff member prevent or interfere with the making of a suspected child abuse report.

If available, the following information shall be given by the person making the initial report: name, address, and age of the student; name and address of the parents or guardians; nature and extent of injuries or description of neglect or abuse; and any other information that might help establish the cause of the child's condition.

Any personal interview or physical inspection of the child by any school employee shall be conducted in an appropriate manner with an adult witness present.

State law provides that anyone making a report in good faith and without malice shall be immune from any civil liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed.

Mobile Crisis Helpline

Crisis support for Kansas families and children to resolve an emotional, psychiatric, or behavioral health crisis is available through the Department of Children and Families Mobile Crisis Helpline, 1-833-441-2240, including:

- Problem solving to resolve behavioral health crisis;
- Referral to community resources or recommendation to engage in stabilization services;
- In-person support via mobile crisis response; and
- Contacting mobile crisis response unit to assist in emergency situations.

Services are available to all Kansans 20 years or younger including anyone in foster care or formerly in foster care.

Annual Training

Annual training for all school employees on child abuse and neglect reporting requirements shall be provided, and documentation of the training shall be maintained.

Approved: March 7, 2022

KASB Recommendation - 2/98; 4/07; 6/07; 11/10; 8/12; 10/12; 11/12; 6/20; 3/22

GAAC – Sex-Based Discrimination

(See GAF and JGEC)

The board of education is committed to providing a positive and productive working and learning environment, free from discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment. The district does not discriminate on the basis of sex in admissions, employment, or the educational programs or activities it operates. Discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment, of employees or students of the district in any district education program or activity will not be tolerated in the school district and is strictly prohibited.

Sex-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, is unlawful discrimination under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Kansas Act Against Discrimination. All forms of sexual harassment are prohibited at school, on school property, and at all school-sponsored activities, programs, or events within the United States.

(Position or name, address, email address, and phone number of the Title IX Coordinator and Title VII or other compliance coordinator, if different than the Title IX Coordinator) has been designated to coordinate compliance with nondiscrimination requirements contained in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 regarding discrimination on the basis of sex, and the Kansas Act Against Discrimination. Information concerning the provisions of these Acts, and the rights provided thereunder, are available from the designated compliance coordinator identified herein. Inquiries about the application of Title IX to the district may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator; to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington D.C. 20202-1100, (800)421-3481, or at OCR@ed.gov; or both.

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply.

"Appeal decision-maker" reviews the appeal along with written statements in support of, or challenging, the outcome of the written determination regarding responsibility, and other relevant documentation collected during the formal grievance process. The appeal decision-maker shall not be the Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, or informal resolution facilitator.

"Complainant" means an individual who is alleged to be a victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

"Dating violence" means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim where the existence of such a relationship

shall be determined based on a consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved.

"Decision-maker" reviews all the evidence and prepares an impartial written responsibility determination as to whether the alleged conduct occurred and provides an opportunity for the parties and their representatives to prepare written questions to be answered by the other party. The decision-maker shall not be the Title IX Coordinator, investigator, or informal resolution facilitator.

"Domestic violence" includes felony or misdemeanor crimes committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim under the family or domestic violence laws of Kansas.

"Formal complaint" means a document filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a respondent and requesting that the district investigate the allegation of sexual harassment.

" Informal resolution facilitator" is a neutral person, designated by the Title IX Coordinator, who has been trained to assist the parties through the voluntary informal resolution process. The informal resolution facilitator shall not be the Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, or appeal-decision maker. "Investigator" is the person who carries out the investigation after the formal complaint is filed and conducts interviews of the witnesses, collects and documents evidence, and drafts an investigative report. The investigator shall not be the Title IX Coordinator, decision-maker, appeal decision-maker, or informal resolution facilitator.

"Respondent" is an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

"Sex-based discrimination" means any unfair treatment, unequal opportunity, or harassment on the basis of sex in the district's programs or activities.

"Sexual assault" means an offense classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"Sexual harassment" means conduct on the basis of sex involving one or more of the following: (1) A district employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the district on an individual's participation in unwelcomed sexual conduct; (2) unwelcomed conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the district's educational program or activity; or (3) sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking.

"Stalking" means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or the safety of others or to suffer substantial emotional distress.

"Supportive measures" mean non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the complainant or the respondent regardless of whether a formal complaint has been filed. Such measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the recipient's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the recipient's educational environment, or deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may include counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, mutual restrictions on contact between the parties, changes in work locations, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the school, and other similar measures. The supportive measures provided to the complainant or respondent by the district must remain confidential to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the district to provide the supportive measures. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of supportive measures.

"Title IX Coordinator" is the individual designated at the district level who has the responsibility to coordinate compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. The Title IX Coordinator's responsibilities include, but are not limited to: developing materials and ensuring professional development occurs for staff involved in Title IX compliance, creating systems to centralize records, gathering relevant data, contacting the complainant (and/or parents or guardians, if applicable) once the district has actual knowledge of alleged sexual harassment, coordinating the implementation of supportive measures, signing a formal complaint to initiate a grievance process, and ensuring any remedies are implemented.

Reporting of Sex-Based Discrimination, including Sexual Harassment

The district takes all reports of sex-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, seriously and will respond meaningfully to every such report of which the district has actual knowledge.

The district encourages all victims of sexual harassment and persons with knowledge of such harassment to report the harassment immediately. Any person may make a verbal or written report of sex discrimination by any means and at any time.

Any act of retaliation or discrimination against any person who has opposed discrimination; filed a complaint; or testified, assisted, or participated in any investigation, proceeding, or appeal involving sex-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, is prohibited. The district will take appropriate available action to address retaliation, which may include student or employee discipline procedures.

It shall be a violation to discourage a student or an employee from filing a complaint, or to fail to

investigate or refer for investigation, any complaint lodged under the provisions of this policy. Violation of this policy shall result in appropriate disciplinary action.

False or malicious complaints of sex-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, may result in corrective or disciplinary action against the complainant.

False statements made in the course of an investigation of sex-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, may result in corrective or disciplinary action against the individual.

Complaint Process for Sex-Based Discrimination (Not Sexual Harassment)

Complaints of sex-based discrimination that do not allege sexual harassment will be investigated through the complaint procedure outlined in policy KN to determine whether, under the totality of the circumstances, the alleged behavior constitutes a violation of this policy. Actions determined to be in violation of this policy shall result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination for employees and expulsion for students. Actions which are in violation of other policies but do not constitute sex-based discrimination may also result in appropriate discipline.

Grievance Process for Sexual Harassment

Any employee who witnesses an act of sexual harassment or receives a complaint of harassment from another employee or a student shall report the complaint to the Title IX Coordinator, the employee's supervisor, or other designated district official. Employees who fail to appropriately report complaints or incidents of sexual harassment to the Title IX Coordinator, the employee's supervisor, or other designated district official may face disciplinary action.

Use of this complaint procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of any other remedies including the right to file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, or the Kansas Human Rights Commission.

The Title IX Coordinator, any investigator, decision-maker, appeal decision-maker, or any informal resolution facilitator shall not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against the complainant or respondent. These individuals shall receive training on the definition of sexual harassment; the scope of the education program and activities; how to conduct an investigation, including appeals and informal resolution processes; and how to serve impartially, including avoiding prejudgment of the facts, conflicts of interest, and bias.

Investigators shall receive training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence in order to create investigative reports that fairly summarize relevant evidence. Decision-makers shall receive training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant.

Within 10 business days of any reports of sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator shall, contact the complainant and discuss the availability of supportive measures, with or without the filing of a formal complaint; consider the complainant's wishes as to supportive measures; and inform the complainant of the right to a formal complaint investigation consistent with Title IX and the informal resolution process.

Informal Resolution Process for Sexual Harassment Complaints

At any time during the formal complaint process regarding alleged sexual harassment and prior to reaching a determination regarding responsibility, the district may facilitate an informal resolution process, such as mediation, that does not involve a full investigation and determination of responsibility.

The informal resolution process requires:

- The informal resolution facilitator is to be a trained educational professional, consultant, or other individual selected by the Title IX Coordinator who has received training on their role;
- the parties to be provided a written notice disclosing the allegations, the requirements of the informal resolution process, and information on when it may preclude the parties from resuming a formal complaint arising from the same allegations;
- at any time prior to agreeing to a resolution, any party to have the right to withdraw from the informal resolution process and resume the investigation of the formal complaint and to be informed of any consequences resulting from participating in the informal resolution process;
- that the parties voluntarily consent, in writing, to the informal resolution process; and
- that the informal resolution process is not used to resolve allegations that an employee has sexually harassed a student.

If the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the parties, the facilitator shall document the nature of the complaint and the resolution, have both parties sign the agreement, provide a copy of the agreement to both parties, and forward it to the Title IX Coordinator. If the matter is not resolved, the informal resolution facilitator will notify the Title IX Coordinator, who will resume the formal complaint process.

Formal Grievance Process for Sexual Harassment Complaints

No formal investigation of alleged sexual harassment may occur until after a formal complaint has been filed.

The procedures for filing a formal complaint are as follows.

- At the time of filing a formal complaint, a complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of the district concerning which the formal complaint is filed.
- A formal complaint should be filed in writing and contain the name and address of the person filing the complaint. The complaint should briefly describe the alleged violation. Filing of the complaint with the Title IX Coordinator may be done in person, by mail, or by email. If an individual does not wish to file a written complaint, and the matter has not been adequately resolved, the Title IX Coordinator may initiate the complaint. Forms for filing written complaints are available in each school building office and the central office.
- A complaint should be filed as soon as possible after the conduct occurs, but not later than 180 calendar days after the complainant becomes aware of the alleged violation, unless the conduct forming the basis for the complaint is ongoing.

Upon receipt of a formal complaint, the Title IX Coordinator shall either dismiss the formal complaint or initiate the formal grievance process by providing notice to the parties of the complaint.

Dismissal of a Formal Complaint of Sexual Harassment

The Title IX Coordinator must dismiss the complaint if it is determined that:

- Even if all the facts alleged are true, the conduct alleged in the formal complaint would not constitute sexual harassment as defined herein;
- the conduct did not occur in the recipient's education program or activity; or
- the conduct did not occur against a person in the United States.

During the course of the formal grievance process, the Title IX Coordinator may dismiss the complaint if:

- A complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that the complainant would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any allegations therein;
- the respondent is no longer enrolled or employed by the district; or
- specific circumstances prevent the recipient from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations therein.

Upon a dismissal of a complaint, the Title IX Coordinator must promptly send written notice of the dismissal and reason(s) therefor simultaneously to the parties.

Dismissal of a formal complaint does not preclude an investigation or disciplinary action under another district policy.

Initiation of Formal Grievance Process for Sexual Harassment Complaints

Upon filing of a formal complaint of sexual harassment, the district shall provide written notice to the known parties including:

- Notice of the allegations of sexual harassment including sufficient details to prepare a response before any initial interview including:
  - The identities of the parties involved, if known;
  - the conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment; and
  - the date and location of the alleged incident, if known.
- The district's investigation procedures, including any informal resolution process;
- A statement that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility will be made by the decision-maker at the conclusion of the investigation;
- Notice to the parties they may have an advisor of their choice and may inspect and review any evidence; and
- Notice to the parties of any provision in the district's code of conduct or policy that prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information.

If, in the course of an investigation, the investigator decides to investigate allegations about the complainant or respondent that are not included in the notice initially provided, the Title IX Coordinator shall provide notice of the additional allegations to known parties.

Formal Complaint Investigations Regarding Sexual Harassment

To ensure a complete and thorough investigation of any sexual harassment complaint and to protect the parties, the investigator shall:

- Ensure that the preponderance of the evidence burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rests on the district and not the parties;
- Provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses and evidence;
- Not restrict either party's ability to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence;
- Allow the parties to be accompanied by an advisor of their choice;
- Provide written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of any interview or meeting at which a party or witness is expected to participate;
- Provide the parties equal access to review all the evidence collected which is directly related to the allegations raised in a formal complaint of sexual harassment, including the

investigative report, and the opportunity to respond to that evidence before a determination is made;

- Be impartial and objectively evaluate all relevant evidence without relying on sex stereotypes;
- Not have conflicts of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents;
- Not make credibility determinations based on the individual's status as complainant, respondent, or witness.

The investigator shall prepare an initial investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence and share the report with the parties and their advisors simultaneously.

The parties shall have 10 days to submit a written response to the initial report for the investigator's consideration.

Following the opportunity for the parties and their advisors to review and respond to the initial report, the investigator shall submit a final report to the parties and the Title IX Coordinator simultaneously. Upon receipt, the Title IX Coordinator shall provide a copy of the final report and supporting documentation to the decision-maker.

Decision-Maker's Determination Regarding Sexual Harassment Complaints

Upon receiving the investigator's final report, but prior to reaching a determination regarding responsibility, the decision-maker must afford each party the opportunity to submit written, relevant questions that a party wants asked of any party or witness, provide each party with any answers provided, and allow for additional, limited follow-up questions.

The decision-maker must issue a written determination regarding responsibility based on a preponderance of the evidence. The decision-maker's written determination shall:

- Identify the allegations potentially constituting sexual harassment;
- describe the procedural steps taken, including any notifications to the parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and interviews;
- include the findings of fact supporting the determination;
- address any district policies and/or conduct rules which apply to the facts;
- a statement of, and rational for, the result as to each allegation, including a determination regarding responsibility; and
- the procedures and permissible bases for the complainant and/or respondent to appeal the determination.

The written determination may, but is not required to, recommend that, based on respondent's action, respondent be subject to disciplinary sanctions and any remedies designed to preserve access to the educational program or activity that may be provided by the district to the complainant.

Actions determined to be in violation of this policy shall result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination for employees and expulsion for students. Actions which are in violation of other policies but do not constitute sex-based discrimination may also result in disciplinary action.

A copy of the written determination shall be provided to both parties and the Title IX Coordinator simultaneously.

The decision becomes final on the date the parties receive the results of an appeal, if any appeal is filed, or on the date the opportunity for an appeal expires.

If the formal grievance process determines the actions constituted sexual harassment in violation of this policy, the respondent shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination for employees or expulsion for students. If the formal grievance process determines the actions were in violation of other policies but do not constitute sexual harassment, the respondent may be subject discipline under those policies.

If it is determined that sexual harassment has occurred, the district will take prompt, remedial action to prevent its reoccurrence.

Appeals Regarding Sexual Harassment Complaints

The complainant or respondent may appeal the decision-maker's determination regarding responsibility of a sexual harassment complaint or a dismissal of a formal complaint, on any of the following:

- Procedural irregularity that affected the outcomes;
- new evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal of the complaint was made that could affect the outcome; and/or
- the Title IX Coordinator, investigator, or decision-maker had a conflict of interest or bias against either party that affected the outcome.

The request to appeal shall be made in writing to the Title IX Coordinator within 10 days after the date of the written determination. Appeals shall be a review of the record by an attorney, an independent hearing officer appointed by the board, or the board. The appeal decision-maker may not be the Title IX Coordinator, the investigator, the decision-maker, or informal resolution facilitator that participated in any level of the grievance process that led to the original determination.

The Title IX Coordinator shall notify the parties in writing of the filing of an appeal and implement appeal procedures equally for both parties.

The appeal decision-maker shall give the parties an equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome of determination of responsibility. Within 30 days after the appeal is filed, the appeal decision-maker shall issue a written decision, including the rationale for the decision, and provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties and to the Title IX Coordinator.

Recordkeeping

Records relating to sexual harassment complaints filed and their resolution shall be maintained by the Title IX Coordinator for seven years.

Dissemination of Policy

A summary of this policy and the complaint procedures including how to report or file a formal complaint of sex discrimination or sexual harassment shall be published in district handbooks and on the district's website as directed by the Title IX Coordinator. Notification of the policy may include posting informational notices in district or school publications, publishing in local newspapers, or distributing memoranda or other written communications to students and employees.

In addition, the district is required to include a statement of nondiscrimination in any bulletins, announcements, publications, catalogs, application forms, or other recruitment materials that are made available to participants, students, applicants, or employees.

Approved:

KASB Recommendation – 7/96; 8/98; 7/03; 4/07; 6/13; 6/15; 12/18; 6/20; 7/20; 6/21; 6/26

Racial and Disability Harassment: Employees

(See GAF, JGECA and KN)

The board of education is committed to providing a positive and productive working and learning environment, free from discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national origin, or disability. Racial and disability harassment will not be tolerated in the school district. Racial or disability harassment of employees or students of the district by board members, administrators, certified and support personnel, students, vendors, and any others having business or other contact with the school district is strictly prohibited.

Racial harassment is unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Kansas Acts Against Discrimination. Disability harassment is unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. All forms of racial and disability harassment are prohibited at school, on school property, and at all school-sponsored activities, programs or events. Racial or disability harassment against individuals associated with the school is prohibited, whether or not the harassment occurs on school grounds.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student, employee, or third party (visitor, vendor, etc.) to racially harass or harass on the basis of disability any student, employee, or other individual associated with the school. It shall further be a violation for any employee to discourage a student or another employee from filing a complaint, or to fail to investigate or refer for investigation, any complaint lodged under the provisions of this policy.

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Violations of this policy by any employee shall result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Harassment prohibited by this policy includes racially or disability-motivated conduct which:

- Affords an employee different treatment, solely on the basis of race, color, national origin, or disability, in a manner which interferes with or limits the ability of the employee to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or programs of the school;
- Is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent so as to have the purpose or effect of creating a hostile working environment;
- Is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent so as to have the purpose or effect of interfering with an individual's work performance or employment opportunities.

Racial or disability harassment may result from verbal or physical conduct or written or graphic material.

The district encourages all victims of racial or disability harassment and persons with knowledge of such harassment to report the harassment immediately. Complaints of racial or disability harassment will be promptly investigated and resolved.

Employees who believe they have been subjected to racial or disability harassment should discuss the problem with their immediate supervisor. If an employee's immediate supervisor is the alleged harasser, the employee should discuss the problem with the building principal or the district compliance coordinator. Employees who do not believe the matter is appropriately resolved through this meeting may file a formal complaint under the district's discrimination complaint procedure in policy KN.

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Complaints received will be investigated to determine whether, under the totality of the circumstances, the alleged behavior constitutes racial or disability harassment under the definition outlined above. Unacceptable conduct may or may not constitute racial or disability harassment, depending on the nature of the conduct and its severity, pervasiveness and persistence. Behaviors which are unacceptable but do not constitute harassment may also result in employee discipline.

If discrimination or harassment has occurred, the district will take prompt, remedial action to prevent its reoccurrence.

Any employee who witnesses an act of racial or disability harassment or receives a complaint of harassment from another employee or a student shall report the complaint to the building principal. Employees who fail to report complaints or incidents of racial or disability harassment to appropriate school officials may face disciplinary action. School administrators who fail to investigate and take appropriate corrective action in response to complaints of racial or disability harassment may also face disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Initiation of a complaint of racial or disability harassment in good faith will not adversely affect the job security or status of an employee, nor will it affect his or her compensation. Any act of retaliation or discrimination against any person who has filed a complaint or testified, assisted, or participated in any investigation, proceeding, or hearing involving a racial or disability harassment complaint is prohibited. Any person who retaliates is subject to immediate disciplinary action, up to and including termination from employment.

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To the extent possible, confidentiality will be maintained throughout the investigation of a complaint. The desire for confidentiality must be balanced with the district's obligation to conduct a thorough investigation, to take appropriate corrective action or to provide due process to the accused.

False or malicious complaints of racial or disability harassment may result in corrective or disciplinary action against the complainant.

A summary of this policy and related materials shall be posted in each district facility. The policy shall also be published in student, parent and employee handbooks as directed by the district compliance coordinator. Notification of the policy shall be included in the school newsletter or published in the local newspaper annually.

Approved: September 14, 2015

KASB Recommendation – 8/98; 7/03; 4/07; 9/12; 6/15

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Employee Whistleblower **GAACB**

(See DE)

No disciplinary action shall be taken against a district employee because the employee:

- Discussed the operations of the district or other matters of public concern, including matters relating to public health, safety, and welfare either specifically or generally, with any member of the board or any auditing agency;
- reported a violation of state or federal law or any policies and regulations adopted pursuant to such laws to any person, agency, or organization;
- failed to give notice to the employee's supervisor or the board prior to making any report as described in the above paragraph; or
- disclosed malfeasance or other misappropriation of money held by the district to any person, agency, or organization.

The above shall not be construed to:

- Prohibit a supervisor or the board from requiring that an employee inform their supervisor or the district compliance coordinator regarding governing body or auditing agency requests for information submitted to the district or the substance of testimony made, or to be made, by the employee to members of the board or the auditing agency on behalf of the district;
- permit an employee to leave the employee's assigned work areas during normal work hours without following applicable rules and regulations and policies pertaining to employee leave unless the employee is requested by a member of the board to appear before the board or by an auditing agency to appear at a meeting with officials of the auditing agency;
- authorize an employee to represent the employee's personal opinions as the opinion of the district; or
- prohibit disciplinary action of an employee who discloses information that:
    - the employee knows to be false or that the employee discloses with reckless disregard for the truth or falsity of such information;
    - the employee knows to be exempt from required disclosure under the open records act;
    - is confidential or privileged under state or federal law or court rule; or
    - is disclosed due to a corrupt motive rather than a good faith concern for a wrongful activity.

Copies of this policy shall be prominently posted in each school and district building in a location where it can reasonably be expected to come to the attention of all employees of the district.

As used in this policy, auditing agency means:

- The legislative post auditor;
- any employee of the division of post audit;
- any firm performing audit services pursuant to a contract with the post auditor;
- any state agency or federal agency or authority performing auditing or other oversight activities under authority of any provision of law authorizing such activities; or
- the inspector general established in state law.

Approved:

KASB Recommendation – 6/25

GAAD **Child Abuse** (See JCAC and JGEC) **GAAD**

Any district employee who has reason to know or suspect a child has been injured as a result of physical, mental or emotional abuse or neglect or sexual abuse, shall promptly report the matter to the local Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) office or to the local law enforcement agency if the DCF office is not open. Employees may file a report of suspected abuse anonymously to either DCF by phoning 1-800-922-5330 or to local law enforcement officials. The Code for Care of Children also provides civil immunity from prosecution if the report is made in good faith.

The employee making the report will not contact the child's family or any other persons to determine the cause of the suspected abuse or neglect.

DCF or Law Enforcement Access to Students on School Premises

The building principal shall allow a student to be interviewed by DCF or law enforcement representatives on school premises to investigate suspected child abuse and shall act as appropriate to facilitate the agency's access to the child and to protect the student's interests during the process. State law grants the investigating agency the authority to determine whether a school employee may be present while the interview is being conducted, taking into account the child's best interests. If asked to sit in on the interview by the agency representative conducting it, the building principal or designee thereof shall oblige such request in order to provide comfort to the child throughout the process and to facilitate the investigation.

Cooperation Between School and Agencies

Principals shall work with DCF and law enforcement agencies to develop a plan of cooperation for investigating reports of suspected child abuse or neglect. To the extent that safety is not compromised, law enforcement officers

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investigating complaints of suspected child abuse or neglect on school property shall not be in uniform.

Reporting Procedure

The employee shall promptly report to the local DCF office or law enforcement if DCF is closed. It is recommended the building administrator also be notified after the report is made.

If the building principal has been notified, the principal shall immediately notify the superintendent that the initial report to DCF has been made. If appropriate, the principal may confer with the school's social worker, guidance counselor or psychologist. At no time shall the principal or any other staff member prevent or interfere with the making of a suspected child abuse report.

If available, the following information shall be given by the person making the initial report: name, address and age of the student; name and address of the parents or guardians; nature and extent of injuries or description of neglect or abuse; and any other information that might help establish the cause of the child's condition.

Any personal interview or physical inspection of the child by any school employee shall be conducted in an appropriate manner with an adult witness present.

State law provides that anyone making a report in good faith and without malice shall be immune from any civil liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed.

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Annual Training

Annual training for all school employees on child abuse and neglect reporting requirements shall be provided, and documentation of the training shall be maintained.

Approved: 04-12-2021

KASB Recommendation - 2/98; 4/07; 6/07; 11/10; 8/12; 10/12; 11/12; 6/20

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GAAE **Bullying by Staff** (See EBC, GAAB, JDD, JDDC, and KGC) **GAAE**

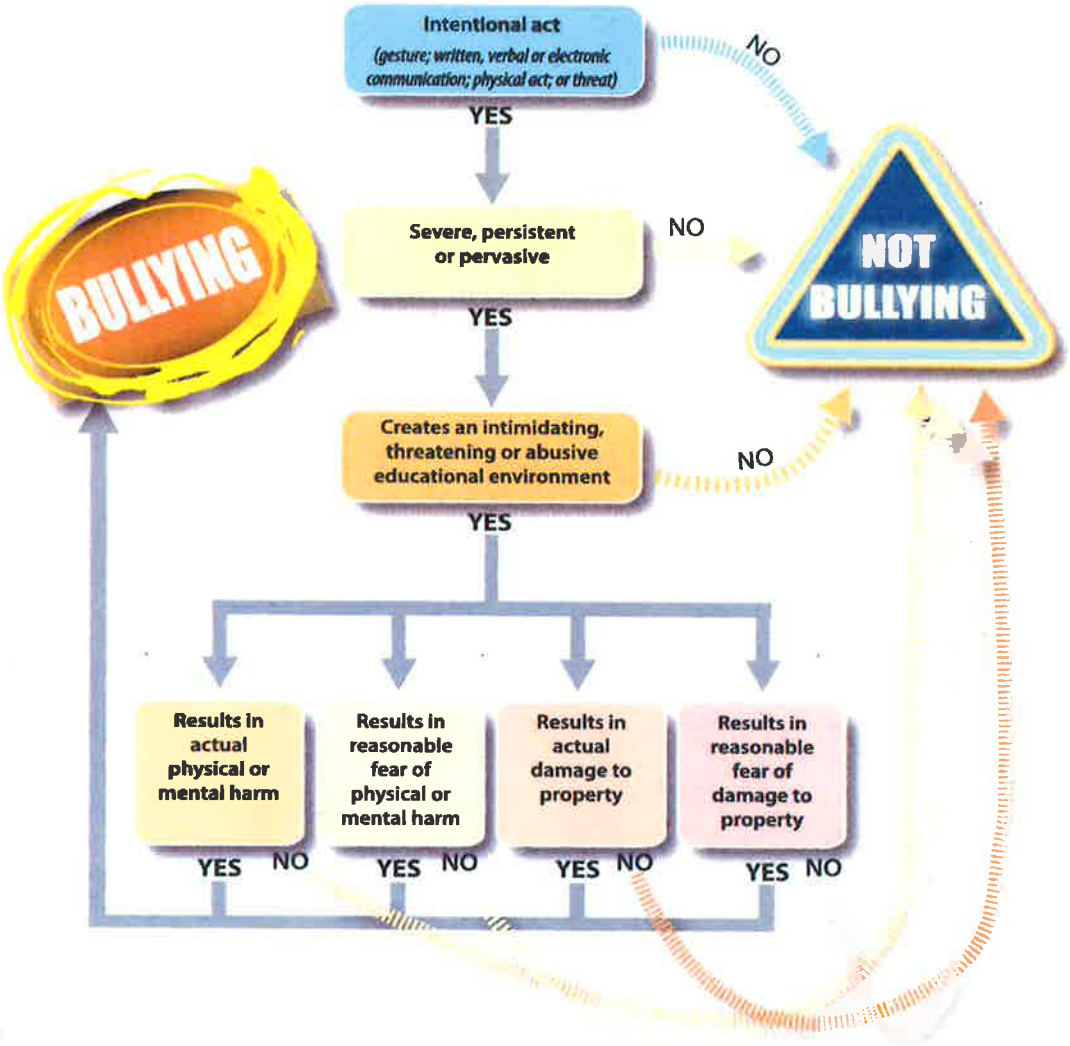
The board of education prohibits bullying in any form either by any student, staff member, or parent towards a student or by a student, staff member, or parent towards a staff member on or while using school property, in a school vehicle or at a school-sponsored activity or event. For the purposes of this policy, the term "bullying" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Kansas law.

The administration shall propose, and the board shall review and approve a plan to address bullying as prohibited herein. The plan shall include provisions for the training and education of staff members.

Staff members who bully others in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and/or termination. If appropriate, staff members who violate the bullying prohibition shall be reported to local law enforcement.

Approved: KASB Recommendation – 06/08; 10/08; 6/13

KANSAS BULLYING LAW



Bullying Behavior Report Form

Name of staff engaging in bullying behavior _____

_____

Name of targeted staff member _____

Date and time of incident _____

Location of incident _____

Behavior was witnessed/reported (circle) by _____

Person completing the report _____

Brief Summary of Incident:

Report to Local Law Enforcement

USD 506

Pursuant to Kansas law, the administrator or other school employee whose signature appears below is reporting the following crimes:

Briefly describe each incident and the person/s involved in a misdemeanor or felony behavior at school, on school property, or at a school activity.

Date	School/Location	Person/s Involved	Brief Description of bullying incident/s.
1.			
2.			

School Districts are required by Federal Law and K.S.A. 72-6311 to protect the privacy rights of students under the age of 18.

Signed:_____
Administrator or other school employee

c/o Superintendent, USD 506; c/employee's file

GAAF Emergency Safety Interventions **GAAF**

(See GAO, JRB, JQ, and KN)

The board of education is committed to limiting the use of Emergency Safety Intervention ("ESI"), such as seclusion and restraint, with all students. Seclusion and restraint shall be used only when a student's conduct necessitates the use of an emergency safety intervention as defined below. The board of education encourages all employees to utilize other behavioral management tools, including prevention techniques, de-escalation techniques, and positive behavioral intervention strategies.

This policy shall be made available on the district website with links to the policy available on any individual school pages. In addition, this policy shall be included in at least one of the following: each school's code of conduct, school safety plan, or student handbook. Notice of the online availability of this policy shall be provided to parents during enrollment each year.

Definitions

"Area of purposeful isolation" means any separate space, regardless of any other use of that space, other than an open hallway or similarly open environment.

"Campus police officer" means a school security officer designated by the board of education of any school district pursuant to K.S.A. 72-6146, and amendments thereto.

"Chemical Restraint" means the use of medication to control a student's violent physical behavior or restrict a student's freedom of movement.

"Emergency Safety Intervention" is the use of seclusion or physical restraint, but does not include physical escort or the use of time-out.

"Incident" means each occurrence of the use of an emergency safety intervention.

"Law enforcement officer" and "police officer" mean a full-time or part-time salaried officer or employee of the state, a county, or a city, whose duties include the prevention or detection of crime and the enforcement of criminal or traffic law of this state or any Kansas municipality. This term includes a campus police officer.

"Legitimate law enforcement purpose" means a goal within the lawful authority of an officer that is to be achieved through methods or conduct condoned by the officer's appointing authority.

"Mechanical Restraint" means any device or object used to limit a student's movement.

"Parent" means:

- a natural parent;
- an adoptive parent;
- a person acting as a parent as defined in K.S.A. 72-3122(d)(2), and amendments thereto;

- a legal guardian;
- an education advocate for a student with an exceptionality;
- a foster parent, unless the student is a child with an exceptionality; or
- a student who has reached the age of majority or is an emancipated minor.

"Physical Escort" means the temporary touching or holding the hand, wrist, arm, shoulder, or back of a student who is acting out for the purpose of inducing the student to walk to a safe location.

"Physical Restraint" means bodily force used to substantially limit a student's movement, except that consensual, solicited, or unintentional contact and contact to provide comfort, assistance, or instruction shall not be deemed to be physical restraint.

"Purposefully isolate" when used regarding a student, means that school personnel are not meaningfully engaging with the student to provide instruction and any one of the following occurs:

1. Removal of the student from the learning environment by school personnel;
2. Separation of the student from all or most peers and adults in the learning environment by school personnel; or
3. Placement of the student within an area of purposeful isolation by school personnel.

"School resource officer" means a law enforcement officer or police officer employed by a local law enforcement agency who is assigned to a district through an agreement between the local law enforcement agency and the district.

"School security officer" means a person who is employed by a board of education of any school district for the purpose of aiding and supplementing state and local law enforcement agencies in which the school district is located, but is not a law enforcement officer or police officer.

"Seclusion" means placement of a student for any reason other than for in-school suspension, detention, or any other appropriate disciplinary measure in a location where both of the following conditions are met:

- School personnel purposefully isolate the student;
- the student is prevented from leaving, or has reason to believe, that the student will be prevented from leaving the area of purposeful isolation

"Time-out" means a behavioral intervention in which a student is temporarily removed from a learning activity without being secluded.

<u>Prohibited Types of Restraint</u>

All staff members are prohibited from engaging in the following actions with all students:

- Using face-down (prone) physical restraint;
- Using face-up (supine) physical restraint;
- Using physical restraint that obstructs the student's airway;
- Using physical restraint that impacts a student's primary mode of communication;
- Using chemical restraint, except as prescribed treatments for a student's medical or psychiatric condition by a person appropriately licensed to issue such treatments; and

  Use of mechanical restraint, ***except***:
  - Protective or stabilizing devices required by law or used in accordance with an order from a person appropriately licensed to issue the order for the device;
  - Any device used by a certified law enforcement officer to carry out law enforcement duties; or
  - Seatbelts and other safety equipment when used to secure students during transportation.

Use of Emergency Safety Interventions

ESI shall be used only when a student presents a reasonable and immediate danger of physical harm to such student or others with the present ability to affect physical harm. Less restrictive alternatives to ESI, such as positive behavior interventions support, shall be deemed inappropriate or ineffective under the circumstances by the school employee witnessing the student's behavior prior to the use of any ESI. The use of ESI shall cease as soon as the immediate danger of physical harm ceases to exist. Violent action that is destructive of property may necessitate the use of an ESI. Use of an ESI for purposes of discipline, punishment, or for the convenience of a school employee shall not meet the standard of immediate danger of physical harm.

ESI Restrictions

A student shall not be subjected to ESI if the student is known to have a medical condition that could put the student in mental or physical danger as a result of ESI. The existence of such a medical condition shall be indicated in a written statement from the student's licensed health care provider, a copy of which has been provided to the school and placed in the student's file.

Such written statement shall include an explanation of the student's diagnosis, a list of any reasons why ESI would put the student in mental or physical danger, and any suggested alternatives to ESI. In spite of the provisions of this subsection, a student may be subjected to ESI if not subjecting the student to ESI would result in significant physical harm to the student or others.

Use of Seclusion

When a student is placed in seclusion, a school employee shall be able to see and hear the student at all times. The presence of another person in the area of purposeful isolation or observing the student from outside the area of purposeful isolation shall not create an exemption from otherwise reporting the incident as seclusion. When a student is placed in or otherwise directed to an area of purposeful isolation, the student shall have reason to believe that the student is prevented from leaving.

If the area of purposeful isolation is equipped with a locking door designed to prevent a student from leaving the area of purposeful isolation, the door shall be designed to ensure that the lock automatically disengages when the school employee viewing the student walks away from the area of purposeful isolation, or in case of emergency, such as fire or severe weather.

An area of purposeful isolation shall be a safe place with proportional and similar characteristics as those of rooms where students frequent. Such area shall be free of any condition that could be a danger to the student, well-ventilated, and sufficiently lighted.

Training

All staff members shall be trained regarding the use of positive behavioral intervention strategies, de-escalation techniques, and prevention techniques. Such training shall be consistent with nationally recognized training programs on ESI. The intensity of the training provided will depend upon the employee's position. Administrators, licensed staff members, and other staff deemed most likely to need to restrain a student will be provided more intense training than staff who do not work directly with students in the classroom. District and building administration shall make the determination of the intensity of training required by each position.

Each school building shall maintain written or electronic documentation regarding the training that was provided and a list of participants, which shall be made available for inspection by the state board of education upon request.

Notification and Documentation

The principal or designee shall notify the parent the same day as an incident. The same-day notification requirement of this subsection shall be deemed satisfied if the school attempts at least two methods of contacting the parent. A parent may designate a preferred method of contact to receive the same- day notification. Also, a parent may agree, in writing, to receive only one same- day notification from the school for multiple incidents occurring on the same day.

Documentation of the ESI used shall be completed and provided to the student's parents no later than the school day following the day of the incident. Such written documentation shall include:

- The events leading up to the incident;

- student behaviors that necessitated the ESI; steps taken to transition the student back into the educational setting;
- the date and time the incident occurred, the type of ESI used, the duration of the ESI, and the school personnel who used or supervised the ESI;
- space or an additional form for parents to provide feedback or comments to the school regarding the incident;
- a statement that invites and strongly encourages parents to schedule a meeting to discuss the incident and how to prevent future incidents; and
- email and phone information for the parent to contact the school to schedule the ESI meeting. Schools may group incidents together when documenting the items in subparagraphs (A), (B) and (C) if the triggering issue necessitating the ESIs is the same.

The parent shall be provided the following information after the first and each subsequent incident during each school year:

- a copy of this policy which indicates when ESI can be used;
- a flier on the parent's rights;
- information on the parent's right to file a complaint through the local dispute resolution process (which is set forth in this policy) and the complaint process of the state board of education; and
- information that will assist the parent in navigating the complaint process, including contact information for Families Together and the Disability Rights Center of Kansas.

Upon the first occurrence of an incident of ESI, the foregoing information shall be provided in printed form or, upon the parent's written request, by email. Upon the occurrence of a second or subsequent incident, the parent shall be provided with a full and direct website address containing such information.

Law Enforcement, School Resource, and Campus Security Officers

Campus police officers and school resource officers shall be exempt from the requirements of this policy when engaged in an activity that has a legitimate law enforcement purpose. School security officers shall not be exempt from the requirements of this policy.

If a school is aware that a law enforcement officer or school resource officer has used seclusion, physical restraint, or mechanical restraint on a student, the school shall notify the parent the same day using the parent's preferred method of contact. A school shall not be required to provide written documentation to a parent, as set forth above, regarding law enforcement use of an emergency safety intervention, or report to the state department of education any law enforcement use of an emergency

safety intervention. For purposes of this subsection, mechanical restraint includes, but is not limited to, the use of handcuffs.

Documentation of ESI Incidents

Except as specified above with regard to law enforcement or school resource officer use of emergency safety interventions, each building shall maintain documentation any time ESI is used with a student. Such documentation must include all of the following:

- Date and time of the ESI;
- Type of ESI,
- Length of time the ESI was used,
- School personnel who participated in or supervised the ESI,
- Whether the student had an individualized education program at the time of the incident.
- Whether the student had a section 504 plan at the time of the incident, and whether the student had a behavior intervention plan at the time of the incident.

All such documentation shall be provided to the building principal, who shall be responsible for providing copies of such documentation to the superintendent or the superintendent's designee on at least a biannual basis. At least once per school year, each building principal or designee shall review the documentation of ESI incidents with appropriate staff members to consider the appropriateness of the use of ESI in those instances.

Reporting Data

District administration shall report ESI data to the state department of education as required.

Parent Right to Meeting on ESI Use

After each incident, a parent may request a meeting with the school to discuss and debrief the incident. A parent may request such meeting verbally, in writing, or by electronic means. A school shall hold a meeting requested under this subsection within 10 school days of the parent's request. The focus of any such meeting shall be to discuss proactive ways to prevent the need for emergency safety interventions and to reduce incidents in the future.

For a student with an IEP or a Section 504 plan, such student's IEP team or Section 504 plan team shall discuss the incident and consider the need to conduct a functional behavioral assessment, develop a behavior intervention plan, or amend the behavior intervention plan if already in existence.

For a student with a section 504 plan, such student's section 504 plan team shall discuss and consider the need for a special education evaluation. For students who have an individualized education program and are placed in a private school by a parent, a meeting called under this subsection shall include the parent and the private school, who shall consider whether the parent should request an

individualized education program team meeting. If the parent requests an individualized education program team meeting, the private school shall help facilitate such meeting.

For a student without an IEP or Section 504 plan, the school staff and the parent shall discuss the incident and consider the appropriateness of a referral for a special education evaluation, the need for a functional behavioral assessment, or the need for a behavior intervention plan. Any such meeting shall include the student's parent, a school administrator for the school the student attends, one of the student's teachers, a school employee involved in the incident, and any other school employees designated by the school administrator as appropriate for such meeting.

The student who is the subject of such meetings shall be invited to attend the meeting at the discretion of the parent. The time for calling such a meeting may be extended beyond the 10-day limit if the parent of the student is unable to attend within that time period. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the development and implementation of a functional behavior assessment or a behavior intervention plan for any student if such student would benefit from such measures.

Local Dispute Resolution Process

If a parent believes that an emergency safety intervention has been used on the parent's child in violation of state law or board policy, the parent may file a complaint as specified below.

The board of education encourages parents to attempt to resolve issues relating to the use of ESI informally with the building principal and/or the superintendent before filing a formal complaint with the board. Once an informal complaint is received, the administrator handling such complaint shall investigate such matter, as deemed appropriate by the administrator. In the event that the complaint is resolved informally, the administrator must provide a written report of the informal resolution to the superintendent and the parents and retain a copy of the report at the school. The superintendent will share the informal resolution with the board of education and provide a copy to the state department of education.

If the issues are not resolved informally with the building principal and/or the superintendent, the parents may submit a formal written complaint to the board of education by providing a copy of the complaint to the clerk of the board and the superintendent within thirty (30) days after the parent is informed of the incident.

Upon receipt of a formal written complaint, the board president shall assign an investigator to review the complaint and report findings to the board as a whole. Such investigators may be a board member, a school administrator selected by the board, or a board attorney. Such investigators shall be informed of the obligation to maintain confidentiality of student records and shall report the findings of fact and recommend corrective action, if any, to the board in executive session.

Any such investigation must be completed within thirty (30) days of receipt of the formal written complaint by the board clerk and superintendent. On or before the 30th day after receipt of the written complaint, the board shall adopt written findings of fact and, if necessary, appropriate corrective action. A copy of the written findings of fact and any corrective action adopted by the board shall only be provided to the parents, the school, and the state department of education and shall be mailed to the parents and the state department within 30 days of the board's receipt of the formal complaint.

If desired, a parent may file a complaint under the state board of education administrative review process within thirty (30) days from the date a final decision is issued pursuant to the local dispute resolution process.

Approved:

KASB Recommendation – 6/13; 12/13; 6/15; 6/16; 10/18; 12/18, 6/23

EMERGENCY SAFETY INTERVENTION DOCUMENTATION

Date: _____

Dear: _____

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that on _____ (date), at _____ (time) (a.m./p.m.) the need for the use of an Emergency Safety Intervention was required for _____ (name of student).

K.A.R. 91-42-1(c) defines Emergency Safety Interventions (ESI) as "the use of seclusion or physical restraint when a student presents an immediate danger to self or others. Violent action that is destructive of property may necessitate the use of an ESI." Whenever an ESI is used, the parent(s)/guardian(s) must be informed within (2) school days.

Type of Emergency Safety Intervention Used: Seclusion _____ Restraint_____

Duration of Seclusion/Restraint: _____ (minutes) Location: _____

Name of Staff Member: _____ Witnesses: _____

_____

Description of Incident:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please contact the building principal if you have any questions regarding this use of ESI.

_____ _____

(Signature of person completing report) (Date)

*Parent(s)/guardian(s) notified of this incident on _____ (Date) by _____ (Name of staff member).

*Original provided to Building Principal

*Copy provided to (Parents/Guardians, Administrative Office)

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ESI Acknowledgement Form

Kansas regulations now require that we provide all parents with notice of our written policies regarding Emergency Safety Interventions ("ESI"). Our district policy is available on our website at **[insert website address]** and in our **[insert whichever one of the following is applicable: our school safety plan, our school code of conduct, or the student handbook]**. In addition, we will provide a copy of the policy at any time upon request.

Please select one of the following options:

☐ I have been informed of the district's policy, and I do not want a copy of the policy.

☐ I have been informed of the district's policy, and I do want a copy of the policy. By my signature below, I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the policy.

_____ _____

DATE PARENT SIGNATURE

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GAC Policies and Rules Development Involvement **GAC**

In the development of personnel policies, rules and regulations, the board shall, to the extent practicable, involve the employees of the district.

Approved:

GACA Positions **GACA**

Only those positions authorized by the board may be filled.

Approved:

GACA-R Positions **GACA-R**

The superintendent shall prepare for board approval a comprehensive list of all positions of employment within the school system, together with the qualifications for the duties and responsibilities of each position. (See GACB)

Approved:

GACB **Job Descriptions** (See CD and GACA) **GACB**

The superintendent shall develop a job description for each category of employee. After board approval of any new or revised job descriptions, hey will be deemed in effect, shall be filed with the clerk, and may be published in handbooks.

Approved:9/19

KASB Recommendation - 2/98; 4/07; 6/19

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GACC Recruitment and Hiring **GACC**

Recruitment

The board delegates recruiting authority to the superintendent. In carrying out this responsibility, the superintendent may involve administrators and other employees.

Hiring

The board shall approve the hiring of all employees. No staff member's employment is official until the contract or other document is signed by the candidate and approved by the board.

Hiring sequence

- Conditional offer of employment is extended to the candidate in writing subject to revocation or, if provisional employment has already begun, termination of employment based upon unsatisfactory results of any reference and/or background checks performed;
- Written Acceptance by the candidate is received;
- Contract or other appropriate document sent to the candidate andc andidate's acceptance signified by a signed document returned to thes uperintendent; and
- Approval of the contract or other documents by the board.

Approved: 9/19

KASB Recommendation – 2/98; 6/00; 6/01; 4/07; 6/14; 6/19

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The superintendent shall make reasonable efforts to determine whether a candidate for employment is related to or residing with a board member or an administrator of the district. If a candidate is related to or residing with a board member or administrator, the superintendent will make this fact known to the board.

Except in an emergency or in the case the individual is deemed to be the most qualified candidate for the position by the board, the board will not employ anyone who is the father, mother, brother, sister, spouse, son, daughter, step-son, step-daughter, son-in-law, or daughter-in-law of any board member or who resides in the household of any board member.

This provision shall not apply to any person who has been regularlye mployed by the board prior to the adoption of this policy or to any person whoh as been regularly employed by the board prior to the election or appointment of a new board member to whom the person is related.

Supervision Limitations

No employee shall directly supervise or be responsible for any portion oft he evaluation of his or her father, mother, brother, sister, spouse, son, daughter, st ep-son, step-daughter, son-in-law, or daughter-in-law or an individual residing with the employee.

Approved:9/19

KASB Recommendation k- 2/98; 6/07; 4/13; 6/19

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GACD Employment Eligibility Verification (Form I-9)(See GAK)GACD

All district employees, at the time of employment, shall provide verification of identity and employment status to the superintendent.

The superintendent shall maintain a file on all of the district's employees hired after November 6, 1986, proving that each employee has verified their identity, employment status, U.S. citizenship, or legal alien status. For additional information see:

http://www.uscis.gov/files/nativedocuments/m-274.pdf

Approved: October 13, 2008

GACD **Employment Eligibility Verification** (Form I-9) **GACD**

All employees of the district, at the time of employment, shall provide verification of identity and employment status to the superintendent.

Approved:

GACD-R **Employment Eligibility Verification** (Form I-9) **GACD-R**

The superintendent shall maintain a file on all of the district's employees hired after November 6, 1986, proving that each employee has verified their identity, employment status, U.S. citizenship, or legal alien status. Evidence to be used to verify identity, employment status, U.S. citizenship, or legal alien status should include at least two of the following documents, one of which contains a current photo of the employee: birth certificate, social security card, or a current driver's license; or one of the following: U.S. passport, certificate of U.S. citizenship, certificate of naturalization, unexpired foreign passport, or resident alien card.

Approved:

GACE Assignment and Transfer **GACE**

The board reserves the right to assign, reassign, or transfer all employees, unless otherwise provided in the negotiated agreement.

The board may delegate its authority to assign, reassign, or transfer any or all employees to the superintendent.

Approved:9/19

KASB Recommendation - 2/98; 4/07; 6/19

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GAD **Employee Development Opportunities** **GAD**

-Except as may be specified in the negotiated agreement concerning staff members covered thereby, all plans for self-improvement involving expenditure of district funds or which require time away from the employee's assigned responsibilities shall be approved in advance by the Superintendent.

Approved:

KASB Recommendation - 2/98; 4/07; 10/18

GADA **In-Service Education** **GADA**

There shall be a program of in-service education for employees which meets minimum statutory requirements, and which promotes continuous professional development, diversification in academic foundations or subject knowledge, improved job effectiveness and enhanced skills. When appropriate, the superintendent shall consult with the staff affected by the inservice.

Approved:

GADA-R **In-Service Education** **GADA-R**

All appropriate employees shall attend in-service education sessions unless excused by the superintendent. Inservice programs may utilize all or a portion of the work day.

Approved:

Complaints **GAE**

Any employee may file a complaint with their supervisor concerning a school rule, regulation, policy or decision that affects the employee. The complaint shall be in writing, filed as soon as possible after the conduct occurs but not later than ten (10) days following the conduct, and shall specify the basis of the complaint. The supervisor shall meet with the employee and provide a written response within ten (10) days. If the employee disagrees with the decision, the employee may appeal to the superintendent. The superintendent's decision shall be final. Employees covered by the negotiated agreement shall follow procedures outlined in that document.

Approved:

KASB Recommendation - 2/98; 4/07; 6/19; 12/24

 Grievances

A. Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to provide for the orderly and expeditious adjustment of grievances of individual employees of the school district at the lowest level.

B. Definitions

1. "Grievance" shall mean any alleged violation of the terms and conditions of an employee's contract of employment.

2. "Grievant" means an employee of the district having a grievance.

3. Words denoting number shall include both singular and plural.

C. Procedures

The adjustment of grievance shall be accomplished as rapidly as possible. The number of days with which each step is prescribed to be accomplished shall be considered as maximum and every effort shall be made to expedite the process. Under unusual circumstances, the time limit prescribed in this statement may be extended or reduced by mutual consent of the grievant and the person or persons by whom the grievance is being considered.

D. Supplemental Conditions

1. All individuals involved, and all others who might possibly contribute to the acceptable adjustment of a grievance, are authorized and urged to testify with full assurance that no reprisal will follow by reason of such participation.

2. Upon the final determination of the grievance, the documents, communications and records relating to the grievance and the first adjustment thereof shall be kept and maintained.

3. At each step of the procedure for adjusting grievances after the initial private conference(s) with the immediate administrative superior, the grievant shall be entitled to be accompanied by others who might contribute to the acceptable adjustment of the grievance and/or to be represented by legal counsel.

4. All grievance hearings shall be confidential.

5. All discussions and hearings shall be conducted at times other than when school is in session.

6. Excluded from the grievance procedure shall be employee evaluations, termination, and other matters for which law mandates another method of review.

7. Only the employee affected may file a grievance or an appeal from Levels 1 and 2.

8. The filing of a grievance at all levels beyond the informal conference in Level 1 shall be in writing and shall be reasonably specific as to the nature of the complaint. The grievance should, to the extent possible, describe the alleged event or act giving rise to the grievance including the time, date and place of the event or act and the names and addresses of any witnesses thereto.

E. Level 1

A grievant shall first take up the grievance with the immediate supervisor in a private informal conference(s) within 5 school days after the occurrence of the event upon which a grievance is based or after the grievant becomes aware of such event. If the employee is dissatisfied with the outcome of the initial private conference(s), the employee may request a formal conference

with the immediate administrative supervisor. Efforts should be made to understand the facts and the issues in order to find a solution. The formal conference shall occur within 10 school days following the receipt of the request.

F. Level 2

If the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at Level 1 or that no decision is reached within 5 school days after a formal presentation, the employee may appeal the matter in writing to the superintendent.

If the grievant appeals the grievance to the superintendent, the superintendent shall confer with the grievant in an effort to arrive at a satisfactory solution within 5 school days after the appeal has been received.

If the grievant does not appeal the grievance to the superintendent within 5 school days after the formal conference at Level 1, the grievance shall automatically be waived.

G. Level 3

If the grievance is not adjusted to the satisfaction of the grievant or if no decision is made within 10 school days after the date the grievance was filed with the superintendent under Level 2, then the grievant may appeal the grievance to the board for final adjustment of the grievance. The appeal to the board shall be in writing to the clerk of the board within 10 school days after the superintendent has rendered a decision or after the expiration of 10 days.

If the grievant does not appeal the grievance to the board within 10 school days after the formal conference at Level 2, the grievance shall automatically be waived.

The board, upon receipt of the grievance, may assign a hearing officer to hear the grievance and make findings and recommendations to the board. The findings and recommendations shall be made to the board within 15 school days after the grievance has been assigned to the hearing officer. The board shall rule upon the grievance within 31 school days after receipt of the findings and recommendations of the hearing officer.

H. Rules for Conducting a Grievance Procedure Hearing at Level 3.

1. The hearing will be conducted in executive session.

2. Efforts will be made by all participants to eliminate repetitious testimony and/or materials; however, each participant will be given reasonable time to present testimony and/or materials.

3. The grievant will make opening remarks and present the case.

4. The administration will make its opening remarks and present its findings in the case.

5. Witnesses may be called individually by the grievant and administration to testify before the board. The board may call additional witnesses and may authorize witnesses being called as a group.

6. The grievant and the administration may ask questions of the witnesses during the time they are testifying.

7. Members of the board may ask questions of all participants during the hearing.

8. A summary statement may be made to the board by the grievant.

9. A summary statement may be made to the board by the administration.

10. Any new materials injected into any summary statement may be rebutted.

11. The board will take the matter of the grievance under advisement and render its decision in written form to the grievant within 31 days of the hearing.

12. The decision rendered by the board shall be the final disposition of any grievance.

Approved: June, 2013

 Complaints of Discrimination

Discrimination against any individual on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or religion in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in the district's programs and activities is prohibited. Mr. Stan Wilkins, Assistant Superintendent, P.O. Box 188, Altamont, KS 67330-0188, 316-784-5326, has been designated to coordinate compliance with nondiscrimination requirements contained in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Mr. Stan Wilkins, Assistant Superintendent, has been designated as the coordinator of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Complaints of discrimination should be addressed to an employee's supervisor or to the compliance coordinator. Complaints against the superintendent should be addressed to the board of education.

Complaints of discrimination will be resolved using the district's discrimination complaint procedure. (See KN)

Approved:

GAF Staff-Student Relations **GAF**

(See GAAC, GAACA JGEC, JGECA and KN)

Staff members shall maintain professional relationships with students which are conducive to an effective educational environment. Staff members shall not have any interaction of a romantic and/or sexual nature with any student at any time regardless of the student's age or consent.

Approved: July 12, 2021

KASB Recommendation – 2/98; 7/03; 4/07; 6/07; 6/16; 6/21

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GAG Conflict of Interest GAG

District employees are prohibited from engaging in any activity which may conflict with or detract from the effective performance of their duties. No employee will attempt, during the school day or on school property, to sell or endeavor to influence any student or school employee to buy any product, article, instrument, service, or other items which may directly or indirectly benefit the school employee. No school employee will enter into a contract for remuneration with the district other than a contract for employment unless the contract is awarded on the basis of competitive bidding.

Approved:
9/19

KASB Recommendation - 2/98; 4/07; 6/19

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GAGA **Nepotism**

An immediate family member of a current employee or board member may be considered for employment, if the applicant has all of the qualifications for the position. An applicant for employment shall not be interviewed by or recommended for hire by an employee who is a relative of the applicant. Applicants shall not be hired for, nor an employee assigned to, a position in which he or she will be supervised by an immediate family member – ie. a daughter teaching in a building where her mother is principal or vice principal. The term "immediate family" is defined as including the following categories: spouse or domestic partner, parent, child (son or daughter), sibling, grandparent, grandchild, or resident of the household. The term includes individuals related by marriage – in-laws and step relatives – and legal dependents.

If a change in circumstances, such as a marriage or other legal proceeding or a promotion, results in immediate family members having supervisory/subordinate relationship, the district will attempt to find a suitable position within the district where one of the affected employees may be transferred at the first available opportunity/opening within the district. If transfer is not feasible or is refused by the employee, then one employee must resign or the employment relationship terminated.

The superintendent shall make reasonable efforts to determine whether a candidate for employment in the district is related to a board member. If a candidate is related to a board member, the superintendent will make this fact known to the board.

Approved: March 7, 2022

GAH **Staff-Community Relations** **GAH**

Staff members are encouraged to reside within the boundaries of the district.

Participation in Community Activities

Staff members are encouraged to participate in community activities and organizations, if these activities do not infringe upon school time.

Approved:

GAH-R **Staff-Community Relations** **GAH-R**

Participation in Community Relations

Prior permission must be obtained from the superintendent for participation in any non-school community activity which takes place during school time.

Approved:

Holding Public Office

Staff members elected or appointed to a public office which restricts thee mployee's ability to complete contractual obligations may be required to take unpaid leave for a period of time determined by the board or may bet erminated.

Staff members holding a public office, which in the judgment of the board is less than full-time, shall request unpaid leave from the superintendent at least one week in advance.

An employee who must be absent from school to carry out the duties of a public office must take a leave of absence without pay for the duration of the public office.

Political Activity in the Schools

Staff members shall not use school time, school property, or schoole quipment for the purpose of furthering the interests of any political party, thec ampaign of any political candidate, or the advocacy of any political issue.

For the purposes of this policy, "advocacy of any political issue" shall not be deemed to include providing information on educational matters to elected officials.

Approved:9/19

KASB Recommendation – 2/98; 4/07; 6/15; 6/19

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Solicitations

GAI

Persons seeking to sell, solicit or display on school premises any item requiring the expenditure of district funds must first secure permission from the building principal or superintendent. Appointments with district staff during duty hours shall be held at a time approved by the appropriate supervisor. If a vendor violates this policy, the vendor may be suspended from making appointments with and soliciting school employees. Notices of the suspension shall be provided to district administrative personnel, the vendor's supervisor and the board.

Approved:

GAJ **Gifts** (See JL, KH) **GAJ**

Gifts by Staff Members

Staff members shall not give gifts to any student or class of students when the gifts arise out of a school situation, class or school-sponsored activity unless approved by the principal.

Gifts to Staff Members

Staff members are prohibited from receiving gifts from vendors, salesmen or other such representatives.

Approved:

GAJ-R **Gifts** (See JL, KH) **GAJ-R**

Gifts to Staff Members

If an employee of the district is found to have accepted a gift from any person as outlined in this policy, the employee may be subject to disciplinary action.

The superintendent shall be responsible for the administration of this policy.

Approved:

GAK **Personnel Records** (See CEI, CGI, GACD, GBI, and GCI) **GAK**

Personnel files required by the district shall be confidential and in the custody of the records custodian and/or the superintendent. Employees have the right to inspect their files upon proper notice under the supervision of an appropriate supervisor. All records and files maintained by the district should be screened periodically by the custodian of records.

All personnel files and evaluation documents, including those stored by electronic means, shall be adequately secured.

Requests for References

Unless otherwise provided by law, a request by a third party for release of any personnel record shall require the written consent of the employee, and shall be submitted to the records custodian who shall respond to the request as the law allows.

Upon receipt of a written request district officials may provide information regarding past and present employees to prospective employers in compliance with current law. Information that may be provided will include:

- employment date(s);
- job description and duties while in the district's employ;
- last salary or wage;
- wage history;
- whether the employee was voluntarily or involuntarily released from service and the reasons for the separation;
- written employee evaluations which were conducted prior to the employee's separation from the employer and to which an employee shall be given a copy upon request.

Immunity Provided

Unless otherwise provided by law, an employer who responds in writing to a written request concerning a current or former employee from a prospective employer of that employee shall be absolutely immune from civil liability for disclosure of the information noted earlier in this policy to which an employee may have access.

Prohibition on Aiding and Abetting Sexual Abuse

Pursuant to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, the board prohibits the board, individual board members, and any individual or entity who is a district employee, contractor, or agent from assisting a district employee, contractor, or agent in obtaining a new job if the board, individual, or entity knows, or has probable cause to believe, that such school employee, contractor, or agent engaged in sexual misconduct regarding a minor or student in violation of the law. For the purposes of this policy, it shall not be deemed assisting in obtaining a new job if the aforementioned individuals or entities participate in the routine transmission of administrative and personnel files in accordance with law and this policy,

Approved:

KASB Recommendation – 7/02; 4/07; 12/16; 7/17

GAL Salary Deductions (FLSA) **GAL**

The district shall comply with the salary basis requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). The board prohibits all managers from making any improper deductions from the salaries of exempt employees. Employees shall be made aware of this policy.

If an employee believes that an improper deduction has been made to his or her salary, the employee should immediately report this information to his or her direct supervisor, or to the superintendent.

Reports of improper deductions shall be promptly investigated. If it is determined that an improper deduction has occurred, the employee shall be promptly reimbursed for any improper deduction made.

Approved: July 11, 2005

GAM Personal Appearance **GAM**

The board encourages appropriate dress for all district employees.

Approved:

GAN **Travel Expenses (See BBBF and GBRC)** **GAN**

The board shall provide reimbursement for expenses incurred in travel related to the duties of the district's employees when approved in advance by the superintendent. Mode of travel will be based on, but not limited to, the availability of transportation, distance and number of persons traveling together. A first class air fare will be reimbursed only when coach space is not available.

Requests for reimbursement shall have the following attached: receipts for transportation, parking, hotels or motels, meals and other expenses for which receipts are ordinarily available. For the authorized use of a personal car, including approved travel between buildings, staff members shall be reimbursed at a mileage rate established by the board.

Approved: August 11, 2003

GANA Expense Reimbursement and Credit Cards (See CEF and GAN) **GANA**

Non-administrative staff use of a district credit card, if authorized by the staff member's immediate supervisor, shall be confined to necessary school business and shall be subject to any guidelines for such use established by the board or district administration. Unless otherwise specified in guidelines established pursuant to this policy, staff members shall retain any receipt(s) for district credit card expenditure(s) and shall provide them to the staff member's immediate supervisor as soon as practicable following the expenditure.

The superintendent may designate administrative and other staff members to whom a district credit card will be issued. The board shall annually prescribe limits and restrictions on the use of district credit cards and shall monitor monthly receipts and reimbursement expenses. In no case will credit card expenditures in excess of $5,000 in one month be authorized for any non-administrative staff member without the prior approval of the superintendent.

All rewards points or cash back payments earned using district credit cards are district property and shall be either applied to future district credit card purchases or remitted to the district treasurer for accounting and deposit.

Accountings of district credit card use shall be provided to the board for review on a monthly basis, and a record of district credit card usage shall be maintained. Expenses for district travel in personal vehicles or extended travel incurred in the performance of official duties shall be reimbursed in accordance with the provisions of GAN.

Approved: September 14, 2015

KASB Recommendation - 6/13; 6/15

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GAO **Staff Responsibilities for Discipline** **GAO**

Each employee is responsible for maintaining proper control and discipline in the school. An employee may use reasonable force necessary to ward off an attack, to protect another person, or to quell a disturbance which threatens physical injury to others.

Approved: KASB Recommendation–7/96

(See LDD)

Maintaining a drug-free workplace is important in establishing an appropriate learning environment for the students of the district. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, sale, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited at school, on or in school district property; and at school sponsored activities, programs, and events. Possession and/or use of a controlled substance by an employee for the purposes of this policy shall only be permitted if such substance was obtained directly, or pursuant to a valid prescription or order issued thereto, from a person licensed by the state to dispense, prescribe, or administer controlled substances and any use is in accordance with label directions.

Alternative I

As a condition of employment in the district, employees shall abide by the terms of this policy.

Employees shall not unlawfully manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, and/or use controlled substances in the workplace.

Any employee who is convicted under a criminal drug statute for a violation occurring at the workplace must notify the superintendent of the conviction within five days after the conviction. The superintendent shall then ensure that notice of such conviction is given to any granting agency within 10 days of receiving notice thereof.

Within 30 days after the notice of conviction is received, the school district will take appropriate action with the employee. Such action may include, suspension, placement on probationary status, or other disciplinary action including termination. Alternatively, or in addition to any action short of termination, the employee may be required to participate satisfactorily in an approved drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program as a condition of continued employment. The employee shall bear the cost of participation in such program. Each employee in the district shall be given a copy of this policy.

This policy is intended to implement the requirements of the federal regulations promulgated under the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988. It is not intended to supplant or otherwise diminish disciplinary actions which may be taken under board policies or the negotiated agreement.

Alternative II

As a condition of employment in the _____ program, which is wholly or partially funded with federal grant monies, employees in the program shall abide by the terms of this policy.

Employees in the _____ program shall not unlawfully manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, or use controlled substances in the workplace.

Any employee in the _____ program who is convicted under a criminal drug statute for a violation occurring at the workplace must notify the superintendent of the conviction within five days after the conviction.

The superintendent shall then ensure that notice of such conviction is given to any granting agency within 10 days of receiving notice thereof.

Within 30 days after the notice of conviction is received, the school district will take appropriate action with the employee. Such action may include the initiation of termination proceedings, suspension, placement on probationary status, or other disciplinary action. Alternatively, or in addition to any other action short of termination, the employee may be required to participate satisfactorily in an approved drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program as a condition of continued employment. The employee shall bear the cost of participation in such program.

Each employee in the _____ shall be given a copy of this policy.

This policy is intended to implement the requirements of the federal regulations promulgated under the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988. It is not intended to supplant or otherwise diminish disciplinary actions which may be taken under board policies or the negotiated agreement.

Approved:

KASB Recommendation - 9/97; 2/98; 4/07; 6/12; 12/13; 6/23

GAOB Drug Free Schools (See JDDA and LDD)

GAOB

The unlawful possession, use, sale or distribution of controlled substances and the possission, use, sale or distribution of alcohol by school employees at school, on or while utilizing school property, or at school sponsored activities or events is prohibited.

Employee Conduct

As a condition of continued employment in the district, all employees shall abide by the terms of this policy. Employees shall not manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess or use illicit drugs, controlled substances, or alcoholic beverages at school, on or while utilizing school property, or at school sponsored activities or events. Compliance with the terms of this policy is mandatory. Employees who are found violating the terms of this policy will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement officers. Additionally, an employee who violates the terms of this policy may be subject to any or all of the following sanctions:

1. Short term suspension with pay;
2. Short term suspension without pay;
3. Long term suspension without pay;
4. Required participation in a drug and alcohol education, treatment, counseling, or rehabilitation program.
5. Termination or nonrenewal of employment relationship.

Prior to applying sanctions under this policy, employees will be afforded due process rights to which they are entitled under their contracts, if any, or the provisions of Kansas law. Nothing in this policy is intended to

diminish the right of the district to take any other disciplinary action. This policy is not intended to change any right, duty or responsibilities in the current negotiated agreement.

If it is agreed that an employee shall enter into and complete a drug education or rehabilitation program, the cost of such program will be borne by the employee. A list of area drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation programs along with names and addresses of contact persons for the program is on file with the board clerk.

Employees are responsible for contacting the directors of the programs to determine the cost and length of the program, and for enrolling in the programs. If participation in such a program is required as a condition of continued employment, copies of any documentation related to enrollment in and attendance in such program shall be made available to the board and/or administration upon request.

A copy of this policy shall be provided to all employees.

Approved: October, 2008; June, 2013