



## Kalamazoo Covenant Academy

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Kalamazoo Covenant Academy

Fall 2021

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**Legend:**

LR = Legally Required (if applicable)

LC = Legal Content

BP = Best Practice

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<sup>1</sup> Many of the board operating policies are also required by the Charter Contract, and are generally contained in the bylaws in the Charter Contract. The bylaws enshrined the Charter Contract always take precedence over these board operating policies. Each contract should be reviewed to consider whether these policies are required by contract, even if not required by law.

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Adoption Date: **04.19**

Classification:

Revised Dates: **10/17/19; 12/19/19; 2/20/20; 8/20/20; 12.20**

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## GLOSSARY OF EDUCATIONAL TERMS AND ACRONYMS

The following terms and acronyms are used in the Academy policy and Administrative Guidelines and in communications with parents, students, and the public.

### ASSESSMENT

The comparison made between what should have been accomplished and what has been actually accomplished. Concerning student learning, assessments make comparisons between what has been learned and what should have been learned.

### ATTITUDE

One (1) of the five (5) major types of learning contained in courses of study, along with facts, concepts, principles, and skills. For example, students develop attitudes toward "doing quality work," "maintaining a clean environment," "participating in civic affairs," "not using drugs," etc.

### CONCEPT

One (1) of the five (5) major types of learning involved in a course of study, along with attitudes, facts, principles, and skills. Students form an abstract idea by understanding the characteristics that are generally true of it. For example, *triangle* is the name for the concept of any plane, closed, geometric figure that has three (3) sides that form three (3) internal angles.

### CONTENT

The name used to refer to all of the facts, concepts, principles, attitudes, and skills students are expected to learn in any course of study.

### COURSE OF STUDY

An organized sequence of learning activities designed for students to acquire a body of knowledge, attitudes, and skills associated with a particular academic or vocational field. Course of Study activities may be scheduled over a semester, a school year, or several school years. Examples are a K-6 math program, 11th grade American History, or High School Science.

### CRITERION (CRITERIA)

A feature or characteristic by which something or someone is measured or judged. For example, in judging a student's writing ability, some criteria that might be used are "organization," "originality of thought," "clarity of expression," "grammar," etc.

### CURRICULUM

All the planned activities - formal and informal, individual and group, in and outside of the classroom – necessary to accomplish the educational goals of the Academy. (See Policy 2210)

## DIAGNOSIS

A determination of the causes for a particular condition, usually based on an assessment or evaluation. Diagnosis deals with the question "What are the reasons for ....?" For example, a diagnosis might deal with the reasons students are or are not meeting expected learning goals.

## EDUCATIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER

A Provider that manages or operates an Academy or provides administrative, managerial or instructional staff to the Academy.

## EMPLOYEE

A direct employee of the Academy or of a third-party Educational Service Provider, as the case may be.

## EVALUATION

A value judgment made about an assessment. For example, if an assessment shows a student has satisfactorily achieved 90% of the objectives of a course, the evaluation (judgment) might be that the student's achievement is "excellent" or "better-than-average "or" superior."

## FACT

One (1) of the five (5) major types of learning involved in a course of study, along with attitudes, concepts, principles, and skills. Facts are verified, specific pieces of information about an event, procedure, place, person, or object.

## GOAL

An intention or expectation, stated or written, that requires several tasks to produce the desired result. Most goals involve the accomplishment of two or more related objectives.

## IDEA

The Federal law that defines how states and local school systems will provide education for disabled children. IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Act) usually referred to as special education or "special ed." Enforced by the Department of Education (DOE).

## IEP

The acronym for *Individualized Education Plan*. An IEP is required for every student who is classified as eligible for special education by Federal and State criteria.

## INSTRUCTION

The information, questions, and/or directions provided to students by teachers, books, computers, etc., so students may gain a particular skill, knowledge, attitude, or understanding.

## LEADERSHIP

A five-step process of working with people, using certain knowledge, skills, and attitudes, combined with risk-taking, 1.) to envision a desired or needed outcome; 2.) to communicate to



others so they participate willingly in the necessary tasks; 3.) to monitor progress toward the outcome; 4.) to reinforce and/or remediate actions; 5.) to evaluate the results.

## MANAGEMENT

The process of organizing and maintaining needed resources (people, things, time, and money) and ensuring they are utilized appropriately for their intended purpose.

## MEASUREMENT

A determination of the quantity and/or quality of something. In education, measurement is usually a determination (often by testing) of how much has been learned and/or how well it has been learned. Measurement is the necessary first step of an assessment and evaluation.

## MISSION

The stated purpose or intent of a school or school system. A mission statement provides reasons for the school's existence.

## MODEL

A program or project designed to demonstrate unique educational activities, structures, and/or organizations.

## NORMS

A set of achievement levels attained by a given number or percentage of students from representative populations or areas of a state or the nation.

## OBJECTIVE

An intended action or result in the process of achieving a goal. For students, learning objectives are usually the initial level of accomplishment toward the Academy's Educational Goals for Students. The next level is the achievement of Course of Study objectives, followed by the accomplishment of additional Courses of Study objectives, ultimately leading to the accomplishment of one (1) or more of the Academy's Educational Goals for Students.

## OUTCOME

The situation that exists when one (1) or more goals have been achieved. In instructional plans, outcomes are usually stated in terms of expected accomplishment, while goals are usually stated in terms of intended actions. Both emanate from the Mission Statement.

## PARENT

The natural or adoptive parents, or individuals with a valid power of attorney for the care and custody of the student for purposes other than educational placement. Parent also refers to any individual appointed by the State or court as a legal guardian or custodian for the student. Both parents will have equal access to records and rights regarding the student's education absent a court order restricting such rights.

## PILOT

A tryout or trial run of a new or innovative program or activity before making a major, long-term commitment.

## PLACEMENT

The assignment of a student to another group, grade, program, or course, for reasons other than educational achievement.

## PLAN

An intentional series of actions designed to accomplish an objective or goal. A plan usually lists the objective or goal first, then describes needed resources, appropriate actions and timelines, potential problems, and procedures for monitoring progress.

## PRINCIPLE

One (1) of the five (5) major learnings involved in a course of study, along with attitudes, concepts, facts, and skills. Principles define cause-effect relationships in the natural and social sciences, mathematics, and other subject areas.

## PROGRAM

A series of related, planned activities designed to accomplish one or more stated purposes.

## PROMOTION

The advancement of a student from one level of learning to a higher level of learning usually by assignment to a higher group, grade, program, or course.

## RELIABILITY

In education, the consistent measurement of the same learning among different students on test questions or a test as a whole.

## RETENTION

The decision to have a student remain at his/her current level for an additional semester or school year, because the student lacks knowledge or skills needed for further learning and/or exhibits emotional or social immaturity.

## SCHOOL LEADER

The educational leader and head administrator of one (1) or more schools or programs, as designated by the Educational Service Provider/Board of Directors. The School Leader is responsible for the supervision of the school or program consistent with Board policy and directives of the Educational Service Provider/Board of Directors and may delegate responsibility to subordinates as appropriate. In a Public School Academy, the School Leader is often, but not always, equivalent to the position Superintendent of a school district.

## SCOPE

A curriculum term that refers to both the length of a particular course of study and to the amount and types of learnings to be developed from beginning to end.

## SECTION 504

The section of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 that includes requirements for employment and education of disabled persons. Section 504 is enforced by the Office of Civil Rights (OCR).

## SEQUENCE

A curriculum term correlated to SCOPE. Sequence describes the order in which learnings will be developed throughout a course of study.

## SKILL

One (1) of the five (5) major types of learning involved in a course of study, along with attitudes, facts, concepts, and principles. A skill involves taking certain actions and producing a particular result at a given standard of quality. A skill is acquired through repeated practice, interspersed with clear, concise feedback on what to change and what to maintain in order to improve the result.

## STANDARDIZED TEST

A test containing questions and/or problems designed by educators outside of the district rather than by the students' teachers. A standardized test has State or national norms by which to judge the level of each student's achievement.

## STANINE

A term used in reporting standardized test results. Stanine refers to one (1) of nine (9) possible levels of performance on the test.

## TEST

Questions, problems, or activity directions, designed to determine what students have learned in the way of attitudes, facts, concepts, principles, and/or skills. A test may also be used to determine how much or how well students can apply what they have learned.

## UNDERSTANDING

A level of knowledge beyond memorization or rote that enables a student to explain what s/he has learned and/or to apply knowledge in new and unfamiliar situations.

## VALIDITY

In education, how well test items or a test as a whole actually measures what is intended to be measured or needs to be measured. (See RELIABILITY).

## ACRONYMS

The following acronyms are used in the Academy policy and Administrative Guidelines and in communications with parents, students, and the public.

### **A**

ACA – Affordable Care Act

ACH – Automatic Clearing House

ACT – American College Testing

ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

AED – Automatic External Defibrillator

AEP – Alternative Education Program

AFS – American Field Service, International/Intercultural Programs

AHERA - Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act

AIDS – Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

ARO - Academy Records Officer

Art. – Article (referring to the Michigan Constitution of 1963)

ASAP - Automated Standard Application for Payment

ATP - Academy Technology Plan

### **B**

### **C**

CD – Certificate of Deposit

CDL – Commercial Driver's License

CEPI – Center for Educational Performance and Information

CFDA - Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance

C.F.R – Code of Federal Regulations

CHRI – Criminal History Record Information

CIPA - Children's Internet Protection Act

COs – Compliance Officers

COOP - Continuity of Organizational Operations Plan

COPPA - Children's Online Privacy Protection Act

COR – Custodian of Records

CPA – Certified Public Accountant

CPR – Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

CTE – Career and Technical Education

## **D**

DHS – Department of Human Services (formerly FIA and DSS)

DOE –Department of Education (Federal)

## **E**

ECD – Electronic Communication Device

EDP – Education Development Plan

EFTs - Electronic Funds Transfers

EEOC – Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

EIP – Emergency Intervention Plan

EL – English Learners

EMS – Emergency Medical Services

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

ESEA – Elementary and Secondary Education Act

ESI – Emergency Safety Intervention

ESI - Electronically Stored Information

ESP – Educational Service Provider

ESSA – Every Student Succeeds Act (previously NCLB)

ETO – Electronic Transfer Officer

## **F**

FAIN - Federal Award Identification Number

FAPE – Free and Appropriate Public Education

FBA – Functional Behavioral Assessment

FERPA – Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act

FICA – Federal Insurance Contributions Act

FLSA - Fair Labor Standards Act

FMLA – Family and Medical Leave Act

FOIA – Freedom of Information Act

FR – Federal Register

FSA – Flexible Spending Accounts (Health Care)

FTE – Full Time Equivalent (Student Attendance)

FVPSA – Family Violence Prevention and Services Act

## **G**

GAA – General Appropriations Act

GAAB – Generally Accepted Accounting Bulletin

GAAP – Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

GAN - Grant Award Notification

GASB - Governmental Accounting Standards Board

GED – General Education Diploma

GINA – Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

GPA – Grade Point Average

## **H**

HACCP – Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point

HAV – Hepatitis A

HBV – Hepatitis B

HCV – Hepatitis C

HHS – United States Department of Health and Human Services

HIPAA – Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996

HITECH – Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act

HIV – Human Immunodeficiency Virus

HMO – Health Maintenance Organization

HTML – Hyper Text Mark Up Language

HVAC – Heating Ventilating Air Conditioning

## **I**

ICHAT – Internet Criminal History Access Tool

IDEA – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

IEP – Individualized Education Plan

IEPC – Individual Educational Planning Committee

IEPT – Individualized Education Planning Team

IEQ – Indoor Environmental Quality

IHO – Impartial Hearing Officer

IIS – Indentix Identification Services

IPM – Integrated Pest Management

IRS – Internal Revenue Service

ISD – Intermediate School District

## **J**

## **K**

## **L**

LASO - Local Agency Security Officer

LEA – Local Education Agency

LEIN – Law Enforcement Information Network

LEP – Limited English Proficient

LRE – Least Restrictive Environment

## **M**

M.C.L – Michigan Compiled Laws

MDCH – Michigan Department of Community Health

MDCIS – Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services

MDE – Michigan Department of Education

MDHHS – Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

MEIS – Michigan Educational Information System

MHSAA – Michigan High School Athletic Association

MIOSHA – Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration

MMC – Michigan Merit Curriculum

MME – Michigan Merit Examination

MOSHA – Michigan Occupational Safety Health Act

MPG – Michigan Promise Grant

MPSERS – Michigan Public School Employment Retirement System

MRO – Medical Review Officer

MSDS – Material Safety Data Sheets

MSP – Michigan State Police

MSTEP – Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress

## **N**

NAEP – National Assessment of Educational Progress

NASD - National Association of Securities Dealers

NASSP – National Association of Secondary School Principals

NSF - National Science Foundation

NSLP - National School Lunch Program

NCLB – No Child Left Behind (Federal legislation of 2001)

## **O**

OCR – Office of Civil Rights (U.S. Department of Education)

OCTP – Office of Career and Technical Preparation

OHD - Occupational Health Division

OSHA – Office of Safety and Health Administration



OTC – Over the Counter

OTIS - Offender Tracking Information System

**P**

PAN - Payee Account Number

PBIS - Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

PBS – Positive Behavior Support

PBSP – Positive Behavior Support Plan

PCD – Personal Communication Device

PII – Personally Identifiable Information

PMS - Payment Management System

PPE – Personal Protection Equipment

PSA – Public School Academy

PTA – Parent Teacher Association (Usually affiliated with the National Organization)

PTO – Parent Teacher Organization (Usually do not pay dues to a National Organization)

**Q**

**R**

RFP – Request for Proposal

RHO – Records Hearing Officer

**S**

SAP – Substance Abuse Professional

SAT – Scholastic Aptitude Test

SBP – School Breakfast Program

SEA – State Education Agency

SEAB – Sex Education Advisory Board

SEVP – Student Exchange Visitor Program

SOPPA Student Online Personal Protection Act

SOR - Sex Offenders Registry

SRO – School Resource Officer

STD – Sexually Transmitted Disease

## **I**

TAF – Trust and Agency Fund

TDP – Deferred Payment (TDP) Plan (MPERS)

THP – Toxic Hazard Preparedness

## **U**

USAS – Uniform School Accounting System

U.S.C – United States Code

USDA – United States Department of Agriculture

USERRA – Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994

USIA – United States Information Agency

## **V**

VAWA – Violence Against Women Act

## **W**

WCAG - Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

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Adoption Date: **04.19**

Classification:

Revised Dates: ; **02.22**

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## **DEFINITIONS**

Whenever the following items are used in these bylaws and policies, they shall have the meaning set forth below:

### **Academy**

The Public School Academy

### **Administrative Guideline**

A policy-based statement, usually written, outlining and/or describing the means by which a policy should be implemented and providing for the management cycle of plan, act, and assess or evaluate.

### **Apps and Services**

Apps and services are software (i.e., computer programs) that support the interaction of personal communication devices (as defined in Bylaw 0100) over a network, or client- server applications in which the user interface runs in a web browser. Apps and services are used to communicate/transfer information/data that allow students to perform actions/tasks that assist them in attaining educational achievement goals/objectives, enable staff to monitor and assess their students' progress, and allow staff to perform other tasks related to their employment. Apps and services also are used to facilitate communication to, from and among and between, staff, students, and parents, Board members and/or other stakeholders and members of the community.

### **Authorizer or Authorizing Body**

The governing boards of four different types of public educational entities (school boards, intermediate school boards, community college boards, governing boards of state public universities), empowered to issue contracts for the creation of public school academies, subject to certain limitations. The Revised School Code designates the authorizer or authorizing body.

### **Board**

The Board of Directors. (See Charter Contract Bylaws). Depending on context to the extent lawfully delegated, "Board" may refer to the Designee thereof.

### **Board Operating Policy**

Rule of the Board for its own governance. (See Charter Contract Bylaws)

### **Charter Contract**

The executive act taken by an authorizing body, authorizing a public school academy. Subject to the constitutional powers of the state board and applicable law, the charter contract is the written instrument executed by an authorizing body, conferring certain rights, franchises, privileges, and obligations on a public school academy.

### **Due Process**

An established, rule-based procedure for hearing evidence, based on prior knowledge (a posted discipline code), notice of offense (accusation), and the opportunity to respond. Due process may require

consideration of statutorily mandated factors, the right to counsel and/or confrontation or cross examination of witnesses, depending upon the situation.

**Educational Service Provider (Educational Management Organization or Charter Management Organization)**

An entity that enters in to a management agreement with a Public School Academy.

**Educational Service Provider Employee**

All employees of the Educational Management Organization, both certificated and non- certificated, working in the school who provide service to the Academy's program or administration.

**Family Member**

"Family member" means a person's spouse or spouse's sibling or child; a person's sibling or sibling's spouse or child; a person's child or child's spouse; or a person's parent or parent's spouse, and includes these relationships as created by adoption or marriage. (See Bylaw 0144.3)

**Full Board**

Authorized number of voting members entitled to govern the Academy, as established by the authorizer.

**Information Resources**

The Board defines Information Resources to include any data/information in electronic, audio-visual or physical form, or any hardware or software that makes possible the storage and use of data/information. This definition includes but is not limited to electronic mail, voice mail, social media, text messages, databases, CD-ROMs/DVDs, web sites, motion picture film, recorded magnetic media, photographs, digitized information, or microfilm. This also includes any equipment, computer facilities, or online services used in accessing, storing, transmitting or retrieving electronic communications.

**Management Agreement**

An agreement to provide educational, administrative, management, instructional services or staff to a Public School Academy.

**May**

The word used when an action by the Board, or its designee, is permitted, but not required.

**Meeting**

Any gathering attended by, or open to, all of the members of the Academy's Board of Directors. A meeting is held with the intent on the part of the members of the body present to discuss or act as a unit upon the specific public business of that body.

**Parent**

The natural, adoptive, or surrogate parent(s) or the party designated by the courts as the legal guardian or custodian of a student. Both parents will be considered to have equal rights, unless a court of law decrees otherwise and a copy of such order is on file with the Academy.

**Personal Communication Devices**

Personal communication devices ("PCDs") include computers, laptops, tablets, e-readers, cellular/mobile phones, smartphones, and/or other web-enabled devices of any type.

**Policy**

A general statement written by the governing Board that defines its expectations or position on a particular matter. A policy also authorizes appropriate action that must or may be taken to establish and/or maintain the Board's expectations.

**President**

The official leader of the Board. In addition to the responsibilities listed in "Duties of President," contained in the Charter Contract Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation, the President has the authority to sign, execute, and acknowledge, on behalf of the Board, all deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, leases, reports, and all other Board-approved documents.

**Relative**

The mother, father, sister, brother, spouse, parent of spouse, child, grandparents, grandchild, or dependent in the immediate household, as defined in the policy covering this subject.

**School**

The Academy or individual building of the Academy.

**School Leader**

The administrator employed by the Educational Service Provider (or Board) who is responsible for the daily operations of the Academy and the implementation of the policies of the Board. The School Leader can delegate appropriate duties assigned by the Educational Service Provider (or Board). The School Leader must hold an appropriate school administrator certificate or permit.

**Secretary**

The chief clerk of the Board of Directors. (See Charter Contract Bylaws.)

**Shall**

This word is used when an action by the Board or its designee is required. (The words *will* and *must* also signifies a required action.)

**Social Media**

Social media are online platforms where users engage one another and/or share information and ideas through text, video, or pictures. Social media consists of any form of online publication or presence that allows interactive communication, including, but not limited to, text messaging, instant messaging, websites, web logs ("blogs"), wikis, online forums (e.g., chat rooms), virtual worlds, and social networks. Examples of social media include, but are not limited to, Facebook, Facebook Messenger, Google Hangouts, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Flickr, Instagram, Pinterest, Skype, and Facetime. Social media does not include sending or receiving e mail through the use of Academy-issued e-mail accounts. Apps and web services shall not be considered social media unless they are listed on the Academy's website as Academy-approved social media platforms/sites.

**Student**

A person who is officially enrolled in the Academy.

**Support Employee**

An employee who provides support to the Academy's program, professional staff, and Administration, whose position does not require professional certification.

## **Technology Resources**

The Board defines Technology Resources to include computers, laptops, tablets, e-readers, cellular/mobile telephones, smartphones, web-enabled devices, video and/or audio recording equipment, projectors, software and operating systems that work on any device, copy machines, printers and scanners, information storage devices (including mobile/portable storage devices such as external hard drives, CDs/DVDs, USB thumb drives and memory chips), the computer network, Internet connection, and online educational services and apps.

## **Treasurer**

The chief financial officer of the Academy. (See Charter Contract Bylaws)

## **Vice-President**

The Vice-President of the Board of Directors. (See Charter Contract Bylaws)

## **Voting**

The act of taking a vote at a meeting of the Board of Directors. Except to accommodate the absence of any member of the Board due to military duty or for any other purpose permitted by law, Board members must be physically present to have their vote officially recorded in the Board minutes.

Citations to Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) are shown as MCL followed by the Section Number (e.g., MCL 380.1438). Citations to the Michigan Administrative Code are prefaced AC Rule (e.g., AC Rule R380.221). Citations to the Federal Register are noted as FR, to the Code of Federal Regulations as CFR, and to the United States Code as USC.



## MEMBERSHIP

### 0144 Operations

#### 0144.11 Reimbursement of Expenses

Reference: MCL 380.1254; MCL 388.1764b

If permitted by its Bylaws, the Board shall pay or cause to be paid the actual and necessary expenses of its members in the discharge of official duties or in the performance of functions authorized by the Board. The expenditure shall be a public record and shall be made available to a person upon request.

The Board shall approve payment of an expense incurred by a Board member only if either (1) the Board, by a majority vote of its members at an open meeting, approved reimbursement of the specific expense before the expense was incurred, or (2) the expense is consistent with the following policy, and the Board approves the reimbursement before it is actually paid. The following categories of expenses shall be reimbursable:

- Mileage for Board-related activities and meetings, not to exceed the then-current rate established by the Internal Revenue Service;
- Expenses of attending a Board-approved conference, including fees, parking, mileage, meals and housing;
- Expenses related to purchase of printed or other materials relating to Board membership; and
- Expenses of attending a community or Academy-related event, if the individual attends as the designated representative of the Board.

The following categories of expenses shall not be reimbursable:

- Expenses of attending a community or Academy-related event, if the individual attends as a private citizen;
- Entertainment expenses; and
- The purchase of alcoholic beverages.

A voucher detailing the amount and nature of each expense must be submitted to the Academy Board for approval at a Board meeting prior to reimbursement.

Adopted 4/18/19

## MEETINGS

### 0161 **Parliamentary Authority**

The parliamentary authority governing the Board of Directors shall be Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

### 0162 **Quorum**

A quorum shall be a majority of the maximum number of Directors designated to the Academy Board by the Academy's bylaws, and no business shall be conducted in the absence of a quorum.

### 0163 **Presiding Officer**

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board. In the absence, disability, or disqualification of the President, the Vice-President shall act instead; if neither person is available, any member shall be designated by a plurality of those present to preside. The act of any person so designated shall be legal and binding.

### 0164 **Call**

#### 0164.1 **Regular Meetings**

The Board shall hold a meeting periodically on dates and at times and places determined annually by a resolution of the Board.

#### 0164.2 **Special Meetings**

Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or by any two (2) members of the Board provided there is compliance with the notice provision of the Academy Bylaws.

#### 0164.3 **Emergency Meetings**

In the event of a severe and imminent threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the Academy, its personnel, or students, any member of the Board may call an emergency session provided the majority of the Board concur that delay would be detrimental to efforts to lessen or respond to the threat. Actual notice of any emergency meeting shall be attempted, but not required to other Board members.

### 0165 **Notice**

#### 0165.1 **Posting Notice of Regular Meetings**

Within ten (10) days after the organizational Board meeting, the Board shall cause to be posted at the Board office and in other locations considered appropriate by the Board, a notice listing the date, time, and place of each regularly scheduled meeting of the Board. The notice shall contain the name and address of the Academy and its telephone number.

The notice shall also contain the following statement:

"Upon request to the \_\_\_\_\_, the Academy shall make reasonable accommodation for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in this meeting."

Upon the written request of an individual, organization, firm, or corporation, and upon the requesting party's payment of a yearly fee of not more than the estimated reasonable cost for printing and postage of each notice as shall be determined annually by the Board, the Academy shall send to the requesting party by first-class mail a copy of any notice required to be posted by these bylaws. The news media shall be entitled to receive, at their request, copies of such notices free of charge.

#### **0165.2 Change of Regular Meetings**

Within three (3) days after the Board adopts a resolution changing the date, time, or place of a regularly scheduled meeting, the meeting notice shall state the date, time, and place of the rescheduled meeting, as well as the name, address, and telephone number of the Academy. Said notice shall be posted on the front door of the Academy and such other place(s) as the Board may determine. Said notice shall be posted at least eighteen (18) hours before the rescheduled meeting.

M.C.L.A. 15.264, 15.266

#### **0165.3 Posting Notice of Special Meetings**

Said notice shall state the date, time, and place of such special meeting and the business to be transacted thereat, as well as the name, address, and telephone number of the Academy. A notice of any special meeting shall be posted at least eighteen (18) hours before said special meeting at the Academy office and such other places as the Board may determine. A copy of said notice shall be served upon each member of the Board.

#### **0165.4 Posting Notice of Emergency Meetings**

No notice of any emergency meeting shall be required.

#### **0165.5 Recess**

Any meeting of the Board may be recessed to another time and place. Any meeting which is recessed for more than thirty-six (36) hours shall be reconvened only after a notice stating the date, time, and place of the recessed meeting as well as the name, address, and telephone number of the Academy has been posted on the front door of the Academy and such other place as the Board may determine for at least eighteen (18) hours prior to the time the meeting is to be reconvened.

M.C.L.A. 15.265, 380.1201(3)(4)

#### **0165.6 Cancellation**

Any meeting of the Board may be cancelled for appropriate purposes, which shall include, but not be limited to, inclement weather, lack of a quorum, or conflict with a special event relating to the Academy. If the cancelled meeting is a regular meeting it must be re-scheduled following all notice requirements set forth above.

M.C.L. 15.265, 380.1201(3)(4)

#### **0166 Agenda**

The Board President and/or Educational Service Provider shall prepare and submit to each Board member a written agenda prior to each regular meeting and each special meeting, unless otherwise directed by the Board. The agenda shall list the various matters to come before the Board and shall serve as a guide for the order of procedure for the meeting. Individual Board members may include items on the agenda upon the concurrence of the Board President.

The agenda of the regular monthly meeting or special meetings shall be accompanied by a report from the Educational Service Provider on information relating to the Academy with such recommendations as s/he shall make.

Each agenda shall contain the following statement:

"This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Directors in public for the purpose of conducting the Academy's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in agenda item \_\_\_\_."

Any person or group wishing to place an item on the agenda shall register their intent with the Educational Service Provider no later than five (5) days prior to the meeting and include:

- A. name and address of the participant;
- B. group affiliation, if and when appropriate;
- C. topic to be addressed.

Such requests shall be subject to the final approval of the Educational Service Provider or the Board President.

Denial of the opportunity to have an item placed on the agenda will not preclude an individual or group from the opportunity to speak during the public participation portion of the meeting.

The agenda for each regular meeting shall be delivered to each Board member so as to provide proper time for the member to study the agenda. The agenda for a special meeting shall be delivered at least eighteen (18) hours before the meeting, consistent with provisions calling for special meetings.

The Board shall transact business according to the agenda submitted to all Board members in advance of the meeting. The order of business may be altered and items added to the agenda at any meeting by a majority vote of the members present.

#### **0166.1 Consent Agenda**

The Board of Directors may use a consent agenda to keep routine matters within a reasonable time frame.

The following routine business items may be included in a single resolution for consideration by the Board.

- A. Minutes of prior meetings
- B. bills for payment
- C. hiring of personnel, if applicable
- D. resolutions that require annual adoption, such as bank signatories, Michigan High School Athletic Association membership, etc.
- E. resignations and leaves
- F. organizational matters

A member of the Board may request any item to be removed from the consent resolution and defer it for a specific action and more discussion. No vote of the Board

will be required to remove an item from the consent agenda. A single member's request shall cause it to be relocated as an action item eligible for discussion. Any item on the consent agenda may be removed and discussed as a nonaction item or be deferred for further study and discussion at a subsequent Board meeting if the Educational Service Provider or any Board member thinks the item requires further discussion.

## **0167 Conduct**

### **0167.1 Voting**

All regular and those special meetings of the Board at which the Board is authorized to perform business shall be conducted in public. No act shall be valid unless approved at a meeting of the Board by a majority vote of the members elected or appointed to and serving on the Board who are authorized to vote (see Voting as defined in Bylaw 0100) and a proper record made of the vote. Meetings of the Board shall be public and no person shall be excluded therefrom. M.C.L.A. 380.1201

Unless specifically authorized by Michigan conflict of interest laws, any Board member's decision to abstain shall be recorded and be deemed to acquiesce in the action taken by the majority. Failure to vote, absent a statutory exception or other reasonable ethical basis, constitutes a breach of the Board member's duty as a public official. In situations in which a specified number of affirmative votes are required and abstentions have been noted, the motion shall fail if the specified number of affirmative votes have not been cast. In situations in which there is a tie vote and the abstention represents the deciding vote, the motion shall fail for lack of a majority. 184 Mich App 681, 684 (1990)

All actions requiring a vote may be conducted by voice, show of hands, or roll call provided that the vote of each member be recorded. Proxy voting shall not be permitted. If a vote is not conducted by roll call, any member may request a roll call vote.

### **0167.2 Closed Session**

The Board may by means of a roll call vote meet in a closed session, one closed to the public, for the following purposes:

- A. to consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, or to consider a periodic evaluation of a public officer, the Educational Service Provider, staff member, or individual agent, if the named person requests a closed hearing (a majority vote is required)
- B. to consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of a student only if the student or student's parents request a closed hearing (a majority vote is required) (Also see Bylaw 0169, Student Disciplinary Hearings)
- C. to consider the purchase or lease of real property up to the time an option to purchase or lease that real property is obtained (a two-thirds (2/3's) vote is required)
- D. to consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation (a two-thirds (2/3's) vote is required)
- E. to consider materials exempt from discussion or disclosure under State or Federal statute, including by way of example only, written opinions of legal counsel, and school safety plans (a two-thirds (2/3's) vote is required)
- F. to consider security planning to address existing threats or prevent potential threats to the safety of the students or staff. (a majority vote is required)

### **0167.3 Public Participation at Board Meetings**

In keeping with the confidential nature of closed sessions, no member of the Board shall disclose the content of discussions that take place during such sessions except as specifically permitted by law.

No Board member may record nor communicate by any means, electronic or otherwise, with party or parties outside such meetings regarding the substance of such meetings either during or after the course of such meetings.

MCL 15.267, 15.268

The Board of Directors recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on Academy matters.

To permit fair and orderly public expression, the Board shall provide a period for public participation at public meetings of the Board and publish rules to govern such participation in Board meetings and in Board committee meetings. The rules shall be administered and enforced by the presiding officer of the meeting.

The presiding officer shall be guided by the following rules:

- A. Public participation shall be permitted as indicated on the order of business.
- B. Anyone with concerns related to the operation of the school or to matters within the authority of the Board may participate during the designated public participation portion(s) of a meeting.
- C. Participants must **first** be recognized by the presiding officer.
- D. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes duration.
- E. During the portion of the meeting designated for public participation, no participant may speak more than once on the same topic.
- F. Participants shall direct all comments to the Board and not to staff or other participants.
- G. The presiding officer may:
  - 1. interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's session when they make comments that are repetitive, obscene, and/or comments that constitute a true threat (i.e., statements meant to frighten or intimidate one (1) or more specified persons into believing that they will be seriously harmed by the speaker or someone acting at the speaker's behest);
  - 2. request any individual to stop speaking and/or leave the meeting when that person behaves in a manner that is disruptive of the orderly conduct and/or orderly progress of the meeting;
  - 3. request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
  - 4. call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the conduct and/or orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action.

The Board may permit individuals to attend meetings remotely through live broadcast; however, public participation will be limited to those who are in attendance at the meeting site only. The Board is not responsible for any technology failures that prevent or disrupt any individual from attending remotely.

#### **0167.4 Administrative Participation**

The Educational Service Provider and those administrators directed by the Educational Service Provider shall attend all meetings, when feasible. Administrative participation shall be by professional counsel, guidance, and recommendation - as distinct from deliberation, debate, and voting of Board members.

#### **0167.5 Use of Electronic Mail**

Since E-mail is a form of communication that could conflict with the Open-Meetings Law, it will be used to conduct business of the Board only for the purposes of communicating:

- A. messages between Board members or between a Board member and Educational Service Provider which do not involve deliberating or rendering a decision on matters pending before the Board;
- B. possible agenda items between the Educational Service Provider/School Leader and the Board President;
- C. times, dates, and places of regular or special Board meetings;
- D. a Board meeting agenda or public record information concerning items on the agenda;
- E. requests for public record information from a member of the administration, school staff, or community pertaining to school operations;
- F. responses to questions posed by members of the public, administrators, or academy staff.

Under no circumstances shall Board members use E-mail to discuss among themselves Board business that is only to be discussed in an open meeting of the Board, is part of an executive session, or could be considered an invasion of privacy if the message were to be monitored by another party.

There should be no expectation of privacy for any messages sent by E-mail. Messages that have been deleted may still be accessible on the hard drive, if the space has not been occupied by other messages. Messages, deleted or otherwise, may be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, unless an exemption would apply.

#### **0167.6 Use of Social Media**

Social Media, as defined in Bylaw 0100, shall not be used to conduct any form of Board business.

### **0168 Minutes**

#### **0168.1 Open Meeting**

The Secretary, or a temporary secretary appointed by the presiding officer, shall designate a person to keep minutes of each meeting showing the date, time, place, members present, members absent, any decisions made at a meeting open to the public, and the purpose or purposes for which a closed session is called. These minutes must be approved by the Board and endorsed by the Secretary at the next meeting. The minutes shall include all roll-call

votes taken at the meeting. Proposed minutes shall be available for public inspection not later than eight (8) business days after the meeting to which the minutes refer. Approved minutes shall be available for public inspection not later than five (5) business days after the meeting at which the minutes are approved. The minutes shall be available for inspection at the School Leader's office and shall be available for purchase at a fee estimated by the business office to cover the cost of printing and copying.

The Board Secretary shall not include in or with its minutes any personally identifiable information on any student of the Academy which if released, would prevent the public body from complying with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.

The official minutes shall be bound together by years and kept in the office of the Board of Directors, or kept by reasonably-appropriate electronic means.

Minutes of the preceding meetings shall be approved by the Board as its first order of business at its next meeting.

MCL 15.269, 380.1201

#### **0168.2 Closed Meeting**

The Board shall designate a person to keep separate minutes of each closed meeting of the Board. These minutes shall be retained by the Secretary of the Board, but shall not be available to the public. These minutes may be destroyed one (1) year and one (1) day after approval of the minutes of the regular meeting at which the closed session was approved.

MCL 15.267, 15.269, 15.270-71, 15.273

#### **0168.3 Committee Meetings**

Any Board committee, whether standing or appointed ad hoc, which exercises governmental or proprietary authority must comply with the Open Meetings provisions in 0168.1 and 0168.2, and Public Participation provisions in 0167.3. Committees that are empowered to take action, make recommendations or otherwise deliberate in place of the Board are subject to this requirement.

### **0169 Student Disciplinary Hearings**

#### **0169.1 Closed Session Requested**

If a parent or student requests a closed hearing, a vote must be taken. The purpose of the closed session should be announced: "To consider a student disciplinary matter, pursuant to the request of the parent/guardian" (NOTE: Do not use the name since that could identify the student). A majority vote is required to go into a closed session for this purpose.

Those invited into closed session should include the student, parent(s) and/or representative(s) and school administrator(s) bringing charges. Others may be admitted at Board discretion, if needed for the proceeding or at the request of student/parents.

Witnesses should be admitted when needed to testify. They should be asked to leave the closed session after testifying. Witnesses may be required to affirm that they will tell the truth.

The Administration should present a summary of the requested discipline and an overview of the incident(s) supporting discipline. The Administration may call and question witnesses as it determines appropriate. An administrator may testify as a witness to the results of his/her investigation of the incident and the student's past record.

The student, parent, or representative (only one (1)) should be allowed to ask the witness(es) questions related to issues reasonably related to the discipline. Additional questioning by the



Administration, the student/representative and/or the Board may be allowed at the Board's discretion.

The student, parent, or representative may then present witnesses or statements to the Board. The Administration and/or the Board may ask questions of these individuals. The Board may allow additional questioning at its discretion.

When the presentation of evidence is concluded, the Board will deliberate. It may exclude both the Administration and the student and representatives, or allow both sides to remain. If the Board desires clarification of any testimony during its deliberation, it shall assure that both the Administration and the student and representatives are present to hear the information.

The Board shall not take any action in the closed session. To act on the discipline the Board must return to open session. This requires a majority vote.

During the open session the name of the student shall not be used in voting on the discipline, to protect student privacy under the Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. The student may be referred to by a Code Number or Pseudonym (i.e. Student A). Only the reference code shall be indicated in the Board minutes, NOT the student's actual name. The reference code shall be listed in the student's discipline file.

If, at any time during the hearing, the student, parent or authorized representative withdraws the request for a closed hearing, the matter shall proceed under the open hearing provisions.

#### **0169.2 Open Hearing**

If the student, parent or authorized representative does not request a closed hearing, the Board must still assure that the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act is not violated.

The parents (or student if eighteen (18) or older) should sign an authorization to release student record information to allow discussion of the student's information in the public forum (Form 8330 F4). If the parents refuse to sign the authorization or information relating to other students must be presented at the hearing, it should be done anonymously by referring to students by Code Numbers or Pseudonyms. If this is not possible, then the Board may go into closed session to receive student identifiable information pursuant to a two-thirds (2/3's) roll call vote for the announced purpose of "Considering material exempt from discussion or disclosure by State or Federal law."

In all other respects the hearing shall proceed as outlined under the Closed Hearing.

The Board must deliberate and act on the discipline in open session. The student, parents, administration and public will be allowed to be present. Students/parents who have not authorized disclosure to the public will not be mentioned by name during deliberations, but only by anonymous reference code. Any action must be by a vote of the Board in open session. If the student/parents have signed an authorization for public disclosure, then the student's name may be used in the motion and recorded in the Board minutes.

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Adoption Date: **12.18**

Classification:

Revised Dates: ; **02.22**

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## DUTIES

### 0171 **Officers**

#### 0171.1 **President**

See duties of President contained in the Charter Contract Bylaws. In addition, the President shall have the authority to sign, execute and acknowledge, on behalf of the Board, all deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, leases, reports, and all other Board-approved documents.

#### 0171.2 **Vice-President**

(See duties set forth in the Charter Contract Bylaws.)

#### 0171.3 **Secretary**

(See duties set forth in the Charter Contract Bylaws.)

#### 0171.4 **Treasurer**

(See duties set forth in the Charter Contract Bylaws.)

### 0172 **Legal Counsel**

The Board of Directors shall employ an independent attorney to represent the Academy and Board in actions brought for or against the Academy and render other legal services for the welfare of the Academy.

### 0173 **Independent Auditor**

The Board shall obtain annually a letter of engagement from the selected audit firm, prior to the Annual Financial Audit. The independent auditor shall perform the following:

- A. examine the balance sheet of the Academy, at the close of its fiscal year, and the related statements of transactions in the various funds, for the fiscal year just ended;
- B. conduct the examination, in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and include such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as are necessary under the circumstances;
- C. render an opinion of the financial statements prepared at the close of the fiscal year;
- D. make recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning its accounting records, procedures, and related activities, as may appear necessary or desirable;
- E. perform other related services, as requested by the Board.

**0175 Association Memberships**

The Board of Directors may maintain professional association memberships and may take part in the activities of these groups.

The Academy may maintain institutional memberships in educational organizations that the Board and Educational Service Provider/School Leader find to be of benefit to members and school personnel. The materials and other benefits of these memberships will be distributed and used to the best advantage of the Board and staff.

**0175.1 Board Conferences, Conventions, and Workshops**

The Board of Directors recognizes the value of membership and attendance at conferences and meetings at the local, county, state, and national levels. Attendance at local, county, state and national workshops and conferences is encouraged.

Each Board member is expected to report back to the Board after attending a conference at Academy expense.

Travel and personal expenses of spouse, children, or other guest traveling with a Board member shall be the responsibility of the Board member or of the individual. Expenses for convention functions attended as a group will be borne by the Academy, within budgetary limits.

If approved, the following are reimbursable upon submission of receipts and documentation:

- A. Conference registration fees
- B. Transportation – plane (coach, or economy class), train (coach or economy class) or automobile, including buses, taxis and limousines.
- C. Mileage at the Board approved rate
- D. Toll charges and parking
- E. Lodging (in most instances, reimbursement will be limited to the conference rate, however, exceptions may be made in extenuating circumstances as determined by the Treasurer.)
- F. Meals
  - 1. The maximum per-day/per-meal allowance/stipend (includes up to a twenty percent (20%) gratuity) for all travel, will be provided if an itemized receipt for reasonable expenses (i.e. no alcohol will be reimbursed) is submitted.
  - 2. Official conference banquets will be reimbursed at actual cost.

G. Phone calls for Academy business and calls home.

The President of the Board will regularly receive a record of Board members' attendance at conferences.

Adopted 4/18/19

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### **1000 ADMINISTRATION**

1000	Administration Educationals Service Provider Statement
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Adoption Date: **04.19**  
Classification:  
Revised Dates: ; **08.21**

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## **ADMINISTRATION EDUCATIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER STATEMENT**

All staff of the Kalamazoo Covenant Academy are employees of Axios, LLC, the employer of record, as per the contractual agreement between the Kalamazoo Covenant Academy Board of Directors and Axios, LLC. All employees, therefore, are subject to all personnel policies and regulations established by Axios, LLC.

It shall be the responsibility of Axios, LLC to ensure that all Federal and State employment regulations are in full compliance. Further, Axios, LLC shall respond to any inquiries or complaints promptly in full accordance with law.

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Adoption Date: **08.21**  
Classification:  
Revised Dates: ;

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<b>2260.01</b>	<b>Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability</b>	<b>LR</b>
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Adoption Date: **04.19**

Classification:

Revised Dates: **2/20/20; 12/17/20; 08.21**

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## PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Reference: Sec. 1112, 1116 ESEA  
MCL 380.1294

The Board of Directors recognizes and values parents and families as children's first teachers and decision-makers in education. The Board believes that student learning is more likely to occur when there is an effective partnership between the school and the student's parents and family. Such a partnership between the home and school and greater involvement of parents and family members in the education of their children generally result in higher academic achievement, improved student behavior, and reduced absenteeism. This policy shall serve as the Academy policy.

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA), defines the term "parent" to include a legal guardian or other person standing in loco parentis (such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare).

The term "family" is used in order to include a child's primary caregivers, who are not the biological parents, such as foster caregivers, grandparents, other family members and responsible adults who play significant roles in providing for the well-being of the child.

Family engagement is a collaborative relationship between families, educators, providers, and partners to support and improve the learning, development and health of every learner. The principles of family engagement include: relationships as the cornerstone; positive learning environments; efforts tailored to address all families, so all learners are successful; purposeful and intentional efforts that clearly identify learner outcomes; and engaging and supporting families as partners in their child's education.

Through this policy, the Board directs the establishment of a Parental and Family Engagement Plan by which a school-partnership can be established and provided to the parent of each child in the Academy. The plan must encompass parent participation, through meetings and other forms of communication. The Parental and Family Engagement Plan shall reflect the Board's commitment to the following:

A. Relationships with Families

1. providing professional development for school staff that helps build partnerships between families and schools;<sup>1,2</sup>
2. providing family activities that relate to various cultures, languages, practices, and customs, and bridge economic and cultural barriers;<sup>1,2</sup>
3. providing coordination, technical support and other support to assist schools in planning and implementing family engagement activities.<sup>2</sup>

B. Effective Communication

1. providing information to families about school policies, procedures, programs, and activities;<sup>1,2</sup>



2. communicating with families in a format and language that is understandable, to the extent practicable; <sup>1,2</sup>
3. providing information and involving families in monitoring student progress; <sup>2</sup>
4. providing families with timely and meaningful information regarding Michigan's academic standards, State and local assessments, and pertinent legal provisions; <sup>1,2</sup>
5. preparing families to be involved in meaningful discussions and meetings with school staff. <sup>1,2</sup>

C. Volunteer Opportunities

1. providing volunteer opportunities for families to support their children's school activities; <sup>2</sup>
2. supporting other needs, such as transportation and child care, to enable families to participate in school-sponsored family engagement events. <sup>2</sup>

D. Learning at Home

1. offering training and resources to help families learn strategies and skills to support at-home learning and success in school; <sup>1,2</sup>
2. helping families to provide a school and home environment that encourages learning and extends learning at home. <sup>1</sup>

E. Engaging Families in Decision Making and Advocacy

1. engaging families as partners in the process of school review and continuous improvement planning; <sup>2</sup>
2. engaging families in the development of its Academy-wide parent and family engagement policy and plan, and distributing the policy and plan to families. <sup>1,2</sup>

F. Collaborating with the Community

1. building constructive partnerships and connecting families with community-based programs and other community resources; <sup>1,2</sup>
2. coordinating and integrating parent and family engagement programs and activities with Academy initiatives and community-based programs that encourage and support families' participation in their children's education, growth, and development. <sup>1,2</sup>

Implementation

The School Leader (employed by the Board) will provide for a comprehensive plan to engage parents, families, and community members in a partnership in support of each student's academic achievement, the Academy's continuous improvement, and individual school

improvement plans. The Academy's plan will be distributed to all parents and students through publication in the Student Handbook or other suitable means. The plan will provide for annual evaluation, with the involvement of parents and families, of the plan's content, effectiveness and identification of barriers to participation by parents and families with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background; the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children (including engaging with school personnel and teachers); and the strategies to support successful school and family interaction. Each school plan will include the development of a written school-parent compact jointly with parents for all children participating in Title I, part A activities, services, and programs. The compact will outline how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards. Evaluation findings will be used in the annual review of the Parent and Family Engagement policy and to improve the effectiveness of the Academy plan. This policy will be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents, families, and the schools.

<sup>1</sup>Indicates IDEA 2004 Section 650 & 644 parent involvement requirements

<sup>2</sup>Indicates Title I Section 1116 parent and family engagement

[NOTE: Schools should select all footnoted options included in this template in order to have a policy that meets the requirements of State and Federal law and program requirements of Title I.]

Adopted 4/18/19

## **NONDISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY**

Reference:

MCL 380.1146, 380.1704, 37.1101 et seq., 37.2402, 37.1402, 37.2101-37.2804  
Fourteenth Amendment, U.S. Constitution  
20 USC Section 1681, Title IX of Education Amendments Act  
20 USC Section 1701 et seq., Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974  
20 USC Section 7905, Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act  
29 USC Section 794, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended  
29 CFR Part 1635  
42 USC Section 2000d et seq., Civil Rights Act of 1964  
42 USC Section 2000ff et seq., The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act  
42 USC 6101 et seq., Age Discrimination Act of 1975  
34 CFR Part 110 (7/27/93)  
Vocational Education Program Guidelines for Eliminating Discrimination and Denial of Services,  
Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, March 1979  
42 USC 12101 et seq., The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended

Any form of discrimination or harassment can be devastating to an individual's academic progress, social relationship and/or personal sense of self-worth.

As such, the Board of Directors does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation or gender identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry or genetic information in its educational programs or activities and will not permit discrimination in any of these categories from its Educational Service Provider.

The Board also does not discriminate in its employment policies and practices as they relate to students, and does not tolerate harassment of any kind. The Board will not permit discrimination of the employment practices of its Educational Service Provider as they relate to students, and will not tolerate harassment of any kind.

Equal educational opportunities shall be available to all students, without regard to the Protected Classes, age (unless age is a factor necessary to the normal operation or the achievement of any legitimate objective of the program/activity), place of residence within the boundaries of the Academy, or social or economic background, to learn through the curriculum offered in this Academy. Educational programs shall be designed to meet the varying needs of all students.

In order to achieve the aforesaid goal, the Educational Service Provider shall:

**A. Curriculum Content**

review current and proposed courses of study and textbooks to detect any bias based ascertaining whether or not supplemental materials, singly or taken as a whole, fairly depict the contribution of both genders, various races, ethnic groups, etc. toward the development of human society;

**B. Staff Training**

develop an ongoing program of in-service training for school personnel designed to identify and solve problems in all aspects of the program;

### C. Student Access

1. review current and proposed programs, activities, facilities, and practices to ensure that all students have equal access thereto and are not segregated in any duty, work, play, classroom, or school practice, except as may be permitted under State regulations;
2. verify that facilities are made available, in accordance with Board Policy 7510 - Use of Academy Facilities, for non-curricular student activities that are initiated by parents or other members of the community, including but not limited to any group affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America or any other youth group listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society;

This language does not prohibit the Academy from establishing and maintaining a single-gender school, class, or program within a school if a comparable school, class, or program is made available to students of each gender.

### D. Academy Support

verify that like aspects of the entire Academy program receive like support as to staff size and compensation, purchase and maintenance of facilities and equipment, access to such facilities and equipment, and related matters;

### E. Student Evaluation

verify that tests, procedures, or guidance and counseling materials, which are designed to evaluate student progress, rate aptitudes, analyze personality, or in any manner establish or tend to establish a category by which a student may be judged, are not differentiated or stereotyped on the basis of Protected Classes.

### Definitions:

Words used in this policy shall have those meanings defined herein; words not defined herein shall be construed according to their plain and ordinary meanings.

**Academy community** means students and Board employees (i.e., administrators, and professional and classified staff), as well as Board members, agents, volunteers, contractors, or other persons subject to the control and supervision of the Board.

**Complainant** is the individual who alleges, or is alleged, to have been subjected to unlawful discrimination/retaliation, regardless of whether the person files a formal complaint or is pursuing an informal resolution to the alleged discrimination/retaliation.

**Respondent** is the individual who has been alleged to have engaged in unlawful discrimination/retaliation, regardless of whether the Reporting Party files a formal complaint or is seeking an informal resolution to the alleged discrimination/retaliation.

**Third Parties** include, but are not limited to, guests and/or visitors on Academy property (e.g., visiting speakers, participants on opposing athletic teams, parents), vendors doing business with, or seeking to do business with, the Board, and other individuals who come in contact with members of the Academy community at academy-related events/activities (whether on or off Academy property).

**Day(s):** Unless expressly stated otherwise, the term "day" or "days" as used in this policy means a business day(s) (i.e., a day(s) that the Board office is open for normal operating hours, Monday - Friday, excluding State-recognized holidays).

### **Academy Compliance Officers**

The Board designates the following individuals to serve as the Academy's "Compliance Officers" (also known as "Civil Rights Coordinators") (hereinafter referred to as the "COs")

School Leader  
400 W. Crosstown Parkway, Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
296-888-2700

Supervisor of Academic Progress  
400 W. Crosstown Parkway, Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
296-888-2700

The names, titles, and contact information of these individuals will be published annually on the Academy's web site.

The Academy will accommodate the use of certified service animals when there is an established need for such supportive aid in the school environment. Certain restrictions may be applied when necessary due to allergies, health, safety, disability or other issues of those in the classroom or school environment. The goal shall be to provide all students with the same access and participation opportunities provided to other students in school. Confirmation of disability, need for a service animal to access the school programming, and current certification/training of the service animal may be required.

The COs are responsible for coordinating the Academy's efforts to comply with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations, including the Academy's duty to address in a prompt and equitable manner any inquiries or complaints regarding discrimination, retaliation or denial of equal access. The COs shall also verify that proper notice of nondiscrimination for Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (as amended), Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (as amended), and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 is provided to students, their parents, staff members, and the general public. A copy of each of the Acts and regulations on which this notice is based may be found in the CO's office.

The School Leader shall annually attempt to identify children with disabilities, ages 0-25, who do not receive a public education.

The Board is committed to educating (or providing for the education of) each qualified person with a disability with persons who are not disabled to the maximum extent appropriate. Generally, the Academy will place a person with a disability in the regular educational environment unless it is demonstrated that the education of the person in the regular environment, even with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. If the Board operates a separate class or facility that is identifiable as being for persons with disabilities, the facility, program, and activities and services must be comparable to the facilities, programs, and activities and services offered to students without a disability.

In addition, School Leader shall establish procedures to identify students who are Limited English Proficient (LEP), including immigrant children and youth, to assess their ability to participate in Academy programs, and develop and administer a program that meets the English language and academic needs of these students. This program shall include procedures for student placement, services, evaluation and exit guidelines and shall be designed to provide students with effective instruction that leads to academic achievement and timely acquisition of proficiency in English. As a part of this program, the Academy will evaluate the progress of students in achieving English language proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing, on an annual basis (also see Policy 2225). The School Leader is responsible for verifying that a concentration of students who are Limited English Proficient (LEP) in one or more programs is not the result of discrimination.

### **Reports and Complaints of Unlawful Discrimination and Retaliation**

Students and Educational Service Provider employees are required, and all other members of the Academy community and third parties are encouraged to promptly report incidents of unlawful discrimination and/or retaliation to a teacher, administrator, supervisor, or other Academy official so that the Board may address the conduct. Any teacher, administrator, supervisor, or other Academy employee or official who receives such a complaint shall file it with the CO within two (2) days.

Members of the Academy community, which includes students or Third Parties, who believe they have been unlawfully discriminated/retaliated against are entitled to utilize the complaint process set forth below.

Initiating a complaint, whether formally or informally, will not adversely affect the Complainant's employment or participation in educational or extra-curricular programs. While there are no time limits for initiating complaints under this policy, individuals should make every effort to file a complaint as soon as possible after the conduct occurs while the facts are known and potential witnesses are available.

If, during an investigation of alleged bullying, aggressive behavior and/or harassment in accordance with Policy 5517.01 – Bullying and Other Forms of Aggressive Behavior, the Principal believes that the reported misconduct may constitute unlawful discrimination based on a Protected Class, the Principal shall report the act to one of the COs who shall investigate the allegation in accordance with this policy. While the CO investigates the allegation, the Principal shall suspend the Policy 5517.01 investigation to await the CO's written report. The CO shall keep the Principal informed of the status of the Policy 2260 investigation and provide the Principal with a copy of the resulting written report.

The COs will be available during regular school/work hours to discuss concerns related to unlawful discrimination/retaliation. COs shall accept reports of unlawful discrimination/retaliation directly from any member of the Academy community or Third Party, or received reports that are initially filed with another Educational Service Provider employee. Upon receipt of a report of alleged discrimination/retaliation, the CO will contact the Complainant and begin either an informal or formal complaint process (depending on the Complainant's request and the nature of the alleged discrimination/retaliation), or the CO will designate a specific individual to conduct such a process. The CO will provide a copy of this policy to the Complainant and the Respondent. In the case of a formal complaint, the CO will prepare recommendations for the Educational Service Provider or oversee the preparation of such recommendations by a designee. All members of the Academy community must report incidents of discrimination/retaliation that are reported to them to the CO within two (2) days of learning of the incident/conduct.

Any Educational Service Provider employee who directly observes unlawful discrimination/retaliation of a student is obligated, in accordance with this policy, to report such observations to one of the COs within two (2) business days. Additionally, any Educational Service Provider employee who observes an act of unlawful discrimination/retaliation is expected to intervene to stop the misconduct, unless circumstances make such an intervention dangerous, in which case the staff member should immediately notify other Educational Service Provider employees and/or local law enforcement officials, as necessary, to stop the misconduct. Thereafter, the CO/designee must contact the Complainant, if age eighteen (18) or older, or the Complainant parents/guardians if the Complainant is under the age eighteen (18), within two (2) days to advise of the Board's intent to investigate the alleged wrongdoing.

### **Investigation and Complaint Procedure**

Except for sex discrimination and/or Sexual Harassment that is covered by Policy 2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities, any employee who alleges to have been subjected to unlawful discrimination or retaliation may seek resolution of his/her complaint through the procedures described below. The formal complaint procedures involve an investigation of the individual's claims of discrimination/retaliation and a process for rendering a decision regarding whether the charges are substantiated.

Due to the sensitivity surrounding complaints of unlawful discrimination or retaliation, timelines are flexible for initiating the complaint process; however, individuals are encouraged to file a complaint within thirty (30) days after the conduct occurs. Once the formal complaint process is begun, the investigation will be completed in a timely manner (ordinarily, within fifteen (15) days of the complaint being received).

The procedures set forth below are not intended to interfere with the rights of a student to pursue a complaint of unlawful discrimination or retaliation with the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights ("OCR"). The Cleveland Office of the OCR can be reached at 1350 Euclid Avenue, Suite 325, Cleveland, Ohio 44115; Telephone: (216) 522-4970; Fax: (216) 522-2573; TDD: (216) 522-4944; E-mail: [ocr.cleveland@ed.gov](mailto:ocr.cleveland@ed.gov); Web: <http://www.ed.gov/ocr>.

### **Informal Complaint Procedure**

The goal of the informal complaint procedure is to promptly stop inappropriate behavior and facilitate resolution through an informal means, if possible. The informal complaint procedure is provided as a less formal option for a student who alleges unlawful discrimination or retaliation. This informal procedure is not required as a precursor to the filing of a formal complaint.

The informal process is only available in those circumstances where the Complainant and the Respondent mutually agree to participate in it.

The Complainant may proceed immediately to the formal complaint process and individuals who participate in the informal procedure may request that the informal process be terminated at any time to move to the formal complaint process.

All complaints involving an Academy employee or any other adult member of the Academy community and a student will be formally investigated.

As an initial course of action, if a Complainant feels comfortable and safe doing so, the individual should tell or otherwise inform the Respondent that the allegedly discriminatory/retaliatory conduct that it is inappropriate and must stop. The Complainant should address the alleged misconduct as soon after it occurs as possible. The COs are available to support and counsel the Complainant when taking this initial step or to intervene on behalf of the individual if requested to do so. A Complainant who is uncomfortable or unwilling to directly approach the Respondent about the inappropriate conduct may file an informal or a formal complaint. In addition, with regard to certain types of unlawful discrimination (e.g., sex discrimination), the CO may advise against the use of the informal complaint process.

A Complainant who alleges unlawful discrimination/retaliation may make an informal complaint, either orally or in writing: (1) to a teacher, other employee, or building administrator in the school the student attends; (2) to the Educational Service Provider or other Academy-level employee; and/or (3) directly to one of the COs.

All informal complaints must be reported to one of the COs who will either facilitate an informal resolution as described below, or appoint another individual to facilitate an informal resolution.

The Academy's informal complaint procedure is designed to provide the Complainant with a range of options aimed at bringing about a prompt resolution of their concerns. Depending upon the nature of the complaint and the Complainant's wishes, informal resolution may involve, but not be limited to, one or more of the following:

- A. Advising the Complainant about how to communicate concerns to the Respondent.
- B. Distributing a copy of Policy 2260 – Non-Discrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity to the individuals in the school building or office where the Respondent works or attends.
- C. If both parties agree, the CO may arrange and facilitate a meeting or mediation between the Complainant and the Respondent to work out a mutual resolution.

While there are no set time limits within which an informal complaint must be resolved, the CO or designee is directed to attempt to resolve all informal complaints within fifteen (15) business days of receiving the informal complaint. If the Complainant is dissatisfied with the informal complaint process, the Complainant may proceed to file a formal complaint, and, as stated above, either party may request that the informal process be terminated at any time to move to the formal complaint process.

### **Formal Complaint Procedure**

If a complaint is not resolved through the informal complaint process, if one (1) of the parties requested that the informal complaint process be terminated to move to the formal complaint process, or if the Complainant, from the outset, elects to file a formal complaint, or the Compliance Officer(s) determines the allegations are not appropriate for resolution through the informal process, the formal complaint process shall be implemented.

The Complainant may file a formal complaint, either orally or in writing, with a teacher, Principal, or other official at the student's school, the CO, School Leader, or another official who works at another academy or at the Academy level. Due to the sensitivity surrounding complaints of unlawful discrimination, timelines are flexible for initiating the complaint process; however, individuals should make every effort to file a formal

complaint within thirty (30) days after the conduct occurs. If a Complainant informs a teacher, Principal, or other official at the student's school, School Leader, or other employee, either orally or in writing, about any complaint of discrimination/retaliation, that employee must report such information to the CO/designee within two (2) days.

Throughout the course of the process, the CO should keep the parties reasonably informed of the status of the investigation and the decision-making process.

All formal complaints must include the following information to the extent known: the identity of the Respondent; a detailed description of the facts upon which the complaint is based (i.e., when, where, and what occurred); a list of potential witnesses; and the resolution sought by the Complainant.

If the Complainant is unwilling or unable to provide a written statement including the information set forth above, the CO shall ask for such details in an oral interview. Thereafter, the CO will prepare a written summary of the oral interview, and the Complainant will be asked to verify the accuracy of the reported charge by signing the document.

Upon receiving a formal complaint, the CO will consider whether any action should be taken in the investigatory phase to protect the Complainant from further discrimination or retaliation, including, but not limited to, a change of work assignment or schedule for the Complainant and/or the Respondent. In making such a determination, the CO should consult the Complainant to assess whether the individual agrees with the proposed action. If the Complainant is unwilling to consent to the proposed change, the CO may still take whatever actions s/he deemed appropriate in consultation with the Educational Service Provider.

Within two (2) days of receiving the complaint, the CO or designee will initiate a formal investigation to determine whether the Complainant has been subjected to unlawful discrimination/retaliation. The Principal will not conduct an investigation unless directed to do so by the CO.

Simultaneously, the CO will inform the Respondent that a formal complaint has been received. The Respondent will be informed about the nature of the allegations and provided with a copy of any relevant policies and/or administrative guidelines, including Policy 2260 - Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity. The Respondent must also be informed of the opportunity to submit a written response to the formal complaint within five (5) days.

Although certain cases may require additional time, the CO or designee will attempt to complete an investigation into the allegations of discrimination/retaliation within fifteen (15) days of receiving the formal complaint. The investigation will include:

- A. interviews with the Complainant;
- B. interviews with the Respondent;
- C. interviews with any other witnesses who may reasonably be expected to have any information relevant to the allegations;
- D. consideration of any documentation or other information presented by the Complainant, Respondent, or any other witness that is reasonably believed to be relevant to the allegations.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the CO/designee shall prepare and deliver a written report to the Educational Service Provider that summarizes the evidence gathered during the investigation and provides recommendations based on the evidence and the definition of unlawful discrimination/retaliation as provided in Board policy and State and Federal law as to whether the Respondent has engaged in unlawful discrimination/retaliation of the Complainant. The CO's recommendations must be based upon the totality of the circumstances. In determining if unlawful discrimination or retaliation occurred, a preponderance of evidence standard will be used.

Absent extenuating circumstances, within five (5) business days of receiving the report of the CO or designee, the Educational Service Provider must either issue a written decision regarding whether the



charges have been substantiated or request further investigation. A copy of the Educational Service Provider's final decision will be delivered to both the Complainant and the Respondent.

If the Educational Service Provider requests additional investigation, the School Leader must specify the additional information that is to be gathered, and such additional investigation must be completed within five (5) days. At the conclusion of the additional investigation, the Educational Service Provider shall issue a final written decision as described above.

If the Educational Service Provider determines the Respondent engaged in unlawful discrimination/retaliation toward the Complainant, the School Leader must identify what corrective action will be taken to stop, remedy, and prevent the recurrence of the discrimination/retaliation. The corrective action should be reasonable, timely, age-appropriate and effective, and tailored to the specific situation.

The decision of the Educational Service Provider shall be final.

The Board reserves the right to investigate and resolve a complaint or report of unlawful discrimination/retaliation regardless of whether the student alleging the unlawful discrimination/retaliation pursues the complaint. The Board also reserves the right to have the formal complaint investigation conducted by an external person in accordance with this policy or in such other manner as deemed appropriate by the Board or its designee.

The parties may be represented, at their own cost, at any of the above described meetings/hearings.

The right of a person to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies such as the filing of a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, the filing of charges with local law enforcement, or the filing of a civil action in court. Use of this internal complaint process is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies.

### **Privacy/Confidentiality**

The Academy will employ all reasonable efforts to protect the rights of the Complainant, the Respondent(s), and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations. All records generated under the terms of this policy shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law. Confidentiality, however, cannot be guaranteed. Additionally, the Respondent must be provided the Complainant's identity.

During the course of a formal investigation, the CO or designee will instruct each person who is interviewed about the importance of maintaining confidentiality. Any individual who is interviewed as part of an investigation is expected not to disclose to third parties any information that is learned or provided during the course of the investigation.

### **Sanctions and Monitoring**

The Board shall vigorously enforce its prohibitions against unlawful discrimination/retaliation by taking appropriate action reasonably calculated to stop and prevent further misconduct. While observing the principles of due process, a violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including the discharge of an employee or the suspension/expulsion of a student. All disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with applicable State law and the terms of the relevant collective bargaining agreement(s). When imposing discipline, the School Leader shall consider the totality of the circumstances involved in the matter, including the ages and maturity levels of those involved. In those cases where unlawful discrimination/retaliation is not substantiated, the Board may consider whether the alleged conduct nevertheless warrants discipline in accordance with other Board policies, consistent with the terms of the relevant collective bargaining agreement(s).

Where the Board becomes aware that a prior remedial action has been taken against a member of the Academy community, all subsequent sanctions imposed by the Board and/or Educational Service Provider shall be reasonably calculated to end such conduct, prevent its reoccurrence, and remedy its effects.

## **Retaliation**

Retaliation against a person who makes a report or files a complaint alleging unlawful harassment/retaliation or participates as a witness in an investigation is prohibited. Neither the Board nor any other person may intimidate, threaten, coerce or interfere with any individual because the person opposed any act or practice made unlawful by any Federal or State civil rights law, or because that individual made a report, formal complaint, testified, assisted or participate or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under those laws and/or this policy, or because that individual exercised, enjoyed, aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of any right granted or protected by those laws and/or this policy.

Retaliation against a person for making a report of discrimination, filing a formal complaint, or participating in an investigation or meeting is a serious violation of this policy that can result in imposition of disciplinary sanctions/consequences and/or other appropriate remedies.

Formal complaints alleging retaliation may be filed according to the internal complaint process set forth above.

The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution does not constitute retaliation prohibited under this policy.

## **Education and Training**

In support of this policy, the Board promotes preventative educational measures to create greater awareness of unlawful discriminatory practices. The School Leader shall provide appropriate information to all members of the Academy community related to the implementation of this policy and shall provide training for Academy students and staff where appropriate. All training, as well as all information, provided regarding the Board's policy and discrimination in general, will be age and content appropriate.

The Academy will endeavor to assist the student and/or his/her parents in their access to Academy programs by providing notices to the parents and students in a language and format that they are likely to understand.

Materials approved by the State Department of Education describing the benefits of instruction in Braille reading and writing shall be provided to each blind student's individualized planning committee. The Academy shall not deny a student the opportunity for instruction in Braille, reading, and writing solely because the student has some remaining vision.

## **Retention of Investigatory Records and Materials**

The Compliance Officer(s) is responsible for overseeing retention of all records that must be maintained pursuant to this policy. All individuals charged with conducting investigations under this policy shall retain all documents, electronically stored information ("ESI"), and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) created and/or received as part of an investigation, which may include but not be limited to:

- A. all written reports/allegations/complaints/grievances/statements/responses pertaining to an alleged violation of this policy;
- B. any narratives that memorialize oral reports/allegations/complaints/grievances/statements/responses pertaining to an alleged violation of this policy;
- C. any documentation that memorializes the actions taken by Academy personnel or individuals contracted or appointed by the Board to fulfill its responsibilities related to the investigation and/or the Academy's response to the alleged violation of this policy;
- D. written witness statements;
- E. narratives, notes from, or audio, video, or digital recordings of witness interviews/statements;

- F. e-mails, texts, or social media posts that directly relate to or constitute evidence pertaining to an alleged violation of this policy (i.e., not after-the-fact commentary about or media coverage of the incident);
- G. notes or summaries prepared contemporaneously by the investigator in whatever form made (e.g., handwritten, keyed into a computer or tablet, etc.), but not including transitory notes whose content is otherwise memorialized in other documents;
- H. written disciplinary sanctions issued to students or employees and other documentation that memorializes oral disciplinary sanctions issued to students or employees for violations of this policy;
- I. dated written determinations/reports (including summaries of relevant exculpatory and inculpatory evidence) and other documentation that memorializes oral notifications to the parties concerning the outcome of the investigation, including any consequences imposed as a result of a violation of this policy;
- J. documentation of any supportive measures offered and/or provided to the Complainant and/or the Respondent including no contact orders issued to both parties, the dates the no contact orders were issued, and the dates the parties acknowledged receipt of the no contact orders;
- K. documentation of all actions taken, both individual and systemic, to stop the discrimination or harassment, prevent its recurrence, eliminate any hostile environment, and remedy its discriminatory effects;
- L. copies of the Board policy and/or procedures/guidelines used by the Academy to conduct the investigation, and any documents used by the Academy at the time of the alleged violation to communicate the Board's expectations to students and staff with respect to the subject of this policy (e.g., Student Code of Conduct and/or Employee Handbooks);
- M. copies of any documentation that memorializes any formal or informal resolutions to the alleged discrimination or harassment;
- N. documentation of any training provided to Academy personnel related to this policy, including but not limited to, notification of the prohibitions and expectations of staff set forth in this policy and the role and responsibility of all Academy personnel involved in enforcing this policy, including their duty to report alleged violations of this policy and/or conducting an investigation of an alleged violation of this policy;
- O. documentation that any rights or opportunities that the Academy made available to one party during the investigation were made available to the other party on equal terms;
- P. copies of any notices sent to the alleged perpetrator/responding party of the allegations constituting a potential violation of this policy;
- Q. copies of any notices sent to the Complainant and the Respondent in advance of any interview, meeting, or hearing;
- R. copies of any documentation or evidence used during informal and formal disciplinary meetings and hearings, including the investigation report, and any written responses submitted by the Complainant or the Respondent.

The documents, ESI, and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) retained may include public records and records exempt from disclosure under Federal (e.g., FERPA, ADA) and/or State law (e.g., R.C. 3319.321) – e.g., student records and confidential medical records.

The documents, ESI, and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) created or received as part of an investigation shall be retained in accordance with Policy 8310, Policy 8315, Policy 8320, and Policy 8330 for not less than three (3) years, but longer if required by the Academy's records retention schedule.

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Adoption Date: **04.19**

Classification: **Legally Required**

Revised Dates: ; **08.21**

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## **SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION BASED ON DISABILITY**

Reference:

29 USC 794, Section 504 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended  
34 C.F.R. Part 104  
42 USC 12101 et seq., Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended

Pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504"), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended ("ADA") and the implementing regulations (collectively "Section 504/ADA"), no otherwise qualified individual with a disability shall, solely by reason of his/her disability, be excluded from participation be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. The Board of Directors does not discriminate in admission or access to, or participation in, or treatment, in its programs or activities. As such, the Board's policies and practices will not discriminate against students with disabilities, and the Board will make its facilities, programs, and activities accessible to qualified individuals with disabilities. No discrimination will be knowingly permitted against any individual with a disability on the sole basis of that disability in any of the programs, activities, policies, and/or practices in the Academy.

An individual with a disability" means a person who has, had a record of, or is regarded as having, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Major life activities are functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working.

Major life activities also include the operation of a major bodily function, including, but not limited to, functions of the immune system, normal cell growth, digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine, and reproductive functions.

An impairment that is episodic in nature or in remission is considered a disability if it would substantially limit a major life activity when active.

The determination of whether an impairment substantially limits a major life activity must be made without regard to the ameliorative effects of mitigating measures such as medication, medical supplies, equipment or appliances, low-vision devices (not including ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses), prosthetics (including limbs and devices), hearing aides and cochlear implants or other implantable hearing devices, mobility devices, oxygen therapy equipment or supplies, assistive technology, reasonable accommodations or auxiliary aids or services, or learned behavioral or adaptive neurological modifications.

With respect to public preschool, elementary and secondary educational services, a qualified person with a disability means a disabled person:

- A. who is of an age during which nondisabled persons are provided educational services;
- B. who is of any age during which it is mandatory under Michigan law to provide educational services to disabled persons; or
- C. to whom the State is required to provide a free appropriate public education pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA).

With respect to vocational education services, a qualified person with a disability means a person with a disability who meets the academic and technical standards requisite to admission or participation in the vocational program or activity. The Board will not deny a student with disabilities access to its vocational education programs or courses due to architectural and/or equipment barriers, or because the student needs related aids or services to receive an appropriate education.

### **Compliance Officer(s)**

The Board designates the following individual(s) to serve as the Academy's 504 Compliance Officer(s)/ADA Coordinator(s) (hereinafter referred to as the "Compliance Officer(s)").

School Leader  
400 W. Crosstown Parkway, Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
296-888-2700

Supervisor of Academic Progress  
400 W. Crosstown Parkway, Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
296-888-2700

The names, titles, and contact information of this/these individual(s) will be published annually on the Academy's web site.

The Compliance Officer(s) is/are responsible for coordinating the Academy's efforts to comply with and fulfill its responsibilities under Section 504 and Title II of the ADA. A copy of Section 504 and the ADA, including copies of the implementing regulations, may be obtained from the Compliance Officer.

The Compliance Officer(s) will oversee the investigation of any complaints of discrimination based on disability, which may be filed pursuant to the Board's adopted internal complaint procedure, and will attempt to resolve such complaints.

The Educational Service Provider will provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging violations of Section 504/ADA. (See below) The Educational Service Provider will further establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards in accordance with Section 504, including the right to an impartial due process hearing. (See AG 2260.01B)

### **Training**

The Compliance Officer(s) will also oversee the training of employees in the Academy so that all employees understand their rights and responsibilities under Section 504 and the ADA, and are informed of the Board's policies, Administrative Procedures and practices with respect to fully implementing and complying with the requirements of Section 504/ADA.

The Educational Service Provider will provide in-service training and consultation to staff responsible for the education of persons with disabilities, as necessary and appropriate.

### **Facilities**

No qualified person with a disability will, because the Academy's facilities are inaccessible to or unusable by persons with disabilities, be denied the benefits of, be excluded from participation in, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity to which Section 504/ADA applies.

For facilities constructed or altered after June 3, 1977, the Academy will comply with applicable accessibility standards. For those existing facilities constructed prior to June 3, 1977, the Academy is committed to operating its programs and activities so that they are readily accessible to persons with disabilities. This includes, but is not limited to, providing accommodations to parents with disabilities who desire access to their child's educational program or meetings pertinent thereto. Programs and activities will be designed and scheduled so that the location and nature of the facility or area will not deny a student with a disability the opportunity to participate on the same basis as students without disabilities.

## **Education**

The Board is committed to identifying, evaluating, and providing a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to students within its jurisdiction who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, regardless of the nature or severity of their disabilities.

An appropriate education may include regular or special education and related aids and services to accommodate the unique needs of students with disabilities. For students with disabilities who are not eligible for specially designed instruction under the IDEIA, the special education and related aids and services (including accommodations/modifications/interventions) they need in order to have their needs met as adequately as the needs of nondisabled students are met, shall be delineated, along with their placement, in a Section 504 Plan (Form 2260.01A F13). Parents/guardians/custodians ("parents") are invited and encouraged to participate fully in the evaluation process and development of a Section 504 Plan. The quality of education services provided to students with disabilities will be equal to the quality of services provided to students without disabilities.

The Board is committed to educating (or providing for the education of) each qualified person with a disability who is enrolled by the Academy to the maximum extent appropriate. Generally, the Academy will place a person with a disability in the regular educational environment unless it is demonstrated that the education of the person in the regular environment even with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. If the Academy places a person in a setting other than the regular educational environment, it shall take into account the proximity of the alternate setting to the person's home. If the Board operates a separate class or facility that is identifiable as being for persons with disabilities, the facility, program, and activities and services must be comparable to the facilities, programs, and activities and services offered to students without a disability.

The Academy will provide non-academic extracurricular services and activities in such a manner as is necessary to afford qualified persons with disabilities an equal opportunity for participation in such services and activities.

## **Notice**

Notice of the Board's policy on nondiscrimination in education practices and the identity of the Compliance Officer(s) will be on the Academy's website and posted throughout the Academy, and included in the Academy's recruitment statements or general information publications.

The Educational Service Provider shall develop Administrative Procedures for the proper implementation of this policy.

## **Complaint Procedures**

If a person believes that s/he has been discriminated against on the basis of his/her disability, the person may utilize the following complaint procedures as a means of reaching, at the lowest possible administrative level, a prompt and equitable resolution of the matter.

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its implementing regulations ("Section 504"), parents and students will be notified of their right to file an internal complaint regarding an alleged violation, misinterpretation or misapplication of Section 504. In addition, students and their parents will be notified of their right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights. Finally, students and parents will be advised of their right to request a due process hearing before an Impartial Hearing Officer (IHO) regarding the identification, evaluation or educational placement of persons with disabilities, including the right to participation by the student's parents or guardian and representation of counsel, and their right to examine relevant education records.

Internal complaints and requests for due process hearings must be put in writing and must identify the specific circumstances or areas of dispute that have given rise to the complaint or the request for a hearing, and offer possible solutions to the dispute. The complaint or request for due process hearing must be filed with the Compliance Officer within specified time limits. The Compliance Officer is available to assist individuals in filing a complaint or request.

Unless expressly stated otherwise, the term "day" or "days" as used in this policy means business day(s) (i.e., a day(s) that the Board office is open for normal operating hours, Monday – Friday, excluding State-recognized holidays).

### **Internal Complaint Procedures**

An internal complaint may be filed by a student and/or parent. A student and/or parent may initiate the internal complaint procedure when s/he/they believe that a violation, misapplication or misinterpretation of Section 504 has occurred. Additionally, the following procedure may be used for any disagreement with respect to actions regarding the identification, evaluation, or educational program or placement of students who are identified as disabled or believed to be disabled pursuant to Section 504, and are not eligible under the IDEIA, except in the case of disciplinary actions where the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct apply. Use of the internal complaint procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies, including the filing of a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or requesting a due process hearing.

#### **Step 1**

Investigation by the Compliance Officer: A student or parent may initiate an investigation by filing a written internal complaint with the Compliance Officer. The complaint should fully describe the circumstances giving rise to the dispute and how the child is adversely affected. The complaint must be filed as soon as possible, but not longer than thirty (30) days after disclosure of the facts giving rise to the complaint. The Compliance Officer shall conduct an impartial investigation of the complaint. As part of the investigation, the Compliance Officer shall permit the complainant to present witnesses and other evidence in support of the complaint. The investigation shall be completed within fifteen (15) days of the written complaint being filed. The Compliance Officer will notify the complainant in writing of his/her decision.

#### **Step 2**

If the complaint is not resolved satisfactorily at Step 1, the student or parent may request a due process hearing, provided the complaint involves an issue related to the identification, evaluation, or placement of the student.

If it is determined that the Complainant was subjected to unlawful discrimination, the Compliance Officers must identify what corrective action will be taken to stop, remedy, and prevent the recurrence of the discrimination/retaliation. The corrective action should be reasonable, timely, age-appropriate and effective, and tailored to the specific situation.

### **OCR Complaint**

At any time, if a student or parent believes that s/he has been subjected to discrimination based upon his/her disability in violation of Section 504 or the ADA, the individual may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights ("OCR"). The OCR can be reached at:

U.S. Department of Education

Office for Civil Rights

Cleveland Office

1350 Euclid Avenue, Suite 325

Cleveland, Ohio 44115

(216) 522-4970

FAX: (216) 522-2573

TDD: (216) 522-4944



E-mail: [OCR.Cleveland@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.Cleveland@ed.gov)

### **Retaliation**

Retaliation against a person who makes a report or files a complaint alleging unlawful discrimination/retaliation or participates as a witness in an investigation is prohibited. Neither the Board nor any other person may intimidate, threaten, coerce or interfere with any individual because the person opposed any act or practice made unlawful by Section 504 or the ADA, or because that individual made a report, formal complaint, testified, assisted or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under those laws and/or this policy, or because that individual exercised, enjoyed, aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of any right granted or protected by those laws and/or this policy.

Retaliation against a person for making a report of discrimination, filing a formal complaint, or participating in an investigation or meeting is a serious violation of this policy that can result in imposition of disciplinary sanctions/consequences and/or other appropriate remedies.

Formal complaints alleging retaliation may be filed according to the internal complaint process set forth above.

The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution does not constitute retaliation prohibited under this policy.

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Adoption Date: **08.21**  
Classification: **Legally Required**  
Revised Dates: ;

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# **NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES**

Reference:

20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq., Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX)  
20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEIA)  
42 U.S.C. 2000c et seq., Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964  
42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.  
42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.  
42 U.S.C. 1983  
34 C.F.R. Part 106  
OCR's Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance (2001)  
20 U.S.C. 1092(F)(6)(A)(v)  
34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10)  
34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8)  
34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30)

## **Introduction**

The Board of Directors of the Kalamazoo Covenant Academy (hereinafter referred to as "the Board" or "the Academy") does not discriminate on the basis of sex (including sexual orientation or gender identity), in its education programs or activities, and is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, and its implementing regulations, not to discriminate in such a manner. The requirement not to discriminate in its education program or activity extends to admission and employment. The Board is committed to maintaining an education and work environment that is free from discrimination based on sex, including sexual harassment.

The Board prohibits Sexual Harassment that occurs within its education programs and activities. When the Academy has actual knowledge of Sexual Harassment in its education program or activity against a person in the United States, it shall promptly respond in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent.

Pursuant to its Title IX obligations, the Board is committed to eliminating Sexual Harassment and will take appropriate action when an individual is determined responsible for violating this policy. Educational Service Provider employees, students, third-party vendors and contractors, guests, and other members of the Academy community who commit Sexual Harassment are subject to the full range of disciplinary sanctions set forth in this policy. The Board will provide persons who have experienced Sexual Harassment ongoing remedies as reasonably necessary to restore or preserve access to the Academy's education programs and activities.

## **Coverage**

This policy applies to Sexual Harassment that occurs within the Academy's education programs and activities and that is committed by a member of the Academy community or a Third Party.

This policy does not apply to Sexual Harassment that occurs off school grounds, in a private setting, and outside the scope of the Academy's education programs and activities; such Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Activity may be prohibited by the Student Code of Conduct if committed by a student, or by Board policies and administrative guidelines, applicable State and/or Federal laws and/or Employee/Administrator Handbook(s) if committed by an Educational Service Provider employee.

Consistent with the U.S. Department of Education's implementing regulations for Title IX, this policy does not apply to Sexual Harassment that occurs outside the geographic boundaries of the United States, even if

the Sexual Harassment occurs in the Academy's education programs or activities. Sexual Harassment that occurs outside the geographic boundaries of the United States is governed by the Student Code of Conduct if committed by a student, or by Board policies and administrative guidelines, applicable State and/or Federal laws and/or Employee/Administrator Handbook(s) if committed by a Board employee.

### **Definitions**

Words used in this policy shall have those meanings defined herein; words not defined herein shall be construed according to their plain and ordinary meanings.

Sexual Harassment: "Sexual Harassment" means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

- A. An Educational Service Provider employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the Academy on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct (often called "*quid pro quo*" harassment);
- B. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, **and** objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the Academy's education program or activity; or
- C. "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)A(v), or "dating violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10), "domestic violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8), or "stalking" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30).

"Sexual assault" means any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent, and the "nonforcible" sex offenses of Incest and Statutory Rape. Sexual assault includes rape, sodomy, sexual assault with an object, fondling, incest, and statutory rape.

- 1. Rape is the carnal knowledge of a person (i.e., penetration, no matter how slight, of the genita or anal opening of a person), without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
- 2. *Sodomy* is oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
- 3. *Sexual Assault with an Object* is using an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity. An "object" or "instrument" is anything used by the offender other than the offender's genitalia.
- 4. *Fondling* is the touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
- 5. *Incest* is sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by State law.
- 6. *Statutory Rape* is sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent as defined by State law.
- 7. *Consent* refers to words or actions that a reasonable person would understand as agreement to engage in the sexual conduct at issue. A person may be incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical

incapacity. A person who is incapacitated is not capable of giving consent.

8. *Incapacitated* refers to the state where a person does not understand and/or appreciate the nature or fact of sexual activity due to the effect of drugs or alcohol consumption, medical condition, disability, or due to a state of unconsciousness or sleep.

D. "Domestic violence" includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by:

1. a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;
2. a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
3. a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
4. a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime occurred; or
5. any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime occurred.

E. "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. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

F. "Stalking" means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to – (1) fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or (2) suffer substantial emotional distress.

Complainant: "Complainant" means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute Sexual Harassment.

Respondent: "Respondent" means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute Sexual Harassment.

Formal Complaint: "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 Academy investigate the allegation(s) of Sexual Harassment. At the time of filing a Formal Complaint with the Academy, a Complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the Academy's education program or activity. A "document filed by a complainant" means a document or electronic submission (such as by electronic mail or through an online portal that the Board provides for this purpose) that contains the Complainant's physical or digital signature, or otherwise indicates that the Complainant is the person filing the Formal Complaint. Where the Title IX Coordinator signs a Formal Complaint, the Title IX Coordinator is not a Complainant or a party to the Formal Complaint and must not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual complainant or respondent.

Actual Knowledge: "Actual knowledge" means notice of Sexual Harassment or allegations of Sexual Harassment to the Academy's Title IX Coordinator, or any Academy official who has authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the Board, or any Educational Service Provider employee. The mere ability or obligation to report Sexual Harassment or to inform a student about how to report Sexual Harassment, or having been trained to do so, does not qualify an individual as one who has authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the Academy. "Notice" includes, but is not limited to, a report of Sexual Harassment to the Title IX Coordinator. This standard is not met when the only Academy official with actual knowledge is the Respondent.

Supportive Measures: "Supportive measures" means non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the Complainant or the

Respondent before or after the filing of a Formal Complaint or where no Formal Complaint has been filed. Such measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the Academy's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the Academy'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, school/campus escort services, mutual restrictions of contact between the parties, changes in work locations), leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus (including academy buildings and facilities), and other similar measures.

Education Program or Activity: "Education program or activity" refers to all operations of the Academy, including but not limited to in-person and online educational instruction, employment, extracurricular activities, athletics, performances, and community engagement and outreach programs. The term applies to all activity that occurs on academy grounds or on other property owned or occupied by the Board. It also includes locations, events and circumstances that take place off-academy property/grounds over which the Board exercises substantial control over both the Respondent and the context in which the Sexual Harassment occurs.

Academy community: "Academy community" refers to students and Educational Service Provider employees (i.e., administrators, and professional and classified staff), as well as Board members, agents, volunteers, contractors, or other persons subject to the control and supervision of the Board.

Third Parties: "Third Parties" include, but are not limited to, guests and/or visitors on Academy property (e.g., visiting speakers, participants on opposing athletic teams, parents), vendors doing business with, or seeking to do business with the Board, and other individuals who come in contact with members of the Academy community at academy-related events/activities (whether on or off Academy property).

Inculpatory Evidence: "Inculpatory evidence" is evidence that tends to establish a Respondent's responsibility for alleged Sexual Harassment.

Exculpatory Evidence: "Exculpatory evidence" is evidence that tends to clear or excuse a Respondent from allegations of Sexual Harassment.

Day(s): Unless expressly stated otherwise, the term "day" or "days" as used in this policy means business day(s) (i.e., a day(s) that the Board office is open for normal operating hours, Monday – Friday, excluding State-recognized holidays),

Eligible Student: "Eligible Student" means a student who has reached eighteen (18) years of age or is attending an institution of postsecondary education.

### **Title IX Coordinator(s)**

The Board of Directors designates and authorizes the following individual(s) to oversee and coordinate its efforts to comply with Title IX and its implementing regulations:

Joe Tenbusch  
School Leader  
400 Crosstown Parkway  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
(269) 888-2700

[jtenbusch@covenantacademiesfoundation.org](mailto:jtenbusch@covenantacademiesfoundation.org)

Kares Johnson  
Supervisor of Academic Progress  
400 Crosstown Parkway  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
(269) 888-2700

[kares.johnson@kcovenantacademy.org](mailto:kares.johnson@kcovenantacademy.org)

The Title IX Coordinator shall report directly to the Educational Service Provider. Questions about this policy should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator.

The Educational Service Provider shall notify applicants for admission and employment, students, parents or legal guardians of elementary and secondary school students, Educational Service Provider employees, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the Board of the following information:

The Board of Directors of the Kalamazoo Covenant Academy does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education program or activity, and is required by Title IX and its implementing regulations not to discriminate in such a manner. The requirement not to discriminate in its education program or activity extends to admission and employment.

Joe Tenbusch  
School Leader  
400 Crosstown Parkway  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
(269) 888-2700

[jtenbusch@covenantacademiesfoundation.org](mailto:jtenbusch@covenantacademiesfoundation.org)

Kares Johnson  
Supervisor of Academic Progress  
400 Crosstown Parkway  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
(269) 888-2700

[kares.johnson@kcovenantacademy.org](mailto:kares.johnson@kcovenantacademy.org)

Any inquiries about the application of Title IX and its implementing regulations to the Academy may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator(s), the Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both.

The Board has adopted a grievance process that provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee complaints alleging any action that is prohibited by Title IX and/or its implementing regulations. The grievance process is included in Policy 2266 – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities, which is available at: [insert the web address at which Policy 2266 can be found; or insert a hyperlink tied to the title of the policy] The grievance process specifically addresses how to report or file a complaint of sex discrimination, how to report or file a formal complaint of Sexual Harassment, and how the Academy will respond.

The Educational Service Provider shall also prominently display the Title IX Coordinator's(s') contact information – including name(s) and/or title(s), phone number(s), office address(es), and e-mail address(es) – and this policy on the Academy's website and in each handbook or catalog that the Board makes available to applicants for admission and employment, students, parents or legal guardians of elementary and secondary school students, Educational Service Provider employees, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements.

### **Grievance Process**

The Board is committed to promptly and equitably resolving student and employee complaints alleging Sexual Harassment. The Academy's response to allegations of Sexual Harassment will treat Complainants and Respondents equitably, including providing supportive measures to the Complainant and Respondent, as appropriate, and following this Grievance Process before imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions, other than supportive measures, against the Respondent.

The Title IX Coordinator(s), along with any investigator(s), decision-maker(s), or any person(s) designated to facilitate an informal resolution process, shall not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or an individual Complainant or Respondent.

If a determination of responsibility for Sexual Harassment is made against the Respondent, the Board will provide remedies to the Complainant. The remedies will be designed to restore or preserve equal access to the Academy's education program or activity. Potential remedies include, but are not limited to, individualized services that constitute supportive measures. Remedies may also be disciplinary or punitive in nature and may burden the Respondent.

### **Report of Sexual Discrimination/Harassment**

Any person may report sex discrimination, including Sexual Harassment (whether or not the person reporting is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or Sexual Harassment), in person, by mail, by telephone, or by electronic mail, using the Title IX Coordinator's(s') contact information listed above, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's oral or written report. Reports may be made at any time (including during non-business hours), by using the telephone number(s) or electronic mail address(es), or by mail to the office address(es), listed for the Title IX Coordinator(s).

Students, Board members, and Educational Service Provider employees are required, and other members of the Academy community, and Third Parties) are encouraged, to report allegations of sex discrimination or Sexual Harassment promptly to the/a Title IX Coordinator or to any Educational Service Provider employee, who will in turn notify the/a Title IX Coordinator. Reports can be made orally or in writing and should be as specific as possible. The person making the report should, to the extent known, identify the alleged victim(s), perpetrator(s), and witness(es), and describe in detail what occurred, including date(s), time(s), and location(s).

If a report involves allegations of Sexual Harassment by or involving the Title IX Coordinator, the person making the report should submit it to the Educational Service Provider, or another Educational Service Provider employee who, in turn, will notify the Educational Service Provider of the report. The Educational Service Provider will then serve in place of the Title IX Coordinator for purposes of addressing that report of Sexual Harassment.

The Board does business with various vendors, contractors, and other third-parties who are not students or employees of the Board. Notwithstanding any rights that a given vendor, contractor, or third-party Respondent may have under this policy, the Board retains the right to limit any vendor's, contractor's, or third-party's access to school grounds for any reason. The Board further retains all rights it enjoys by contract or law to terminate its relationship with any vendor, contractor, or third-party irrespective of any process or outcome under this policy.

A person may file criminal charges simultaneously with filing a Formal Complaint. A person does not need to wait until the Title IX investigation is completed before filing a criminal complaint. Likewise, questions or complaints relating to Title IX may be filed with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights at any time.

Any allegations of Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Activity not involving Sexual Harassment will be addressed through the procedures outlined in Board policies, the applicable Student Code of Conduct, applicable collective bargaining agreement, and/or Employee/Administrator Handbook.

Because the Board is considered to have actual knowledge of Sexual Harassment or allegations of Sexual Harassment if any Educational Service Provider employee has such knowledge, and because the Board must take specific actions when it has notice of Sexual Harassment or allegations of Sexual Harassment, an Educational Service Provider employee who has independent knowledge of or receives a report involving allegations of sex discrimination and/or Sexual Harassment must notify the/a Title IX Coordinator within two (2) days of learning the information or receiving the report. The Educational Service Provider employee must also comply with mandatory reporting responsibilities pursuant to M.C.L. 722.623 and Policy 8462 – Student Abuse and Neglect, if applicable. If the Educational Service Provider employee's knowledge is based on another individual bringing the information to the Educational Service Provider employee's attention and the reporting individual submitted a written complaint to the Educational Service Provider employee, the Educational Service Provider employee must provide the written complaint to the Title IX Coordinator.

If an Educational Service Provider employee fails to report an incident of Sexual Harassment of which the Educational Service Provider employee is aware, the Educational Service Provider employee may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

When a report of Sexual Harassment is made, the Title IX Coordinator shall promptly (i.e., within two (2) days of the Title IX Coordinator's receipt of the report of Sexual Harassment) contact the Complainant (including the parent/guardian if the Complainant is under 18 years of age or under guardianship) to discuss the availability of supportive measures, consider the Complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures, inform the Complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a Formal Complaint, and explain to the Complainant the process for filing a Formal Complaint. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of supportive measures. Any supportive measures provided to the Complainant or Respondent shall be maintained as confidential, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality will not impair the ability of the Academy to provide the supportive measures.

Emergency Removal: Subject to limitations and/or procedures imposed by State and/or Federal law, the Academy may remove a student Respondent from its education program or activity on an emergency basis after conducting an individualized safety and risk analysis. The purposes of the individualized safety and risk analysis is to determine whether the student Respondent poses an immediate threat to the physical health

or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of Sexual Harassment that justifies removal. If the Academy determines the student Respondent poses such a threat, it will so notify the student Respondent and the student Respondent will have an opportunity to challenge the decision immediately following the removal. See Policy 5610 – Emergency Removal, Suspension, and Expulsion of Students and Policy 5611 – Due Process Rights.

If the Respondent is a non-student employee, the Academy may place the Respondent on administrative leave during the pendency of the grievance process.

For all other Respondents, including other members of the Academy community and Third Parties, the Board retains broad discretion to prohibit such persons from entering onto its school grounds and other properties at any time and for any reason, whether after receiving a report of Sexual Harassment or otherwise.

### **Formal Complaint of Sexual Harassment**

A Formal Complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, or by electronic mail, by using the contact information set forth above. If a Formal Complaint involves allegations of Sexual Harassment by or involving the Title IX Coordinator, the Complainant should submit the Formal Complaint to the Educational Service Provider, who will designate another person to serve in place of the Title IX Coordinator for the limited purpose of implementing the grievance process with respect to that Formal Complaint.

When the Title IX Coordinator receives a Formal Complaint or signs a Formal Complaint, the Academy will follow its Grievance Process, as set forth herein. Specifically, the Academy will undertake an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence – including both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence – and provide that credibility determinations will not be based on a person’s status as a Complainant, Respondent, or witness.

It is a violation of this policy for a Complainant(s), Respondent(s), and/or witness(es) to knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process, including intentionally making a false report of Sexual Harassment or submitting a false Formal Complaint. The Board will not tolerate such conduct, which is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and the Employee/Administrator Handbook.

The Respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process.

### **Timeline**

The Academy will seek to conclude the grievance process, including resolving any appeals, within sixty (60) days of receipt of the Formal Complaint.

If the Title IX Coordinator offers informal resolution processes, the informal resolution processes may not be used by the Complainant or Respondent to unduly delay the investigation and determination of responsibility. The timeline, however, may be subject to a temporary delay of the grievance process or a limited extension for good cause with written notice to the Complainant and the Respondent of the delay or extension and the reasons for the action. Good cause may include considerations such as the absence of a party, a party’s advisor, or a witness; concurrent law enforcement activity; and the need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities.

Upon receipt of a Formal Complaint, the Title IX Coordinator will provide written notice of the following to the parties who are known:

- A. Notice of the Board’s grievance process, including any informal resolution processes;
- B. Notice of the allegations of misconduct that potentially constitutes Sexual Harassment as defined in this policy, including sufficient details known at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview. Sufficient details include the identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known, the conduct allegedly constituting Sexual Harassment, and the date and



location of the alleged incident, if known. The written notice must:

1. include a statement that the Respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility will be made at the conclusion of the grievance process;
2. inform the parties that they may have an advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, and may inspect and review evidence.
3. inform the parties of any provision in the Student Code of Conduct, this policy, and/or Employee/Administrator Handbook that prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process.

If, during the course of the investigation, the investigator becomes aware of allegations about the Complainant or Respondent that are not included in the original notice provided to the parties, the investigator will notify the Title IX Coordinator and the Title IX Coordinator will decide whether the investigator should investigate the additional allegations; if the Title IX Coordinator decides to include the new allegations as part of the investigation, the Title IX Coordinator will provide notice of the additional allegations to the parties whose identities are known.

### **Dismissal of a Formal Complaint**

The Academy shall investigate the allegations in a Formal Complaint, *unless* the conduct alleged in the Formal Complaint:

- A. would not constitute Sexual Harassment (as defined in this policy) even if proved;
- B. did not occur in the Academy's education program or activity; or
- C. did not occur against a person in the United States.

If one of the preceding circumstances exist, the Title IX Coordinator *shall* dismiss the Formal Complaint. If the Title IX Coordinator dismisses the Formal Complaint due to one of the preceding reasons, the Academy may still investigate and take action with respect to such alleged misconduct pursuant to another provision of an applicable code of conduct, Board policy, and/or Employee/Administrator Handbook.

The Title IX Coordinator *may* dismiss a Formal Complaint, or any allegations therein, if at any time during the investigation:

- A. a Complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that the Complainant would like to withdraw the Formal Complaint or any allegations therein;
- B. the Respondent is no longer enrolled in the Academy or employed by the Board; or
- C. specific circumstances prevent the Academy from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the Formal Complaint or allegations therein.

If the Title IX Coordinator dismisses a Formal Complaint or allegations therein, the Title IX Coordinator must promptly send written notice of the dismissal and the reason(s) therefore simultaneously to the parties.

### **Consolidation of Formal Complaints**

The Title IX Coordinator may consolidate Formal Complaints as to allegations of Sexual Harassment against more than one Respondent, or by more than one Complainant against one or more Respondents, or by one party against the other party, where the allegations of Sexual Harassment arise out of the same facts or circumstances.

Where a grievance process involves more than one Complainant or more than one Respondent, references in this policy to the singular "party," "Complainant," or "Respondent" include the plural, as applicable.

### **Informal Resolution Process**

Under no circumstances shall a Complainant be required as a condition of enrollment or continuing enrollment, or employment or continuing employment, or enjoyment of any other right, to waive any right to an investigation and adjudication of a Formal Complaint of Sexual Harassment. Similarly, no party shall be required to participate in an informal resolution process.

If a Formal Complaint is filed, the Title IX Coordinator may offer to the parties an informal resolution process. If the parties mutually agree to participate in the informal resolution process, the Title IX Coordinator shall designate a trained individual to facilitate an informal resolution process, such as mediation, that does not involve a full investigation and adjudication. The informal resolution process may be used at any time prior to the decision-maker(s) reaching a determination regarding responsibility.

If the Title IX Coordinator is going to propose an informal resolution process, the Title IX Coordinator shall provide to the parties a written notice disclosing:

- A. the allegations;
- B. the requirements of the informal resolution process including the circumstances under which it precludes the parties from resuming a Formal Complaint arising from the same allegations; and
- C. any consequences resulting from participating in the informal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained or could be shared.

Any time prior to agreeing to a resolution, any party has the right to withdraw from the informal resolution process and resume the grievance process with respect to the Formal Complaint.

Before commencing the informal resolution process, the Title IX Coordinator shall obtain from the parties their voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution process.

During the pendency of the informal resolution process, the investigation and adjudication processes that would otherwise occur have stayed and all related deadlines are suspended.

The informal resolution process is not available to resolve allegations that an Educational Service Provider employee or another adult member of the Academy community or Third Party sexually harassed a student.

The informal resolution process is not available to resolve allegations involving a sexual assault involving a student Complainant and a student Respondent.

### **Investigation of a Formal Complaint of Sexual Harassment**

In conducting the investigation of a Formal Complaint and throughout the grievance process, the burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility is on the Academy, not the parties.

In making the determination of responsibility, the decision-maker(s) is(are) directed to use the preponderance of the evidence standard. The decision-maker(s) is charged with considering the totality of all available evidence, from all relevant sources.

The Academy is not permitted to access, consider, disclose, or otherwise use a party's records that are made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in the professional's or paraprofessional's capacity, or assisting in that capacity, and which are made and maintained in connection with the provision of treatment to the party, unless the party provides the Academy with voluntary, written consent to do so; if a student party is not an Eligible Student, the Academy must obtain the voluntary, written consent of a parent.

Similarly, the investigator(s) and decision-maker(s) may not require, allow, rely upon or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege, unless the person holding such privilege has waived the privilege in writing.

As part of the investigation, the parties have the right to:

- A. present witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence; and
- B. have others present during any grievance proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by the advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney. The Academy may not limit the choice or presence of an advisor for either the Complainant or Respondent in any meeting or grievance proceeding.

Neither party shall be restricted in their ability to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence.

The Academy will provide to a party whose participation is invited or expected written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of all investigative interviews, or other meetings, with sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate. The investigator(s) and decision-maker(s) must provide a minimum of one (1) days' notice with respect to investigative interviews and other meetings.

Both parties shall have an equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in the Formal Complaint, including the evidence upon which the Academy does not intend to rely in reaching a determination regarding responsibility and inculpatory or exculpatory evidence whether obtained from a party or other source, so that each party can meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to the conclusion of the investigation.

Prior to completion of the investigative report, the investigator or Title IX Coordinator will send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the evidence subject to inspection and review in an electronic format or a hard copy, and the parties will have at least ten (10) calendar days to submit a written response, which the investigator will consider prior to completion of the investigative report.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the investigator shall create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence and send the report to each party and the party's advisor, if any, for their review and written response. The investigator will send the investigative report in an electronic format or a hard copy, at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the decision-maker(s) issuing a determination regarding responsibility.

### **Determination of Responsibility**

The Title IX Coordinator shall appoint a decision-maker(s) to issue a determination of responsibility. The decision-maker(s) cannot be the same person(s) as the Title IX Coordinator(s) or the investigator(s).

After the investigator sends the investigative report to the parties and the decision-maker(s), and before the decision-maker(s) reaches a determination regarding responsibility, the decision-maker(s) will afford each party the opportunity to submit written, relevant questions that a party wants asked of any party or witness, provide each party with the answers, and allow for additional, limited follow-up questions from each party. The decision-maker(s) must explain to the party proposing the questions any decision to exclude a question as not relevant.

Questions and evidence about the Complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions and evidence about the Complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the conduct alleged by the Complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the Complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the Respondent and are offered to prove consent. The decision-maker(s) must explain to the party proposing the questions any decision to exclude a question as not relevant.

Determination regarding responsibility: The decision-maker(s) will issue a written determination regarding responsibility. To reach this determination, the decision-maker(s) must apply the preponderance of the evidence standard.

The written determination will include the following content:

- A. identification of the allegations potentially constituting Sexual Harassment pursuant to this policy;
- B. a description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt of the Formal Complaint through the determination, including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, [and] methods used to gather other evidence;
- C. findings of fact supporting the determination;
- D. Conclusions regarding the application of the applicable code of conduct to the facts;
- E. a statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including a determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions the decision-maker(s) is recommending that the Academy impose on the Respondent(s), and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the Academy's education program or activity should be provided by the Academy to the Complainant(s); and
- F. the procedures and permissible bases for the Complainant(s) and Respondent(s) to appeal.

The following disciplinary sanctions/consequences may be imposed on a student Respondent who is determined responsible for violating this policy (i.e., engaging in Sexual Harassment):

- A. Informal Discipline
  - 1. changing of seating or location;
  - 2. in-school discipline;
- B. Formal Discipline
  - 1. suspension of bus riding/transportation privileges;
  - 2. removal from co-curricular and/or extra-curricular activity(ies), including athletics;
  - 3. emergency removal;
  - 4. suspension for up to ten (10) school days;
  - 5. long-term suspension or expulsion;
  - 6. any other sanction authorized by the Student Code of Conduct.

If the decision-maker(s) determines the student Respondent is responsible for violating this policy (i.e., engaging in Sexual Harassment), the decision-maker(s) will recommend appropriate remedies, including disciplinary sanctions/consequences. The Title IX Coordinator will notify the Educational Service Provider of the recommended remedies, so an authorized administrator can consider the recommendation(s) and implement an appropriate remedy(ies) in compliance with Policy 5600 – Student Discipline, Policy 5605 – Suspension/Expulsion of Students with Disabilities, Policy 5610 – Emergency Removal, Suspension, and Expulsion of Students, Policy 5610.02 – In-School Discipline, and Policy 5611 – Due Process Rights. Discipline of a student Respondent must comply with the applicable provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1972, and their respective implementing regulations.

The following disciplinary sanctions/consequences may be imposed on an employee Respondent who is determined responsible for violating this policy (i.e., engaging in Sexual Harassment):

- A. oral or written warning;
- B. written reprimands;
- C. performance improvement plan;
- D. required counseling;
- E. required training or education;
- F. demotion;
- G. suspension with pay;
- H. suspension without pay;
- I. termination, and any other sanction authorized by any applicable Employee/Administrator Handbook and/or collective bargaining agreement.

If the decision-maker(s) determines the employee Respondent is responsible for violating this policy (i.e., engaging in Sexual Harassment), the decision-maker(s) will recommend appropriate remedies, including disciplinary sanctions/consequences. The Title IX Coordinator will notify the Educational Service Provider of the recommended remedies, so an authorized administrator can consider the recommendation(s) and implement an appropriate remedy(ies) in compliance with applicable due process procedures, whether statutory or contractual.

Discipline of an employee will be implemented in accordance with Federal and State law, Board policy, and applicable provisions of any relevant collective bargaining agreement.

The following disciplinary sanctions/consequences may be imposed on a non-student/non-employee member of the Academy community or Third Party who is determined responsible for violating this policy (i.e., engaging in Sexual Harassment):

- A. oral or written warning;
- B. suspension or termination/cancellation of the Board's contract with the third-party vendor or contractor;
- C. mandatory monitoring of the third-party while on academy property and/or while working/interacting with students;
- D. restriction/prohibition on the third-party's ability to be on academy property; and
- E. any combination of the same.

If the decision-maker(s) determines the third-party Respondent is responsible for violating this policy (i.e., engaging in Sexual Harassment), the decision-maker(s) will recommend appropriate remedies, including imposition of sanctions. The Title IX Coordinator will notify the Educational Service Provider of the recommended remedies, so appropriate action can be taken.

The decision-maker(s) will provide the written determination to the Title IX Coordinator who will provide the written determination to the parties simultaneously.

In ultimately, imposing a disciplinary sanction/consequence, the Educational Service Provider will consider the severity of the incident, previous disciplinary violations (if any), and any mitigating circumstances.

The Academy's resolution of a Formal Complaint ordinarily will not be impacted by the fact that criminal charges involving the same incident have been filed or that charges have been dismissed or reduced.

At any point in the grievance process, the Educational Service Provider may involve local law enforcement and/or file criminal charges related to allegations of Sexual Harassment that involve a sexual assault.

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for effective implementation of any remedies.

### **Appeal**

Both parties have the right to file an appeal from a determination regarding responsibility, or from the Title IX Coordinator's dismissal of a Formal Complaint or any allegations therein, on the following bases:

- A. Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter (e.g., material deviation from established procedures);
- B. New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; and
- C. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or the individual Complainant(s) or Respondent(s) that affected the outcome of the matter.
- D. The recommended remedies (including disciplinary sanctions/consequences) are unreasonable in light of the findings of fact (i.e., the nature and severity of the Sexual Harassment).

Any party wishing to appeal the decision-maker(s)'s determination of responsibility, or the Title IX Coordinator's dismissal of a Formal Complaint or any allegations therein, must submit a written appeal to the Title IX Coordinator within five (5) days after receipt of the decision-maker(s)'s determination of responsibility or the Title IX Coordinator's dismissal of a Formal Complaint or any allegations therein.

Nothing herein shall prevent the Educational Service Provider from implementing appropriate remedies, however, excluding disciplinary sanction, while the appeal is pending.

As to all appeals, the Title IX Coordinator will notify the other party in writing when an appeal is filed and implement appeal procedures equally for both parties.

The decision-maker(s) for the appeal shall not be the same person(s) as the decision-maker(s) that reached the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal, the investigator(s), or the Title IX Coordinator(s). The decision-maker(s) for the appeal shall not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or an individual Complainant(s) or Respondent(s) and shall receive the same training as required of other decision-makers.

Both parties shall have a reasonable, equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome. The decision-maker(s) for the appeal shall determine when each party's written statement is due.

The decision-maker(s) for the appeal shall issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result. The original decision-maker(s)' determination of responsibility will stand if the appeal request is not filed in a timely manner or the appealing party fails to show clear error and/or a compelling rationale for overturning or modifying the original determination. The written decision will be provided to the Title IX Coordinator who will provide it simultaneously to both parties. The written decision will be issued within five (5) days of when the parties' written statements were submitted.

The determination of responsibility associated with a Formal Complaint, including any recommendations for remedies/disciplinary sanctions, becomes final when the time for filing an appeal has passed or, if an appeal is filed, at the point when the decision-maker(s) for the appeal's decision is delivered to the Complainant and the Respondent. No further review beyond the appeal is permitted.

### **Retaliation**

Neither the Board nor any other person may intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX, its implementing regulations, or this policy, or because the individual made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this policy. Intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination, including charges against an individual for code of conduct violations that do not involve sex discrimination or Sexual Harassment, but arise out of the same facts or circumstances as a report or complaint of sex discrimination, or a report or Formal Complaint of Sexual Harassment, for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX, its implementing regulations, or this policy, constitutes retaliation. Retaliation against a person for making a report of Sexual Harassment, filing a Formal Complaint, or participating in an investigation, is a serious violation of this policy that can result in imposition of disciplinary sanctions/consequences and/or other appropriate remedies.

Complaints alleging retaliation may be filed according to the grievance process set forth above.

The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution does not constitute retaliation prohibited under this policy.

Charging an individual with a code of conduct violation for making a materially false statement in bad faith in the course of a grievance proceeding under this policy shall not constitute retaliation, provided, however, that a determination regarding responsibility, alone, is not sufficient to conclude that any party made a materially false statement in bad faith.

### **Confidentiality**

The Academy will keep confidential the identity of any individual who has made a report or complaint of sex discrimination, including any individual who has made a report or filed a Formal Complaint of Sexual Harassment, any Complainant, any individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of sex discrimination, any Respondent, and any witness, except as may be permitted by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), 20 U.S.C. 1232g, or FERPA regulations, 34 CFR part 99, or as required by law, or to carry out the purposes of 34 CFR part 106, including the conduct of any investigation, hearing, or judicial proceeding arising thereunder (i.e., the Academy's obligation to maintain confidentiality shall not impair or otherwise affect the Complainant's and Respondent's receipt of the information to which they are entitled related to the investigative record and determination of responsibility).

### **Application of the First Amendment**

The Board will construe and apply this policy consistent with the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. In no case will a Respondent be found to have committed Sexual Harassment based on expressive conduct that is protected by the First Amendment.

### **Training**

The Academy's Title IX Coordinator, along with any investigator(s), decision-maker(s), or person(s) designated to facilitate an informal resolution process, must receive training on:

- A. the definition of Sexual Harassment (as that term is used in this policy);
- B. the scope of the Academy's education program or activity;

- C. how to conduct an investigation and implement the grievance process, appeals and informal resolution processes, as applicable; and
- D. how to serve impartially, including by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interests, and bias.

All Educational Service Provider employees will be trained concerning their legal obligation to report Sexual Harassment to the Title IX Coordinator. This training will include practical information about how to identify and report Sexual Harassment.

### **Recordkeeping**

As part of its response to alleged violations of this policy, the Academy shall create, and maintain for a period of seven (7) calendar years, records of any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or Formal Complaint of Sexual Harassment. In each instance, the Academy shall document the basis for its conclusion that its response was not deliberately indifferent, and document that it has taken measures designed to restore or preserve equal access to the Academy's education program or activity. If the Academy does not provide a Complainant with supportive measures, then the Academy will document the reasons why such a response was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances. The documentation of certain bases or measures does not limit the Academy in the future from providing additional explanations or detailing additional measures taken.

The Academy shall maintain for a period of seven (7) calendar years the following records:

- A. each Sexual Harassment investigation including any determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions recommended and/or imposed on the Respondent(s), and any remedies provided to the Complainant(s) designed to restore or preserve equal access to the Academy's education program or activity
- B. any appeal and the result therefrom
- C. any informal resolution and the result therefrom, and
- D. all materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decisionmakers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process.

The Academy will make its training materials publicly available on its website. If a person is unable to access the Academy's website, the Title IX Coordinator will make the training materials available upon request for inspection by members of the public.

### **Outside Appointments, Dual Appointments, and Delegations**

The Board retains discretion to appoint suitably qualified persons who are not Educational Service Provider employees to fulfill any function of the Board under this policy, including, but not limited to, Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, decision-maker for appeals, facilitator of informal resolution processes, and advisor.

The Board also retains discretion to appoint two or more persons to jointly fulfill the role of Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, decision-maker for appeals, facilitator of informal resolution processes, and advisor.

The Educational Service Provider may delegate functions assigned to a specific Board employee under this policy, including but not limited to the functions assigned to the Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, decision-maker for appeals, facilitator of informal resolution processes, and advisor, to any suitably qualified individual and such delegation may be rescinded by the Educational Service Provider at any time.



### **Discretion in Application**

The Board retains discretion to interpret and apply this policy in a manner that is not clearly unreasonable, even if the Board's interpretation or application differs from the interpretation of any specific Complainant and/or Respondent.

Despite the Board's reasonable efforts to anticipate all eventualities in drafting this policy, it is possible unanticipated or extraordinary circumstances may not be specifically or reasonably addressed by the express policy language, in which case the Board retains discretion to respond to the unanticipated or extraordinary circumstance in a way that is not clearly unreasonable.

The provisions of this policy are not contractual in nature, whether in their own right, or as part of any other express or implied contract. Accordingly, the Board retains discretion to revise this policy at any time, and for any reason. The Board may apply policy revisions to an active case provided that doing so is not clearly unreasonable.

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Adoption Date: **12.20**  
Classification: **Legally Required**  
Revised Dates: ;

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## **PROHIBITION OF REFERRAL OR ASSISTANCE**

Reference: M.C.L. 388.1766

In accordance with Michigan statute, any academy official, member of the Board of Directors, or employee of the Board who is not the parent or the legal guardian of the student involved is prohibited from referring a student for an abortion or assisting a student in obtaining an abortion. Any academy official, member of the Board, or employee of the Board who violates this policy is subject to disciplinary action.

Any alleged violation of this policy shall be reported to the Educational Service Provider, who shall follow the procedures set out in Policy 1439, Policy 3139, or the current negotiated bargaining agreement, whichever is applicable, to investigate the allegation. If the allegation relates to an academy official, member of the Board, or employee of the Board to whom Policy 1439, Policy 3139 or a current negotiated bargaining agreement does not apply, the Educational Service Provider shall conduct an investigation, as appropriate to the situation, including providing the person with reasonable notice and the opportunity to respond. All disciplinary measures available under Board Policy 1439 or Policy 3139 may be utilized, as appropriate, if the Educational Service Provider determines that a violation of this policy occurred.

Revised 2/20/20

## REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING

Reference: MCL 380.1169, 380.1507, 388.1766  
AC Rule 388.273 et seq.

The Board of Directors directs that instruction be provided on the principal modes by which dangerous communicable diseases, including HIV and AIDS, are spread and the best methods for the restriction and prevention of these diseases. The instruction shall stress that abstinence from sex is the only protection that is 100% effective against unplanned pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV and AIDS, and that abstinence is a positive lifestyle for unmarried young people.

No person shall dispense or otherwise distribute in an Academy or on Academy property a family planning drug or device. Additionally, any academy official, member of the Board, or employee of the Board who is not the parent or the legal guardian of the student involved is prohibited from referring a student for an abortion or assisting a student in obtaining an abortion.

Each person who teaches K to 12 students about human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome shall have training in human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome education for young people. Licensed health care professionals who have received training on human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome are exempt from this requirement.

The Academy shall notify parents, in advance of the instruction, about the content of the instruction, give the parents an opportunity, prior to instruction, to review the materials to be used (other than tests), and observe the instruction. The Academy shall further advise the parents of their right to have their child excused from the instruction.

Before any revisions to the curriculum on the subjects taught pursuant to M.C.L. 380.1169 are implemented, the Board shall hold at least two (2) public hearings on the proposed revisions. The hearings shall be held at least one (1) week apart and public notice of the hearings shall be given in the manner required for board meetings. A public hearing held pursuant to this section may be held in conjunction with a public hearing held pursuant to M.C.L. 380.1507.

Adopted 2/20/20

## **EDUCATIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER STATEMENT**

All staff of the Kalamazoo Covenant Academy are employees of Axios, LLC, the employer of record, as per the contractual agreement between the Kalamazoo Covenant Academy Board of Directors and Axios, LLC. All employees, therefore, are subject to all personnel policies and regulations established by Axios, LLC.

It shall be the responsibility of Axios, LLC to ensure that all Federal and State employment regulations are in full compliance. Further, Axios, LLC shall respond to any inquiries or complaints promptly in full accordance with law.

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Adoption Date: **08.21**

Classification:

Revised Dates: ;

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3000 Educational Service Provider Statement

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Adoption Date: **04.19**  
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Adoption Date: **04.19**

Classification:

Revised Dates: **2/20/20; 12/17/20; 08.21**

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## USE OF MEDICATIONS

Reference: MCL 37.1211(a); 20 USC §§ 5812, 7114; 41 USC § 702; 42 USC §§ 12114, 12210; 28 CFR § 35.131; 29 CFR §§ 825.112, 1630.3; 49 CFR §§ 382.121, 382.401, 382.601

Neither the Board of Directors nor the School Leader shall be responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of student illness. The administration of prescribed medication and/or medically-prescribed treatments to a student during school hours will be permitted only when failure to do so would jeopardize the health of the student, the student would not be able to attend school if the medication or treatment were not made available during school hours, or the child is disabled and requires medication to benefit from his/her educational program.

For purposes of this policy, *medication* shall include all medicines including those prescribed by a physician and any non-prescribed (over-the-counter) drugs, preparations, and/or remedies and performance-enhancing drugs as defined in AG 2431C. *Treatment* refers both to the manner in which a medication is administered and to health-care procedures that require special training, such as catheterization.

Before any prescribed medication or treatment may be administered to any student during school hours, the Board shall require the written prescription from the child's physician and the written authorization of the parent.

Both must also authorize any self-medication by the student.

Before any non-prescribed medication or treatment may be administered, the Board shall require the prior written consent of the parent.

Medications will be administered by the Academy in accordance with the School Leader's procedures.

Only medication in its original container that is labeled with the date (if a prescription), the student's name, and exact dosage may be administered. Parents, or students authorized in writing by their physician and parents, may administer medication or treatment.

Staff members are to administer medication or treatment only in the presence of another adult, except in the case of an emergency that threatens the life or health of the student. Staff licensed as professional registered nurses are exempt from this requirement.

All staff authorized to administer medication or treatment will receive training on appropriate procedures for administering the medication or treatment. This training shall be provided by qualified individuals with knowledge of the Academy's policy and procedures and knowledge of the administration of medications or treatment.

All medication shall be kept in a locked storage case in the Academy's office.

Students may possess and self-administer a metered dose or dry powder inhaler for relief of asthma (or before exercise to prevent onset of asthma symptoms), while at the school, on school-sponsored transportation, or at any school-sponsored activity in accordance with the Administrative Procedures, if all of the following conditions are met:

There is written approval from the student's physician or other health care provider and the student's parent/guardian (if student is under eighteen (18) to possess and use the inhaler (Form 5330 F1c) and

- A. The School Leader has received a copy of the written approvals from the physician and the parent/guardian.

And

- B. There is on file at the student's Academy a written emergency care plan prepared by a licensed physician in collaboration with the student and his/her parent/legal guardian. The plan shall contain specific instructions on the student's needs including what to do in the event of an emergency.

Students with a need for emergency medication may also be allowed to self possess and self administer such medication, provided that they meet the same conditions established above. Students who are prescribed epinephrine to treat anaphylaxis shall be allowed to self possess and administer the medication if they meet the conditions stated above.

Students shall be permitted to possess and self-administer U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved, over-the-counter topical products while on academy property or at an academy-sponsored event provided the student has submitted prior written approval of his/her parent/guardian to the School Leader or other chief administrator of the student's academy.

This policy and the Administrative Procedures developed to establish appropriate procedures shall be implemented in such a manner to comply with Academy's obligations and the student's needs under any Individualized Education Plan, Section 504 Plan, or other legally required accommodation for individuals with disabilities.

The School Leader shall prepare Administrative Procedures to ensure the proper implementation of this policy.

Adopted 4/18/19



## **DO NOT RESUSCITATE ORDERS (DNR) FOR MINOR STUDENTS**

Reference:

M.C.L. 333.1051, et. seq.  
M.C.L. 380.1180

After April 4, 2021, if a parent or legal guardian who is legally authorized to execute a "Do Not Resuscitate" order ("DNR Order") for a student provides Academy administration with a copy of a duly executed DNR Order compliant with the law and in substantially the same form as dictated by statute, Academy administration shall proceed as follows.

If the administrator who receives a copy of a DNR Order from a parent or legal guardian of a student is not the School Leader, the administrator shall immediately provide the School Leader with the DNR Order.

The School Leader shall ensure that all of the following conditions are met:

- A. The copy of the DNR Order must be placed in a file created specifically for a copy of a DNR Order or the revocation of a DNR Order in a manner and location to be determined by the School Leader, regardless of whether the order pertains to a student with an individualized education program.
- B. If the Academy received a copy of a DNR Order for a student during the immediately preceding school year, the School Leader, or his/her designee, must inquire of the student's parent or legal guardian at the beginning of each school year subsequent to which the DNR Order was in effect to determine if the order is still in effect.
- C. The School Leader, or his/her designee, must provide actual notice of the DNR Order to each teacher or other academy employee who provides instructional or noninstructional services directly to the student.

If an administrator received actual notice of a revocation of a DNR Order, s/he shall immediately provide the revocation to the School Leader and the School Leader, or his/her designee shall immediately place the revocation in the file created per the instruction and provide actual notice of the revocation to each teacher or other academy employee who provides instructional or noninstructional service directly to the student.

The Board shall ensure that timely and appropriate training regarding compliance with the DNR Order is provided to each teacher or other academy employee who provides services to a student with a DNR Order, according to his/her level of responsibility.

An individual who determines that a minor student, while located at the academy, is wearing a do-not-resuscitate identification bracelet or an individual who has actual notice of valid DNR Order related to the minor student shall not attempt to resuscitate the minor student before an appropriate health professional arrives to assist.

Adoption Date: **08.21**  
Classification: **Legally Required**  
Revised Dates: ;

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## **PHYSICIAN ORDER FOR SCOPE OF TREATMENT (POST)**

Reference:

M.C.L. 380.1181

An administrator who receives a copy of a physician order for scope of treatment ("POST") form from a parent or legal guardian of a student enrolled in the Academy shall immediately provide the form to the School Leader.

- A. The School Leader shall ensure that all of the following conditions are met:
  - 1. The copy of the POST form must be placed in a file created specifically for a copy of a POST form or the revocation of a POST form, in a manner and location to be determined by the School Leader or his/her designee, regardless of whether the form pertains to a student with an individualized education program.
  - 2. If the Academy received a copy of a POST form for a student during the immediately preceding school year, the School Leader, or his/her designee, must inquire of the student's parent or legal guardian at the beginning of each school year subsequent to which the POST form was in effect to determine if the order is still in effect and request an updated copy of the form, if applicable.
  - 3. The School Leader, or his/her designee, must provide actual notice of the POST form described in this subsection to each teacher or other academy employee who provides instructional or noninstructional services directly to the student.
- B. If an administrator receives actual notice of a revocation of a POST form, s/he shall immediately provide the revocation to the School Leader, and the School Leader or his/her designee shall immediately place the revocation in the file described under subsection (1)(a) and shall provide actual notice of the revocation to each teacher or other academy employee who provides instructional or noninstructional services directly to the student, regardless of whether the revocation pertains to a student with an individualized education program.
- C. The Board shall ensure that timely and appropriate training regarding compliance with the POST form is provided to each teacher or other academy employee who provides services to a student with a POST form, according to his/her level of responsibility.

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Adoption Date: **08.21**  
Classification: **Legally Required**  
Revised Dates: ;

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## **ANTI-HARASSMENT**

Reference:

Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC 2000d et seq.  
20 U.S.C. 1400 ET SEQ., The Individuals with Disabilities Education improvement Act of 2004 (IDEIA)  
20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.  
29 U.S.C. 794, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended  
29 U.S.C. 6101, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975  
42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.  
42 USC 2000e et seq.  
42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq., Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended  
42 USC 1983  
42 USC 2000ff et seq., The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act  
29 C.F.R. Part 1635  
Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, 20 USC 1681 et seq.  
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 794  
The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 USC 12101 et seq.  
The Handicappers' Civil Rights Act, MCL 37.1101 et seq.  
The Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, MCL 37.2101, et seq.  
Policies on Bullying, Michigan State Board of Education, 7-19-01  
Model Anti-Bullying Policy, Michigan State Board of Education, 09-2006  
National School Boards Association Inquiry and Analysis – May 2008

### **General Policy Statement**

It is the policy of the Board of Directors to maintain an education and work environment that is free from all forms of unlawful harassment, including sexual harassment. This commitment applies to all Academy operations, programs, and activities. All students, administrators, teachers, staff, and all other school personnel share responsibility for avoiding, discouraging, and reporting any form of unlawful harassment. This policy applies to unlawful conduct occurring on Academy property, or at another location if such conduct occurs during an activity sponsored by the Board.

The Board will vigorously enforce its prohibition against discriminatory harassment based on race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, height, weight, marital or family status, military status ancestry, or genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes") that are protected by Federal civil rights laws (hereinafter referred to as unlawful harassment), and encourages those within the Academy community as well as Third Parties, who feel aggrieved to seek assistance to rectify such problems. The Board will investigate all allegations of harassment and in those cases where unlawful harassment is substantiated, the Board will take immediate steps to end the harassment, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects. Individuals who are found to have engaged in unlawful harassment will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

### **Other Violations of the Anti-Harassment Policy**

The Board will also take immediate steps to impose disciplinary action on individuals engaging in any of the following prohibited acts:

- A. Retaliating against a person who has made a report or filed a complaint alleging unlawful harassment, or who has participated as a witness in a harassment investigation.
- B. Filing a malicious or knowingly false report or complaint of unlawful harassment.

- C. Disregarding, failing to investigate adequately, or delaying investigation of allegations of unlawful harassment, when responsibility for reporting and/or investigating harassment charges comprises part of one's supervisory duties.

### **Definitions**

Words used in this policy shall have those meanings defined herein; words not defined herein shall be construed according to their plain and ordinary meanings.

**Academy community** means students and Board employees (i.e., administrators, and professional and classified staff), as well as Board members, agents, volunteers, contractors, or other persons subject to the control and supervision of the Board.

**Complainant** is the individual who alleges, or is alleged, to have been subjected to unlawful discrimination/retaliation, regardless of whether the person files a formal complaint or is pursuing an informal resolution to the alleged discrimination/retaliation.

**Respondent** is the individual who has been alleged to have engaged in unlawful discrimination/retaliation, regardless of whether the Reporting Party files a formal complaint or is seeking an informal resolution to the alleged discrimination/retaliation.

**Third Parties** include, but are not limited to, guests and/or visitors on Academy property (e.g., visiting speakers, participants on opposing athletic teams, parents), vendors doing business with, or seeking to do business with, the Board, and other individuals who come in contact with members of the Academy community at academy-related events/activities (whether on or off Academy property).

**Day(s):** Unless expressly stated otherwise, the term "day" or "days" as used in this policy means a business day(s) (i.e., a day(s) that the Board office is open for normal operating hours, Monday - Friday, excluding State-recognized holidays).

### **Bullying**

Bullying rises to the level of unlawful harassment when one or more persons systematically and chronically inflict physical hurt or psychological distress on one (1) or more students or employees and that bullying is based upon one (1) or more Protected Classes, that is, characteristics that are protected by Federal civil rights laws. It is defined as any unwanted and repeated written, verbal, or physical behavior, including any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, by an adult or student, that is severe or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational or work environment; cause discomfort or humiliation; or unreasonably interfere with the individual's school or work performance or participation; and may involve:

- A. teasing;
- B. threats;
- C. intimidation;
- D. stalking;
- E. cyberstalking;
- F. cyberbullying;
- G. physical violence;
- H. theft;

- I. sexual, religious, or racial harassment;
- J. public humiliation; or
- K. destruction of property.

### **Harassment**

"Harassment" means any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of technology, or written, verbal or physical conduct directed against a student or Academy employee that:

- A. places a student or Academy employee in reasonable fear of harm to his/her person or damage to his/her property;
- B. has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits, or an employee's work performance; or
- C. has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the Academy.

### **Sexual Harassment**

For purposes of this policy and consistent with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 "sexual harassment" is defined as:

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, when:

- A. Submission to such conduct is made either implicitly or explicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment, or status in a class, educational program, or activity;
- B. Submission or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or educational decisions affecting such individual;
- C. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity.

Sexual harassment may involve the behavior of a person of any gender against a person of the same or another gender.

Sexual Harassment covered by Policy 2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities is not included in this policy. Allegations of such conduct shall be addressed solely by Policy 2266.

Prohibited acts that constitute sexual harassment under this policy may take a variety of forms. Examples of the kinds of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- A. Unwelcome sexual propositions, invitations, solicitations, and flirtations.
- B. Unwanted physical and/or sexual contact.
- C. Threats or insinuations that a person's employment, wages, academic grade, promotion, classroom work or assignments, academic status, participation in athletics or extra-curricular programs, activities, or events, or other conditions of employment or education may be adversely affected by not submitting to sexual advances.

- D. Unwelcome verbal expressions, including graphic sexual commentaries about a person's body, dress, appearance, or sexual activities; the unwelcome use of sexually degrading language, profanity, jokes or innuendoes; unwelcome suggestive or insulting sounds or whistles; obscene telephone calls.
- E. Sexually suggestive objects, pictures, graffiti, videotapes, posters, audio recordings or literature, placed in the work or educational environment, that may reasonably embarrass or offend individuals.
- F. Unwelcome and inappropriate touching, patting, or pinching; obscene gestures.
- G. Asking about, or telling about, sexual fantasies, sexual preferences, or sexual activities;
- H. Speculations about a person's sexual activities or sexual history, or remarks about one's own sexual activities or sexual history;
- I. Giving unwelcome personal gifts such as lingerie that suggest the desire for a romantic relationship;
- J. Leering or staring at someone in a sexual way, such as staring at a person's breasts, buttocks, or groin;
- K. A pattern of conduct, which can be subtle in nature, that has sexual overtones and is intended to create or has the effect of creating discomfort and/or humiliation to another.
- L. Inappropriate boundary invasions by a employee or other adult member of the Academy community into a student's personal space and personal life.
- M. Verbal, nonverbal or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex or sex-stereotyping that does not involve conduct of a sexual nature.

Not all behavior with sexual connotations constitutes unlawful sexual harassment. Sex-based or gender-based conduct must be sufficiently severe, pervasive, and persistent such that it adversely affects, limits, or denies an individual's employment or education, or such that it creates a hostile or abusive employment or educational environment, or such that it is intended to, or has the effect of, denying or limiting a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the educational program or activities.

### **Race/Color Harassment**

Prohibited racial harassment occurs when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based upon an individual's race or color and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. Such harassment may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's race or color, such as racial slurs, nicknames implying stereotypes, epithets, and/or negative references relative to racial customs.

### **Religious (Creed) Harassment**

Prohibited religious harassment occurs when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based upon an individual's religion or creed and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. Such harassment may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's religious tradition, clothing, or surnames, and/or involves religious slurs.

### **National Origin Harassment**

Prohibited national origin/ancestry harassment occurs when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based upon an individual's national origin or ancestry and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. Such harassment may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's national origin or ancestry, such as negative comments regarding customs, manner of speaking, language, surnames, or ethnic slurs.

### **Disability Harassment**

Prohibited disability harassment occurs when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based upon an individual's disability and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. Such harassment may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's disability, such as negative comments about speech patterns, movement, physical impairments or defects/appearances, or the like. Such harassment may further occur where conduct is directed at or pertains to a person's genetic information.

### **Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers**

The following individual(s) shall serve as the Academy's Anti-Harassment Compliance Officer(s) (hereinafter, "the Compliance Officer(s)"):

School Leader  
400 W. Crosstown Parkway, Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
296-888-2700

Supervisor of Academic Progress  
400 W. Crosstown Parkway, Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
296-888-2700

The names, titles, and contact information of these individuals will be published annually on the Academy's web site.

The Compliance Officer(s) are responsible for coordinating the Academy's efforts to comply with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations, including the Academy's duty to address in a prompt and equitable manner any inquiries or complaints regarding harassment.

The Compliance Officer(s) will be available during regular school/work hours to discuss concerns related to unlawful harassment, to assist students, other members of the Academy community, and third parties who seek support or advice when informing another individual about "unwelcome" conduct, or to intercede informally on behalf of the individual in those instances where concerns have not resulted in the filing of a formal complaint and where all parties are in agreement to participate in an informal process.

Compliance Officers shall accept reports of unlawful harassment directly from any member of the Academy community or a Third Party or receive reports that are initially filed with an administrator, supervisor, or other Academy official. Upon receipt of a report of alleged harassment, the Compliance Officer(s) will contact the Complainant and begin either an informal or formal complaint process (depending on the request of the Complainant or the nature of the alleged harassment), or the Compliance Officer(s) will designate a specific individual to conduct such a process. The Compliance Officer(s) will provide a copy of this policy to the Complainant and Respondent. In the case of a formal complaint, the Compliance Officer(s) will prepare recommendations for the Educational Service Provider or will oversee the preparation of such recommendations by a designee. All Educational Service Provider employees must report incidents of harassment that are reported to them to the Compliance Officer within two (2) days of learning of the incident.



Any Educational Service Provider employee who directly observes unlawful harassment is obligated, in accordance with this policy, to report such observations to the Compliance Officer(s) within two (2) days. Additionally, any Educational Service Provider employee who observes an act of unlawful harassment is expected to intervene to stop the harassment, unless circumstances make such an intervention dangerous, in which case the staff member should immediately notify other Educational Service Provider employees and/or local law enforcement officials, as necessary, to stop the harassment. Thereafter, the Compliance Officer(s) or designee must contact the Complainant, if age eighteen (18) or older, or Complainant's parents/guardians if the Complainant is under the age eighteen (18), within two (2) days to advise of the Board's intent to investigate the alleged wrongdoing.

### **Reports and Complaints of Harassing Conduct**

Members of the Academy community along with Third Parties are encouraged to promptly report incidents of harassing conduct to the Academy's Anti-Harassment Compliance Officer so that the Academy's Anti-Harassment Compliance Officer may address the conduct before it becomes severe, pervasive, or persistent. Any administrator, supervisor, or other Academy official who receives such a report shall file it with the Compliance Officer within two (2) days of receiving the report of harassment.

Members of the Academy community and Third Parties who believe they have been unlawfully harassed by another member of the Academy community or a Third Party are entitled to utilize the Board's complaint process that is set forth below. Initiating a complaint, whether formally or informally, will not adversely affect the Complainant's employment or participation in educational or extra-curricular programs. While there are no time limits for initiating complaints of harassment under this policy, individuals should make every effort to file a complaint as soon as possible after the conduct occurs while the facts are known and potential witnesses are available.

If, during an investigation of alleged bullying, aggressive behavior and/or harassment in accordance with Policy 5517.01 – Bullying and Other Forms of Aggressive Behavior, the School Leader believes that the reported misconduct may have created a hostile work environment and may have constituted unlawful discriminatory harassment based on a Protected Class, the School Leader will report the act of bullying, aggressive behavior and/or harassment to the Compliance Officer(s) who shall investigate the allegation in accordance with this policy. If the alleged harassment involves Sexual Harassment as defined by Policy 2266, the matter will be handled in accordance with the grievance process and procedures outlined in Policy 2266. While the Compliance Officer investigates the allegation, or the matter is being addressed pursuant to Policy 2266, the School Leader shall suspend the Policy 5517.01 investigation to await the Compliance Officer's written report or the determination of responsibility pursuant to Policy 2266. The Compliance Officer shall keep the School Leader informed of the status of the 3362 investigation and provide the School Leader with a copy of the resulting written report. Likewise, the Title IX Coordinator will provide the School Leader with the determination of responsibility that results from the Policy 2266 grievance process.

### **Investigation and Complaint Procedure**

Except for Sexual Harassment that is covered by Policy 2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Program or Activities, any student who believes that they have been subjected to unlawful harassment may seek resolution of the complaint through either the procedures described below. The formal complaint process involves an investigation of the Complainant's claims of harassment or retaliation and a process for rendering a decision regarding whether the charges are substantiated.

Due to the sensitivity surrounding complaints of unlawful harassment or retaliation, time lines are flexible for initiating the complaint process; however, individuals should make every effort to file a complaint within thirty (30) days after the conduct occurs while the facts are known and potential witnesses are available. Once the formal complaint process is begun, the investigation will be completed in a timely manner (ordinarily, within fifteen (15) business days of the complaint being received).

The procedures set forth below are not intended to interfere with the rights of a student to pursue a complaint of unlawful harassment or retaliation with the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.

## **Informal Complaint Procedure**

The goal of the informal complaint procedure is to promptly stop inappropriate behavior and to facilitate resolution through an informal means, if possible. The informal complaint procedure is provided as a less formal option for a student who believes s/he has been unlawfully harassed or retaliated against. This informal procedure is not required as a precursor to the filing of a formal complaint. The informal process is only available in those circumstances where the Complainant and the Respondent mutually agree to participate in it.

Students who believe that they have been unlawfully harassed may initiate their complaint through this informal complaint process, but are not required to do so. The informal process is only available in those circumstances where the parties (alleged target of harassment and alleged harasser(s)) agree to participate in the informal process.

The Complainant may proceed immediately to the formal complaint process and individuals who seek resolution through the informal procedure may request that the informal process be terminated at any time to move to the formal complaint process.

All complaints involving an Educational Service Provider employee, any other adult member of the Academy community, or a Third Party and a student will be formally investigated.

As an initial course of action, if a Complainant feels comfortable and safe in doing so, the individual should tell or otherwise inform the Respondent that the allegedly harassing conduct is unwelcome and must stop. The Complainant should address the allegedly harassing conduct as soon after it occurs as possible. The Compliance Officers are available to support and counsel individuals when taking this initial step or to intervene on behalf of the Complainant if requested to do so. A Complainant who is uncomfortable or unwilling to directly approach the Respondent about the alleged inappropriate conduct may file an informal or a formal complaint. In addition, with regard to certain types of unlawful harassment, such as sexual harassment, the Compliance Officer may advise against the use of the informal complaint process.

A Complainant may make an informal complaint, either orally or in writing: (1) to a teacher, other employee, or building administrator in the school the student attends; (2) to the School Leader; and/or (3) directly to one of the Compliance Officers.

All informal complaints must be reported to one of the Compliance Officers who will either facilitate an informal resolution as described below, or appoint another individual to facilitate an informal resolution.

The Board's informal complaint procedure is designed to provide students who believe they are being unlawfully harassed with a range of options designed to bring about a resolution of their concerns. Depending upon the nature of the complaint and the wishes of the Complainant, informal resolution may involve, but not be limited to, one or more of the following:

- A. Advising the Complainant about how to communicate the unwelcome nature of the behavior to the Respondent.
- B. Distributing a copy of this anti-harassment policy as a reminder to the individuals in the school building or office where the Respondent works or attends.
- C. If both parties agree, the Compliance Officer may arrange and facilitate a meeting or mediation between the Complainant and the Respondent to work out a mutual resolution.

While there are no set time limits within which an informal complaint must be resolved, the Compliance Officer/designee is directed to attempt to resolve all informal complaints within fifteen (15) business days of receiving the informal complaint. If the Complainant is dissatisfied with the informal complaint, the Complainant process may proceed to file a formal complaint and, as stated above, either party may request that the informal process be terminated at any time to move to the formal complaint process.

## **Formal Complaint Procedure**

If a complaint is not resolved through the informal complaint process, if one of the parties has requested that the informal complaint process be terminated to move to the formal complaint process, or the Complainant, from the outset, elects to file a formal complaint, or the CO determines the allegations are not appropriate for resolution through the informal process, the formal complaint process shall be implemented.

The Complainant may file a formal complaint, either orally or in writing, with a teacher, principal, or other Academy official at the student's school, the Compliance Officer, School Leader, or another Academy employee who works at another school. Due to the sensitivity surrounding complaints of unlawful harassment and retaliation, timelines are flexible for initiating the complaint process; however, individuals should make every effort to file a formal complaint within thirty (30) days after the conduct occurs while the facts are known and potential witnesses are available. If a Complainant informs a teacher, principal, School Leader, or other Academy official, either orally or in writing, about any complaint of harassment or retaliation, that employee must report such information to the Compliance Officer/designee within two (2) business days.

Throughout the course of the process, the Compliance Officer should keep the parties reasonably informed of the status of the investigation and the decision-making process.

All formal complaints must include the following information to the extent known: the identity of the Respondent ; a detailed description of the facts upon which the complaint is based (i.e., when, where, and what occurred); a list of potential witnesses; and the resolution sought by the Complainant.

If the Complainant is unwilling or unable to provide a written statement including the information set forth above, the Compliance Officer shall ask for such details in an oral interview. Thereafter, the Compliance Officer will prepare a written summary of the oral interview, and the Complainant will be asked to verify the accuracy of the reported charge by signing the document.

Upon receiving a formal complaint, the Compliance Officer will consider whether any action should be taken in the investigatory phase to protect the Complainant from further harassment or retaliation, including, but not limited to, a change of work assignment or schedule for the Complainant and/or the Respondent. In making such a determination, the Compliance Officer should consult the Complainant to assess whether the individual agrees with the proposed action. If the Complainant is unwilling to consent to the proposed change, the Compliance Officer may still take whatever actions deemed appropriate in consultation with the School Leader.

Within two (2) business days of receiving the complaint, the Compliance Officer or a designee will initiate a formal investigation to determine whether the Complainant has been subjected to offensive conduct/harassment/retaliation. The Educational Service Provider will not conduct an investigation unless directed to do so by the Compliance Officer.

Simultaneously, the Compliance Officer will inform the Respondent that a formal complaint has been received. The Respondent will be informed about the nature of the allegations and provided with a copy of any relevant policies and/or administrative guidelines, including the Board's Anti-Harassment policy. The Respondent must also be informed of the opportunity to submit a written response to the formal complaint within five (5) days.

Although certain cases may require additional time, the Compliance Officer/designee will attempt to complete an investigation into the allegations of harassment/retaliation within fifteen (15) business days of receiving the formal complaint. The investigation will include:

- A. interviews with the Complainant;
- B. interviews with the Respondent;
- C. interviews with any other witnesses who may reasonably be expected to have any information relevant to the allegations;

- D. consideration of any documentation or other information presented by the Complainant, Respondent, or any other witness that is reasonably believed to be relevant to the allegations.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the Compliance Officer/designee shall prepare and deliver a written report to the Educational Service Provider that summarizes the evidence gathered during the investigation and provides recommendations based on the evidence and the definition of unlawful harassment as provided in Board policy and State and Federal law as to whether the Respondent engaged in unlawful harassment/retaliation of the Complainant. The Compliance Officer's recommendations must be based upon the totality of the circumstances. In determining if discriminatory harassment or retaliation occurred, a preponderance of evidence standard will be used. The Compliance Officer may consult with the Board's legal counsel before finalizing the report to the School Leader.

Absent extenuating circumstances, within ten (10) days of receiving the report of the Compliance Officer/designee, the Educational Service Provider must either issue a written decision regarding whether the complaint of harassment has been substantiated or request further investigation. A copy of the Educational Service Provider's final decision will be delivered to both the Complainant and the Respondent.

If the Educational Service Provider requests additional investigation, the Educational Service Provider must specify the additional information that is to be gathered, and such additional investigation must be completed within ten (10) school days. At the conclusion of the additional investigation, the Educational Service Provider shall issue a written decision as described above.

The decision of the Educational Service Provider shall be final.

The Board reserves the right to investigate and resolve a complaint or report of unlawful harassment/retaliation regardless of whether the student alleging the unlawful harassment/retaliation pursues the complaint. The Board also reserves the right to have the formal complaint investigation conducted by an external person in accordance with this policy or in such other manner as deemed appropriate by the Board or its designee.

The parties may be represented, at their own cost, at any of the above-described meetings/hearings.

The right of a person to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies such as the filing of a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, the filing of charges with local law enforcement, or the filing of a civil action in court. Use of this internal complaint process is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies.

### **Privacy/Confidentiality**

The Academy will employ all reasonable efforts to protect the rights of the complainant, the Respondent, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations. All records generated under the terms of this policy and its related Administrative Procedures shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law. Confidentiality, however, cannot be guaranteed. Additionally, the Respondent must be provided the Complainant's identity.

During the course of a formal investigation, the Compliance Officer/designee will instruct all members of the Academy community and third parties who are interviewed about the importance of maintaining confidentiality. Any individual who is interviewed as part of a harassment investigation is expected not to disclose any information that is learned or provided during the course of the investigation.

### **Sanctions and Monitoring**

The Board shall vigorously enforce its prohibitions against unlawful harassment/retaliation by taking appropriate action reasonably calculated to stop the harassment and prevent further harassment. While observing the principles of due process, a violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including the discharge of an employee or the suspension/expulsion of a student. All disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with applicable State law and the terms of the relevant collective bargaining agreement(s). When imposing discipline, the School Leader shall consider the totality of the circumstances involved in the matter, including the ages and maturity levels of those involved. In those cases where

unlawful harassment is not substantiated, the Board may consider whether the alleged conduct nevertheless warrants discipline in accordance with other Board policies, consistent with the terms of the relevant collective bargaining agreement(s).

Where the Board becomes aware that a prior remedial action has been taken against a member of the Academy community, all subsequent sanctions imposed by the Board and/or Educational Service Provider shall be reasonably calculated to end such conduct, prevent its reoccurrence, and remedy its effects.

### **Retaliation**

Retaliation against a person who makes a report or files a complaint alleging unlawful harassment/retaliation or participates as a witness in an investigation is prohibited. Neither the Board nor any other person may intimidate, threaten, coerce or interfere with any individual because the person opposed any act or practice made unlawful by any Federal or State civil rights law, or because that individual made a report, formal complaint testified, assisted or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under those laws and/or this policy, or because that individual exercised, enjoyed, aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of any right granted or protected by those laws and/or this policy.

Retaliation against a person from making a report of discrimination, filing a formal complaint, or participating in an investigation or meeting is a serious violation of this policy that can result in imposition of disciplinary sanction/consequences and/or other appropriate remedies.

Formal complaints alleging retaliation may be filed according to the internal complaint process set forth above.

The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution does not constitute retaliation prohibited under this policy.

### **Allegations Constituting Criminal Conduct: Child Abuse/Sexual Misconduct**

State law requires any Academy teacher or Academy employee who knows or suspects that a student under the age of eighteen (18) or that a person with a disability receiving services as a student from the academy regardless of age has suffered or faces a threat of suffering a physical or mental wound, disability or condition of a nature that reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of a child to immediately report that knowledge or suspicion to the county children's services agency. If, during the course of a harassment investigation, the Compliance Officer or a designee has reason to believe or suspect that the alleged conduct reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of the Complainant, a report of such knowledge must be made in accordance with State law and Board Policy.

Any reports made to a county children's services agency or to local law enforcement shall not terminate the Compliance Officer or a designee's obligation and responsibility to continue to investigate a complaint of harassment. While the Compliance Officer or a designee may work cooperatively with outside agencies to conduct concurrent investigations, in no event shall the harassment investigation be inhibited by the involvement of outside agencies without good cause after consultation with the Educational Service Provider.

### **Education and Training**

In support of this Anti-Harassment Policy, the Board promotes preventative educational measures to create greater awareness of unlawful discriminatory practices. The Educational Service Provider shall provide appropriate information to all members of the Academy community related to the implementation of this policy and shall provide training for Academy students and staff where appropriate. All training, as well as information provided regarding the Board's policy and harassment in general, will be age and content appropriate.

### **Retention of Investigatory Records and Materials**

The Compliance Officer(s) is responsible for overseeing retention of all records that must be maintained pursuant to this policy. All individuals charged with conducting investigations under this policy shall retain all

documents, electronically stored information ("ESI"), and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) created and/or received as part of an investigation, which may include but not be limited to:

- A. all written reports/allegations/complaints/grievances/statements/responses pertaining to an alleged violation of this policy;
- B. any narratives that memorialize oral reports/allegations/complaints/grievances/statements/responses pertaining to an alleged violation of this policy;
- C. any documentation that memorializes the actions taken by Academy personnel or individuals contracted or appointed by the Board to fulfill its responsibilities related to the investigation and/or the Academy's response to the alleged violation of this policy;
- D. written witness statements;
- E. narratives, notes from, or audio, video, or digital recordings of witness interviews/statements;
- F. e-mails, texts, or social media posts that directly relate to or constitute evidence pertaining to an alleged violation of this policy (i.e., not after-the-fact commentary about or media coverage of the incident);
- G. notes or summaries prepared contemporaneously by the investigator in whatever form made (e.g., handwritten, keyed into a computer or tablet, etc.), but not including transitory notes whose content is otherwise memorialized in other documents;
- H. written disciplinary sanctions issued to students or employees and other documentation that memorializes oral disciplinary sanctions issued to students or employees for violations of this policy;
- I. dated written determinations/reports (including summaries of relevant exculpatory and inculpatory evidence) and other documentation that memorializes oral notifications to the parties concerning the outcome of the investigation, including any consequences imposed as a result of a violation of this policy;
- J. documentation of any supportive measures offered and/or provided to the Complainant and/or the Respondent, including no contact orders issued to both parties, the dates the no contact orders were issued, and the dates the parties acknowledged receipt of the no contact orders;
- K. documentation of all actions taken, both individual and systemic, to stop the discrimination or harassment, prevent its recurrence, eliminate any hostile environment, and remedy its discriminatory effects;
- L. copies of the Board policy and/or procedures/guidelines used by the Academy to conduct the investigation, and any documents used by the Academy at the time of the alleged violation to communicate the Board's expectations to students and staff with respect to the subject of this policy (e.g., Student Code of Conduct and/or Employee Handbooks );
- M. copies of any documentation that memorializes any formal or informal resolutions to the alleged discrimination or harassment;
- N. documentation of any training provided to Academy personnel related to this policy, including but not limited to, notification of the prohibitions and expectations of staff set forth in this policy and the role and responsibility of all Academy personnel involved in enforcing this policy, including their duty to report alleged violations of this policy and/or conducting an investigation of an alleged violation of this policy;

- O. documentation that any rights or opportunities that the Academy made available to one party during the investigation were made available to the other party on equal terms;
- P. copies of any notices sent to the alleged perpetrator/responding party of the allegations constituting a potential violation of this policy;
- Q. copies of any notices sent to the Complainant and the Respondent in advance of any interview, meeting, or hearing;
- R. copies of any documentation or evidence used during informal and formal disciplinary meetings and hearings, including the investigation report, and any written responses submitted by the Complainant or the Respondent.

The documents, ESI, and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) retained may include public records and records exempt from disclosure under Federal (e.g., FERPA, ADA) and/or State law (e.g., R.C. 3319.321) – e.g., student records and confidential medical records.

The documents, ESI, and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) created or received as part of an investigation shall be retained in accordance with Policy 8310, Policy 8315, Policy 8320, and Policy 8330 for not less than three (3) years, but longer if required by the Academy's records retention schedule.

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Adoption Date: **04.19**  
Classification: **Legally Required**  
Revised Dates: ; **08.21**

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## BULLYING

Reference: The Matt Epling Safe School Law, Public Act 241 of 2011, as amended by Public Act 478 of 2014 (MCL § 380.1310b).

The Board believes that a safe and nurturing educational environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Therefore, it is the policy of the Academy to provide a safe and nurturing environment for all of its students. Appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment or bullying is expected of students, as well as administrators, faculty, staff, visitors, and volunteers.

### BULLYING AND CYBERBULLYING ARE PROHIBITED

Bullying and cyberbullying of a student, whether by other students, staff, visitors, Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors and volunteers, is prohibited. All pupils are protected under this policy, and bullying and cyberbullying are prohibited without regard to its subject matter or motivating animus.

### DEFINITION OF BULLYING

“Bullying” means any written, verbal, or physical act, or any electronic communication, including, but not limited to, cyberbullying, that is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one (1) or more pupils either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- A. Substantially interfering with the educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one (1) or more pupils.
- B. Adversely affecting the ability of a pupil to participate in or benefit from the school district's or public school's educational programs or activities by placing the pupil in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress.
- C. Having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a pupil's physical or mental health.
- D. Causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

“Cyberbullying” means any electronic communication that is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one (1) or more pupils either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- A. Substantially interfering with the educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one (1) or more pupils.
- B. Adversely affecting the ability of a pupil to participate in or benefit from the school district's or public school's educational programs or activities by placing the pupil in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress.
- C. Having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a pupil's physical or mental health.
- D. Causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.



Since “bullying” also includes “cyberbullying,” any reference in this policy to “bullying” shall also be deemed to refer to “cyberbullying.”

Bullying and cyberbullying are prohibited at school. “At school” is defined as on school premises, at school- sponsored activities or events, in a school-related vehicle, or using telecommunications access device or a telecommunications service provider if the telecommunications access device or telecommunications service provider is owned by or under the control of the school district. “Telecommunications access device” and “telecommunications service provider” mean those terms as defined in Section 219a of the Michigan Penal Code (MCL § 750.219a).

Bullying and cyberbullying that does not occur “at school,” as defined above, but that causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with this policy and applicable law.

### REPORTING AND INVESTIGATING REPORTS OF BULLYING

Every student is encouraged to report any situation that he or she believes to be bullying behavior directed toward a student to a teacher, a counselor, administrator, or other staff member. Staff members shall report any reports made by students or situations that they believe to be bullying behavior directed toward a student to the School Leader. Complaints against the School Leader shall be reported to the Educational Service Provider.

Under state law, a school employee, school volunteer, student, or parent or guardian who promptly reports in good faith an act of bullying to the appropriate school official designated in this policy and who makes this report in compliance with the procedures set forth in this policy is immune from a cause of action for damages arising out of the reporting itself or any failure to remedy the reported incident. This immunity does not apply to a school official responsible for implementing this policy or for remedying the bullying, when acting in that capacity.

Retaliation or false accusation against a target of bullying, a witness, or another person with information about an act of bullying is prohibited. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as suspected bullying behavior. Making intentionally false accusations of bullying is likewise prohibited. Retaliation and making intentionally false accusations of bullying may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

All complaints about bullying that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated and documented. The School Leader or designee is responsible for the investigation. If the investigation results in a finding that bullying has occurred, it shall result in prompt and appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion for students, up to and including discharge for employees, and up to and including exclusion from school property for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

The Board may utilize restorative practices that emphasize repairing the harm to the victim and school community in the correction of bullying behavior, which may include victim-offender conferences that:

- A. Are initiated by the victim;
- B. Are approved by the victim's parent or legal guardian or, if the victim is at least 15, by the victim;

- C. Are attended voluntarily by the victim, a victim advocate, the offender, members of the school community, and supporters of the victim and the offender (the "restorative practices team"); and
- D. Would provide an opportunity for the offender to accept responsibility for the harm caused to those affected, and to participate in setting consequences to repair the harm, such as requiring the student to apologize; participate in community service, restoration of emotional or material losses, or counseling; pay restitution; or any combination of these. The selected consequences and time limits for their completion will be incorporated into an agreement to be signed by all participants. Where the investigation results in a finding that bullying has occurred, both the parent or legal guardian of a victim of bullying and the parent or legal guardian of a perpetrator of the bullying shall be notified promptly in writing. In addition, administrators investigating alleged bullying may notify parents of the victim or perpetrator of bullying sooner than the conclusion of the investigation if circumstances dictate such earlier notification.

The Academy shall document any prohibited incident that is reported and shall document all verified incidents of bullying and the resulting consequences, including the required notification of parents or guardians and any discipline and referrals.

The School Leader is the school official responsible for ensuring that this policy is implemented.

#### CONFIDENTIALITY

The Academy will comply with all applicable laws regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable information within education records. In addition, the identity of an individual who reports an act of bullying or cyberbullying shall be and remain confidential. The School Leader, or the School Leader's designee, shall ensure that the name of an individual who reports an act of bullying or cyberbullying is withheld from the alleged perpetrator and the perpetrator's parent(s), legal guardian(s) and representative(s), and is redacted from any report of bullying or cyberbullying that is publically disclosed.

#### NOTIFICATION

This policy will be annually circulated to parents and students, and shall be posted on the Academy website.

#### REPORTING

As required by state statute, the Academy shall provide a report of all verified incidents of bullying and other required information to the Michigan Department of Education on an annual basis, according to the form and procedures established by the Department.

As required by state statute, the Academy's procedures with respect to bullying are contained within this policy, and thus no administrative guidelines accompany this policy.

Adopted 4/18/19

## INTERROGATION OF STUDENTS

Reference: MCL 722.627  
Attorney General's Opinion No 6869, September 6, 1995

The Board of Directors is committed to protecting students from harm that may or may not be directly associated with the academy environment but also recognizes its responsibility to cooperate with law enforcement State's child protection agency. This policy shall generally govern student interrogations-however the specific directives of law enforcement personnel shall in all cases control.

Whenever it has been determined that an agency has a legitimate purpose in interrogating a student within the confines of the Academy, the Educational Service Provider or representative shall be present throughout the proceedings. S/He should also verify that the student(s) has been informed of his/her rights to refuse to answer questions, to be informed that anything s/he says may be used against him/her in court, and to consult with and be advised by legal counsel.

Such agencies should be encouraged to investigate alleged violations of the law off academy property if at all possible. An investigation can take place immediately on academy property at the request of the School Leader if the alleged violation of law took place on academy property or in emergency situations.

When police or other authorities arrive at the Academy and wish to interview a student or investigate an alleged violation of law, they must contact the School Leader indicating the nature of their investigation and their desire to question a student or students.

The School Leader shall ask the investigator whether s/he may contact the parents prior to the interview and document the response. Unless the investigator specifically requests that s/he contact the parents, the School Leader shall attempt to contact the parents prior to questioning.

Before the student(s) is (are) questioned as a witness to or suspect in an alleged violation of law, the building administrator shall attempt to contact the parent prior to questioning and shall request to remain in the room during the questioning.

In those circumstances when an interrogation may expose a student to criminal charges, the School Leader should also verify that the student(s) has been informed of his/her right to refuse to answer questions, to be informed that anything s/he says may be used against him/her in court, and to consult with and be advised by legal counsel.

If the student is the subject of a child abuse/neglect investigation, the School Leader shall attempt to contact the parent prior to questioning, and s/he or a designated guidance counselor will make every effort to remain in the room during questioning. If an agency investigating child abuse/neglect indicates that the parent or a family member is believed to be the perpetrator, the School Leader will not contact either parent prior to the interview if so requested by the investigator. All attempts to notify the parents should be documented.

When an authorized law enforcement officer or child protection agency removes a student, the School Leader will record the name of the investigator, the public agency involved and the destination of the student if possible. S/he shall also notify the parent and the Educational Service Provider.

No Academy official may release personally identifiable student information in education records to the police or children's services agency without prior written permission of the parent, a lawfully-issued subpoena, or a court order, unless it is an emergency situation involving the health or safety of the involved student or other students. Proper directory information may be disclosed upon request. (See Board Policy 8330).

The Educational Service Provider shall develop Administrative Procedures to ensure the proper implementation of this policy.

Revised 2/20/20

## STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The Board of Directors acknowledges conduct is closely related to learning and an effective instructional program requires an orderly school environment, as reflected in the behavior of students.

The Board believes the best discipline is self-imposed, with students assuming responsibility for their own behavior and the resulting consequences.

The Board shall require each student of this Academy to adhere to the Code of Conduct established by the administration and submit to such disciplinary measures, appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules. Such rules shall require students to do the following:

- A. conform to reasonable standards of socially acceptable behavior;
- B. respect other persons and their property;
- C. preserve the degree of order necessary for the educational program in which they are engaged;
- D. respect the rights of others;
- E. obey the constituted authority and respond with respect to those who hold that authority.

The Educational Service Provider shall develop Administrative Procedures for student conduct (Code of Conduct) that carry out the purposes of this policy and have the following characteristics:

- A. focus on the need to maintain a school environment conducive to learning;
- B. do not discriminate among students;
- C. do not demean students;
- D. do not violate any individual rights constitutionally guaranteed to students.

The Educational Service Provider shall also designate sanctions, excluding corporal punishment, for the infractions of rules in the Code of Conduct. The sanctions shall accomplish the following:

- A. relate in kind and degree to the infraction;
- B. require the student to take responsibility for his/her actions;
- C. reduce the effects of any harm caused by the student's misconduct.

The Academy shall publish to all students and their parents the rules of this Academy regarding student conduct, the sanctions which may be imposed, and the due process procedures to be followed in administering the Code of Conduct.

The School Leader shall have the authority to assign discipline to students, subject to Administrative Procedures (Code of Conduct) and the student's due process right to notice, hearing, and appeal.

Adopted 4/18/19

## EMERGENCY REMOVAL, SUSPENSION, AND EXPULSION OF STUDENTS

Reference: M.C.L. 380.1301, 380.1309, 380.1310d, 380.1311  
20 U.S.C. 3351  
State Board of Education, Resolution to Address School Discipline Issues  
Impacting Student Outcomes, Adopted June 12, 2012

The Board of Directors is continually concerned about the safety and welfare of Academy students and staff and, therefore, will not tolerate behavior that creates an unsafe environment, a threat to safety or undue disruption of the educational environment.

### Factors to be Considered Before Suspending or Expelling a Student

The Board of Directors also recognizes that exclusion from the educational program of the academy's is a severe sanction that should only be imposed after careful and appropriate consideration. Except as otherwise noted below with respect to possession of a firearm in a weapon free school zone, if suspension or expulsion of a student is considered, the School Leader shall consider the following factors prior to making a determination of whether to suspend or expel:

- A. the student's age
- B. the student's disciplinary history
- C. whether the student has a disability
- D. the seriousness of the violation or behavior
- E. whether the violation or behavior committed by the student threatened the safety of any student or staff member
- F. whether restorative practices will be used to address the violation or behavior
- G. whether a lesser intervention would properly address the violation or behavior

The School Leader will exercise discretion over whether or not to suspend or expel a student. In exercising that discretion for a suspension of more than ten (10) days or expulsion, there is a rebuttable presumption that a suspension or expulsion is not justified unless the School Leader can demonstrate that it considered each of the factors listed above. For a suspension of ten (10) days or fewer, there is no rebuttable presumption, but the School Leader will still consider these factors in making the determination.

### Restorative Practices

The School Leader shall consider using restorative practices as an alternative to or in addition to suspension or expulsion. If the Academy determines that it will utilize restorative practices in addition to or as an alternative to suspension or expulsion of a student, it will engage in restorative practices which emphasize repairing the harm to the victim and academy community caused by the student's misconduct.

Restorative practices should be the first consideration to remediate offenses such as interpersonal conflicts, bullying, verbal and physical conflicts, theft, damage to property, class disruption and harassment and cyberbullying.

If the School Leader decides to utilize restorative practices as an alternative to or in addition to suspension or expulsion, the restorative practices may include victim-offender conferences that:

- A. are initiated by the victim;
- B. are approved by the victim's parent or legal guardian or, if the victim is at least fifteen (15), by the victim;
- C. are attended voluntarily by the victim, a victim advocate, the offender, members of the academy community, and supporters of the victim and the offender (the "restorative practices team");
- D. would provide an opportunity for the offender to accept responsibility for the harm caused to those affected, and to participate in setting consequences to repair the harm, such as requiring the student to apologize; participate in community service, restoration of emotional or material losses, or counseling; pay restitution; or any combination of these.

The selected consequences and time limits for their completion will be incorporated into an agreement to be signed by all participants.

### Due Process

The Board recognizes exclusion from the educational programs of the Academy, whether by suspension or expulsion, is the most severe sanction that can be imposed on a student and is one that cannot be imposed without appropriate due process, since exclusion deprives a child of the right to an education. The Board also recognizes that it may be necessary for a teacher to remove a student from class for conduct disruptive to the learning environment, and that such removals are not subject to a prior hearing, provided the removal is for a period of less than twenty-four (24) hours. However, if an emergency removal may result in a suspension, then due process must be ensured.

In all cases resulting in short-term suspension, long-term suspension or expulsion, appropriate due process rights described in Policy 5611 and AG 5610 must be observed. The School Leader shall check to make sure the student is not classified as disabled under Section 504. Students with disabilities under IDEA or Section 504 shall be expelled only in accordance with their rights under Federal law.

For purposes of this policy, suspension shall be either short-term (not more than ten (10) days) or long-term (for more than ten (10) days but less than permanent expulsion) removal of a student from a regular Academy program. The School Leader may suspend a student for a period not to exceed 10 school days.

For purposes of this policy, unless otherwise defined in Federal and/or State law, expulsion is defined as the permanent exclusion of a student from the Academy. Students who are expelled may petition for reinstatement as provided below.



### Emergency Removal or Short-Term Suspension

A student may be removed from a class, subject, or activity for one (1) day by his/her teacher for certain conduct as specified in the Code of Conduct, or he/she may be given a short-term suspension by the School Leader. A student so removed may be allowed to attend other classes taught by other teachers during the term of the one (1) day removal. A student removed from the same class for ten (10) days will be entitled to the process for short-term suspensions outlined in AG 5610. A student removed from the same class for more than ten (10) days will be entitled to the process for long-term suspensions outlined in AG 5610. The Board designates the School Leader as its representative at any hearings regarding the appeal of a suspension.

### Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Due process set out in Policy 5611 and AG 5610 shall be followed in all circumstances in which a student may be expelled or suspended for a period of more than ten (10) days.

The School Leader may suspend a student for a period longer than ten (10) days or expel a student. The Board shall act on any appeal to the decision.

In all cases resulting in short-term suspension, long-term suspension, or expulsion, appropriate due process rights must be observed. In determining whether a student is to be suspended or expelled, the School Leader shall use a preponderance of evidence standard.

The School Leader shall develop procedures to implement this policy that shall include the following:

- A. strategies for providing special assistance to students in danger of being expelled and not achieving the academic outcomes of the Academy's core curriculum;
- B. standards of behavior for all students in accordance with Academy Board policy on student discipline;
- C. procedures that ensure due process; and
- D. provision for make-up work at home, when appropriate.

When making a determination whether or not a student will be expelled or permanently excluded under this policy, the School Leader shall retain all documents, electronically stored information ("ESI"), and electronic media created and/or received as part of an investigation.

The documents, ESI, and electronic media retained may include public records and records exempt from disclosure under Federal (e.g., FERPA, ADA) and/or State law – e.g., student records and confidential medical records.

The documents, ESI, and electronic media shall be retained in accordance with Policy 8310, and Policy 8330 for not less than three (3) years, but longer if required by the Academy's records retention schedule.

### Persistent Disobedience or Gross Misconduct/CSC Against Another Academy Student

Any student may be removed from the classroom, and/or, after consideration of the factors identified above, suspended or expelled for persistent disobedience or gross misconduct or if

the student commits criminal sexual conduct against another student enrolled in the Academy regardless of the location of the conduct. A student may not be expelled or excluded from the regular academy program based on pregnancy status.

In recognition of the negative impact on a student's education, the Board encourages the Academy's administrators to view suspensions, particularly those over ten (10) days, and permanent expulsions as discipline of last resort, except where these disciplines are required by law. Alternatives to avoid or to improve undesirable behaviors should be explored when possible prior to implementing or requesting a suspension or expulsion.

#### Physical and Verbal Assault

Unless a different determination is made after consideration of the factors identified above, the Academy shall permanently expel a student in grade six or above if that student commits physical assault at the Academy against a staff member, a volunteer, or a contractor.

Unless a different determination is made after consideration of the factors identified above, the Academy shall suspend or expel a student in grade six or above for up to 180 school days if the student commits physical assault at the Academy against another student.

Physical assault is defined as "intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence."

Unless a different determination is made after consideration of the factors identified above, the Academy shall suspend or expel a student in grade six or above and may discipline, suspend or expel a student in grade five and below for a period of time as determined at the Board's discretion if the student commits verbal assault at the Academy against a Academy employee, volunteer, or contractor or makes a bomb threat or similar threat directed at an academy building, property, or at an academy-related activity.

Verbal assault is a communicated intent to inflict physical or other harm on another person, with a present intent and ability to act on the threat.

"At the Academy" means in a classroom, elsewhere on academy premises, on an academy bus or other academy-related vehicle, or at an academy-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on academy premises.

The Academy may provide appropriate instructional services at home for an expelled student not placed in an Alternative Education Program. The instructional services provided shall be similar to those provided to homebound or hospitalized students and shall be contracted for in the same manner.

#### Weapons, Arson, Criminal Sexual Conduct

In compliance with State and Federal law, and unless a different determination is made after consideration of the factors identified above, the Academy shall expel any student who possesses a dangerous weapon, other than a firearm, in the Academy's weapon-free school zone (except as noted below), commits either arson or criminal sexual conduct in an academy building or on academy property, including academy buses and other Academy transportation, or pleads to, is convicted of or is adjudicated of criminal sexual conduct against another student enrolled in the Academy.

In compliance with State and Federal law, the Academy shall expel any student who possesses a firearm in the Academy's weapon-free school zone in violation of State law, unless the student can establish the mitigating factors relating to possession of a dangerous weapon set out below, by clear and convincing evidence.

For purposes of this policy, a "dangerous weapon" is defined by law as a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with a blade over three (3) inches in length, pocket knife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar, or brass knuckles. This definition also includes other devices designed to (or likely to) inflict bodily harm, including, but not limited to, air guns and explosive devices. The term "firearm" is defined as any weapon (including a starter gun) that will, is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of the explosive, the frame, or the bearer of any such weapon, as well as a firearm muffler, firearm silencer, or any such destructive device.

The Academy need not expel a student for possession of a dangerous weapon, including a firearm, if the student can establish in a clear and convincing manner the following mitigating factor(s) to the satisfaction of the Board the:

- A. object or instrument was not possessed for use as a weapon, or for direct (or indirect) delivery to another person for use as a weapon; or
- B. weapon was not knowingly possessed; or
- C. student did not know (or have reason to know) that the object or instrument in his/her possession constituted a dangerous weapon; or
- D. weapon was possessed at the suggestion, request, direction of, or with the express permission of the School Leader or the police.

There is a rebuttable presumption that expulsion for possessing the weapon is not justified if the School Leader determines in writing that the student has established that he or she fits under one of the exceptions above by clear and convincing evidence, and that the student has no previous history of suspension or expulsion.

For expulsions for dangerous weapons, arson, criminal sexual conduct or assault upon an employee, volunteer or contractor, the School Leader shall provide that the expulsion is duly noted in the student's record, the student is referred to the Department of Human Services or Department of Community Health within three (3) school days after the expulsion, and the parents are informed of the referral. Furthermore, if a student who is expelled is below the age of sixteen (16), the School Leader shall ensure notification of the expulsion is given to the Juvenile Division of the Probate Court. In compliance with Federal law, the School Leader shall also refer any student (regardless of age) expelled for possession of a dangerous weapon to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system serving the Academy. In addition, the School Leader shall send a copy of this policy to the State Department of Education and shall include a description of the circumstances surrounding the expulsion of the student for possessing a firearm or weapon in the Academy's weapon-free school zone, together with the name of the Academy, the number of students so expelled, and the types of firearms or weapons brought into the weapon-free school zone.

A student expelled under this policy for dangerous weapons, arson, criminal sexual conduct or assault upon an employee, volunteer or contractor may apply for reinstatement in accordance with the following guidelines:

- A. If the student is in grade five (5) or below at the time of the expulsion and was expelled for possessing a firearm or threatening another person with a dangerous weapon, the parents, legal guardian, adult student, or emancipated minor may submit a request for reinstatement after sixty (60) school days from the date of expulsion, but the student may not be reinstated before ninety (90) school days from the expulsion date.
- B. If the student is in grade five (5) or below at the time of the expulsion and was expelled for a reason other than possessing a firearm or threatening another person with a dangerous weapon, the parents, legal guardian, or emancipated minor may submit a request for reinstatement at any time, but the student may not be reinstated before ten (10) school days from the expulsion date.
- C. If the student is in grade six (6) or above at the time of the expulsion, the parents, legal guardian, adult student, or emancipated minor may submit a request for reinstatement after one hundred and fifty (150) school days from the date of the expulsion, but the student may not be reinstated before one hundred eighty (180) school days from the expulsion date.
- D. The parent, adult student, or emancipated minor shall submit the request for reinstatement to the School Leader.
- E. Within ten (10) school days after receiving the petition, the Board shall appoint a committee consisting of two (2) Board members, an academy administrator, a teacher, and an academy-parent representative. During this time period, the School Leader shall prepare and submit for consideration by the committee information concerning the circumstances of the expulsion and any factors mitigating for or against reinstatement.
- F. Within ten (10) school days after being appointed, the committee shall review all pertinent information and submit its recommendation to the Board. The recommendation may be for unconditional reinstatement, conditional reinstatement, or non-reinstatement, based on the committee's consideration of the following:
  - 1. extent to which reinstatement would create a risk of harm to students or academy staff;
  - 2. extent to which reinstatement would create a risk of academy or individual liability for the Board or academy staff;
  - 3. age and maturity of the student;
  - 4. student's academy record before the expulsion incident;
  - 5. student's attitude concerning the expulsion incident;
  - 6. student's behavior since the expulsion and the prospects for remediation;
  - 7. The degree of cooperation and support the parent has provided and will provide if the student is reinstated (if the request was filed by a

parent), including, but not limited to the parent's receptiveness toward any conditions placed on the reinstatement. Such conditions, for example, might include a written agreement by the student and/or a parent who filed the reinstatement request to accomplish the following:

- a. abide by a behavior contract involving the student, his/her parents, and an outside agency;
  - b. participate in an anger management program or other counseling activities;
  - c. cooperate in processing and discussing periodic progress reviews;
  - d. meet other conditions deemed appropriate by the committee;
  - e. accept the consequences for not fulfilling the agreed upon conditions.
8. student's behavior since the expulsion and the prospects for remediation.

The Board shall make its decision no later than the next regular Board meeting following the committee's submission of its recommendations. The Board's decision shall be final and is not subject to appeal.

In the event a student who has been permanently expelled from another academy requests admission to this Academy, in making its decision, the Board shall follow the same procedure it has established in paragraphs A-F, above, for the reinstatement of a student.

Students expelled for reasons other than dangerous weapons, arson, criminal sexual conduct or assault upon an employee, volunteer or contractor may also petition the Board for reinstatement. The Board may, at its discretion, consider the petition in accordance with the procedures set forth above.

The School Leader shall ensure Board policies and procedures regarding a student's rights to due process are followed when dealing with a possible suspension or expulsion under this policy.

#### In-School Discipline

The purpose of this policy is to provide an alternative to out of school suspension. The availability of in-school discipline options is dependent upon the financial ability of the Board to support such a program.

In-school discipline will only be offered at the discretion of the School Leader for offenses found in the Student Code of Conduct.

The School Leader is to establish procedures for the proper operation of such a program and to ensure appropriate due-process procedures are followed as applicable. (See Policy 5630.01)

### Due Process Rights

The Board recognizes the importance of safeguarding a student's constitutional rights, particularly when subject to the Academy's disciplinary procedures.

To better ensure appropriate due-process is provided a student, the Board establishes the following:

A. Students Subject to Short-Term Suspension

Except when emergency removal is warranted, a student must be given at least oral notice of the charges against him/her and the opportunity to respond prior to the implementation of a suspension. When emergency removal has been implemented, notice and opportunity to respond shall occur as soon as reasonably possible. The School Leader or other designated administrator shall provide the opportunity to be heard and shall be responsible for making the suspension decision. An appeal may be addressed to the School Leader whose decision will be final.

B. Students Subject to Long-Term Suspension and Expulsion

A student and his/her parent or guardian must be given written notice of the intention to suspend or expel and the reasons therefore, and must also be given an opportunity to appear before the Board with a representative to answer the charges. The student and/or his/her guardian must also be provided a brief description of the student's rights and the hearing procedure, a list of the witnesses who will provide testimony to the Board, and a summary of the facts to which the witnesses will testify. At the student/parent's request, the hearing shall be held in closed session, but the Board must act publicly. The Board shall act by providing a written decision on any appeal of an expulsion, a request for reinstatement, or a request for admission after permanent expulsion from another academy.

The School Leader shall develop procedures to ensure all members of the staff use the above guidelines when dealing with students. In addition, this statement of due process rights shall be placed in all student handbooks, in a manner that facilitates understanding by students and their parents.

### Corporal Punishment

While recognizing that students may require disciplinary action in various forms, the Board does not condone the use of unreasonable force and fear as an appropriate procedure in student discipline.

Staff shall not use physical force or violence to compel obedience. If all other means fail, staff members may always resort to the removal of the student from the classroom or Academy through suspension or expulsion procedures.

Within the scope of their employment, all staff may use reasonable force and apply restraint to accomplish the following:

- A. restrain or remove a student who refuses to comply with a request to behave or report to the office;

- B. quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to self or others;
- C. obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects within the control of the student, for either self-defense; or
- D. the protection of persons or property.

In accordance with State law, corporal punishment shall not be permitted. If any staff member (full-time, part-time, or substitute) deliberately inflicts, or causes to be inflicted, physical pain upon the student (by hitting, paddling, spanking, slapping or any other kind of physical force) as a means of discipline, the staff member may be subject to discipline and possibly criminal assault charges. This prohibition also applies to volunteers and those with whom the Academy contracts for services.

The School Leader shall provide guidelines, including a list of alternatives to corporal punishment.

#### Removal, Suspension, and Expulsion of Students with Disabilities

The Academy shall abide by Federal and State laws in matters relating to discipline, suspension, and expulsion of disabled students.

Adopted 4/18/19  
Revised 12/17/20

## DUE PROCESS RIGHTS

The Board of Directors recognizes the importance of safeguarding a student's constitutional rights, particularly when subject to the Academy's disciplinary procedures.

To better ensure appropriate due-process is provided a student, the Board establishes the following guidelines which the School Leader shall use when dealing with students:

A. Students subject to short-term suspension:

Except when emergency removal is warranted, a student must be given oral or written notice of the charges against him/her and the opportunity to respond prior to the implementation of a suspension. When emergency removal has been implemented, notice and opportunity to respond shall occur as soon as reasonably possible. The School Leader or other designated administrator shall provide the opportunity to be heard and shall be responsible for making the suspension decision. An appeal may be addressed to the School Leader whose decision will be final.

B. Students subject to long-term suspension and expulsion:

A student and his/her parent or guardian must be given written notice of the intention to suspend or expel and the reasons therefore, and an opportunity to appear with a representative before the School Leader to answer the charges. The student and/or his/her guardian must also be provided a brief description of the student's rights and of the hearing procedure, a list of the witnesses who will provide testimony to the School Leader, and a summary of the facts to which the witnesses will testify. At the student's request, the hearing may be private, but the School Leader must act publicly. The Board shall act on any appeal, which must be submitted in writing, to an expulsion, to a request for reinstatement, or to a request for admission after being permanently expelled from another district (Policy 5610).

In determining whether disciplinary action set forth in this policy is to be implemented, the School Leader shall use a preponderance of evidence standard. Further, any individual charged with making a disciplinary determination under this policy shall retain all documents, electronically stored information ("ESI"), and electronic media created and/or received as part of an investigation.

The documents, ESI, and electronic media retained may include public records and records exempt from disclosure under Federal (e.g., FERPA, ADA) and/or State law (e.g., R.C. 3319.321) – e.g., student records and confidential medical records.

The documents, ESI, and electronic media shall be retained in accordance with Policy 8310, and Policy 8330 for not less than three (3) years, but longer if required by the Academy's records retention schedule.

Adopted 4/18/19  
Revised 12/17/20



## STUDENT SECLUSION AND RESTRAINT

This policy is intended to provide the framework for organizational supports that result in effective interventions based on team-based leadership, data-based decision-making, continuous monitoring of student behavior, regular universal screening and effective on-going professional development. The Academy is committed to investing in prevention efforts and to teach, practice and reinforce behaviors that result in positive academic and social outcomes for students.

In the event that staff members need to restrain and/or seclude students, it must be done in accordance with this policy, which is intended to:

- A. promote the care, safety, welfare and security of the academy community and the dignity of each student;
- B. encourage the use of proactive, effective, evidence and research based strategies and best practices to reduce the occurrence of challenging behaviors, eliminate the use of seclusion and restraint, and increase meaningful instructional time for all students; and
- C. ensure that seclusion and restraint are used only as a last resort in an emergency situation and are subject to diligent assessment, monitoring, documentation and reporting by trained personnel.

In furtherance of these objectives, the Academy will utilize Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) to enhance academic and social behavior outcomes for all students. PBIS implemented by the Academy will include socially valued and measurable outcomes, empirically validated and practical practices, systems that efficiently and effectively support implementation of these practices, and continuous collection and use of data for decision-making.

### EMERGENCY SECLUSION

- A. Prohibited Practices and Limitations on Use

The following practices are prohibited under all circumstances, including emergency situations:

- 1. confinement of students who are severely self-injurious or suicidal
- 2. corporal punishment, as defined in M.C.L. 380.1312(1) of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451
- 3. the deprivation of basic needs
- 4. anything constituting child abuse
- 5. seclusion of pre-school children
- 6. seclusion that is used for the convenience of academy personnel
- 7. seclusion as a substitute for an educational program

8. seclusion as a form of discipline or punishment
9. seclusion as a substitute for less restrictive alternatives, adequate staffing or academy personnel training in PBIS
10. when contraindicated based on (as documented in a record or records made available to the academy ) a student's disability, health care needs, or medical or psychiatric condition

B. Definition of Emergency Seclusion

Seclusion means the confinement of a student in a room or other space from which the student is physically prevented from leaving. Seclusion does not include the general confinement of students if that confinement is an integral part of an emergency lockdown drill required under Section 19(5) of the Fire Prevention Code, 1941 PA 207, M.C.L. 29.19, or of another emergency security procedure that is necessary to protect the safety of students.

Emergency seclusion is a last resort emergency safety intervention involving seclusion that is necessitated by an ongoing emergency situation and that provides an opportunity for the student to regain self-control while maintaining the safety of the student and others.

To qualify as emergency seclusion, there must be continuous observation by academy personnel of the student and the room or area used for confinement:

1. must not be locked
2. must not prevent the student from exiting the area should staff become incapacitated or leave that area
3. must provide for adequate space, lighting, ventilation, viewing, and the safety of the student
4. must comply with State and local fire and building codes

C. Time and Duration Emergency seclusion should not be used any longer than necessary, based on research and evidence, to allow a student to regain control of his/her behavior to the point that the emergency situation necessitating the use of emergency seclusion is ended, but generally no longer than:

1. fifteen (15) minutes for an elementary school student;
2. twenty (20) minutes for a middle school or high school student

If an emergency seclusion lasts longer than the suggested maximum times above, the following are required:

1. additional support (which may include change of staff, introducing a nurse or specialist, or additional key identified personnel)

2. documentation to explain the extension beyond the time limit

Additional procedures and requirements applicable to both seclusion and restraint are set out below.

### EMERGENCY RESTRAINT

#### A. Prohibited Practices

The following procedures are prohibited under all circumstances, including emergency situations:

1. mechanical restraint
2. chemical restraint
3. corporal punishment as defined in 380.1312(1) of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, otherwise known as the Corporal Punishment Act
4. the deprivation of basic needs
5. anything constituting child abuse
6. restraint that is used for the convenience of academy personnel
7. restraint as a substitute for an educational program
8. restraint as a form of discipline or punishment
9. restraint as a substitute for less restrictive alternatives, adequate staffing or academy personnel training in PBIS
10. when contraindicated based on (as documented in a record or records made available to the academy ) a student's disability, health care needs, or medical or psychiatric condition
11. any restraint that negatively impacts breathing, including any positions, whether on the floor, facedown, seated or kneeling, in which the student's physical position (e.g., bent over) is such that it is difficult to breathe, including situations that involve sitting or lying across an individual's back or stomach
12. prone restraint (the restraint of a person face down)

NOTE: Academy personnel who find themselves involved in the use of a prone restraint as the result of responding to an emergency must take immediate steps to end the prone restraint.

13. the intentional application of any noxious substance(s) or stimuli that results in physical pain or extreme discomfort

A noxious substance or stimuli can either be generally acknowledged or specific to the student.

14. physical restraint, other than emergency physical restraint
15. any other type of restraint not expressly allowed

B. Definition of Restraint

Restraint means an action that prevents or significantly restricts a student's movement. Physical restraint is intended for the purposes of emergency situations only, in which a student's behavior poses imminent risk to the safety of the individual student or to the safety of others. An emergency situation requires an immediate intervention.

Emergency physical restraint is a last resort emergency safety intervention involving physical restraint that is necessitated by an ongoing emergency situation and that provide an opportunity for the student to retain self-control while maintaining the safety of the student and others. An emergency situation requires an immediate intervention. Emergency physical restraint may not be used in place of appropriate less restrictive interventions.

There are three (3) types of restraint: physical, chemical, and mechanical.

1. Physical restraint involves direct physical contact.

Restraint does not include actions undertaken for the following reasons:

- a. to break up a fight
- b. to take a weapon away from a student
- c. to briefly hold the student (by an adult) in order to calm or comfort him/her
- d. to have the minimum contact necessary to physically escort a student from one area to another
- e. to assist a student in completing a task/response if the student does not resist or if resistance is minimal in intensity or duration
- f. to hold a student for a brief time in order to prevent an impulsive behavior that threatens the student's immediate safety (e.g., running in front of a car)
- g. to stop a physical assault as defined in M.C.L. 380.1310
- h. actions that are an integral part of a sporting event, such as a referee pulling football players off from a pile or similar action

2. Chemical Restraint is the administration of medication for the purpose of restraint.

Restraint does not include administration of medication prescribed by and administered in accordance with the directions of a physician.

3. Mechanical Restraint means the use of any device, article, garment, or material attached to or adjacent to a student's body to perform restraint.

Restraint does not include the following:

- a. an adaptive or protective device recommended by a physician or therapist (when it is used as recommended)
- b. safety equipment used by the general student population as intended (e.g., seat belts, safety harness on academy transportation)

C. Time and Duration

Restraint should not be used:

1. any longer than necessary, based on research and evidence, to allow students to regain control of their behavior to the point that the emergency situation necessitating the use of emergency physical restraint is ended; and
2. generally no longer than ten (10) minutes.

If an emergency restraint lasts longer than ten (10) minutes, all of the following are required:

1. additional support, which may include a change of staff, or introducing a nurse, specialist, or additional key identified personnel
2. documentation to explain the extension beyond the time limit

Additional procedures and requirements applicable to both seclusion and restraint are set out below.

USE OF EMERGENCY SECLUSION/RESTRAINT

A. When to Use Emergency Seclusion/Restraint

Seclusion/restraint must be used only under emergency situations and if essential. Emergency situation means a situation in which a student's behavior poses imminent risk to the safety of the individual student or to the safety of others. An emergency situation requires an immediate intervention.

B. General Procedures for Emergency Seclusion/Restraint:

1. An emergency seclusion/restraint may not be used in place of appropriate, less restrictive interventions.
2. Emergency seclusion/restraint shall be performed in a manner that is:
  - a. safe;
  - b. appropriate; and
  - c. proportionate to and sensitive to the student's:
    - 1) severity of behavior;
    - 2) chronological and developmental age;
    - 3) physical size;
    - 4) gender;
    - 5) physical condition;
    - 6) medical condition;
    - 7) psychiatric condition; and
    - 8) personal history, including any history of physical or sexual abuse or other trauma.
3. Academy personnel shall call key identified personnel for help from within the academy building either immediately at the onset of an emergency situation or, if it is reasonable under the particular circumstances for academy personnel to believe that diverting their attention to calling for help would increase the risk to the safety of the student or to the safety of others, as soon as possible once the circumstances no longer support such a belief.
4. While using emergency seclusion/restraint, staff must do all of the following:
  - a. involve key identified personnel to protect the care, welfare, dignity, and safety of the student
  - b. continually observe the student in emergency seclusion for indications of physical distress and seek medical assistance if there is a concern
  - c. document observations
  - d. ensure to the extent practicable, in light of the ongoing emergency situation, that the emergency seclusion/restraint

- does not interfere with the student's ability to communicate using the student's primary mode of communication
- e. ensure that at all times during the use of emergency seclusion/restraint there are academy personnel present who can communicate with the student using the student's primary mode of communication
5. Each use of an emergency seclusion/restraint and the reason for each use shall be documented and reported according to the following procedures:
- a. document in writing and report in writing or orally to the building administration immediately
  - b. report in writing or orally to the parent or guardian immediately
  - c. a report shall be written for each use of seclusion/restraint (including multiple uses within a given day) and the written report(s) provided to the parent or guardian within the earlier of one (1) school day or seven (7) calendar days
6. After any use of an emergency seclusion/restraint, staff must make reasonable efforts to debrief and consult with the parent or guardian, or the parent or guardian and the student (as appropriate) regarding the determination of future actions.
- C. Students Exhibiting a Pattern of Behavior
1. If a student exhibits a pattern of behavior that poses a substantial risk of creating an emergency situation in the future that could result in the use of emergency seclusion/restraint, academy personnel should do the following:
- a. conduct a functional behavioral assessment
  - b. develop or revise a PBIS plan to facilitate the reduction or elimination of the use of seclusion/restraint
  - c. develop an assessment and planning process conducted by a team knowledgeable about the student, including at least:
    - 1) the parent or guardian
    - 2) the student (if appropriate)
    - 3) people who are responsible for implementation of the PBIS plan
    - 4) people who are knowledgeable in PBIS

- d. develop a written emergency intervention plan ("EIP") to protect the health, safety, and dignity of the student. An EIP may not expand the legally permissible use of emergency seclusion/restraint.

The EIP should be developed by a team in partnership with the parent or guardian. The team shall include:

- 1) a teacher;
- 2) an individual knowledgeable about legally permissible use of seclusion/restraint; and
- 3) an individual knowledgeable about the use of PBIS to eliminate the use of seclusion/restraint.

The EIP should be developed and implemented by taking all of the following documented steps:

- a. describe in detail the emergency intervention procedures
- b. describe in detail the legal limits on the use of emergency seclusion/restraint, including examples of legally permissible and prohibited uses
- c. inquire of the student's medical personnel (with parent or guardian consent) regarding any known medical or health contraindications for the use of seclusion/restraint
- d. conduct a peer review by knowledgeable staff
- e. provide the parent or guardian with all of the following, in writing and orally:
  - 1) A detailed explanation of the PBIS strategies that will reduce the risk of the student's behavior creating an emergency situation.
  - 2) An explanation of what constitutes an emergency, including examples of situations that would fall within and outside of the definition.
  - 3) A detailed explanation of the intervention procedures to be followed in an emergency situation, including the potential use of emergency seclusion/restraint.
  - 4) A description of possible discomforts or risks.
  - 5) A detailed explanation of the legal limits on the use of emergency seclusion/restraint, including examples of legally permissible and prohibited uses.



6) Answers to any questions.

A student who is the subject of an EIP should be told or shown the circumstances under which emergency intervention could be used.

D. Data Collection and Reporting

1. The building administrator shall develop a system of data collection, collect the data and forward all incident reports and data regarding the use of seclusion/restraint to the School Leader.

The data must:

- a. be analyzed to determine the efficacy of the academy 's academy -wide system of behavioral support;
- b. be analyzed in the context of suspension, expulsion, and dropout data;
- c. be analyzed for the purposes of continuous improvement of training and technical assistance toward the reduction or elimination of seclusion/restraint;
- d. be analyzed on a schedule determined by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE);`
- e. be reported to the MDE, if and as required;
- f. include a list of appropriately trained, identified personnel and their levels of:
  - 1) education;
  - 2) training; and
  - 3) knowledge.

NOTE: The Academy must report to the MDE on the use of seclusion and restraint periodically. MDE will develop guidelines that outline the process for reporting redacted, aggregated data regarding the emergency use of seclusion and restraint.

Training Framework

A comprehensive training framework will be implemented which includes the following:

- A. awareness training for all academy personnel who have regular contact with students; and
- B. comprehensive training for key identified personnel.

All substitute teachers must be informed of and understand the procedures regarding the use of emergency seclusion and emergency restraint. This requirement may be satisfied using

online training developed or approved by MDE and online acknowledgement of understanding and completion of the training by the substitute teacher.

Comprehensive Training for Identified Personnel

Each building administrator will identify sufficient key personnel to ensure that trained personnel are generally available for an emergency situation. Before using emergency seclusion or emergency physical restraint with students, key identified personnel who may have to respond to an emergency safety situation must be trained in all of the following:

- A. proactive practices and strategies that ensure the dignity of students
- B. conflict resolution
- C. mediation
- D. social skills training
- E. de-escalation techniques
- F. positive behavioral intervention and support strategies
- G. techniques to identify student behaviors that may trigger emergency safety situations
- H. related safety considerations, including information regarding the increased risk of injury to students and staff when seclusion or restraint is used
- I. instruction in the use of emergency seclusion and emergency physical restraint
- J. identification of events and environmental factors that may trigger emergency safety situations
- K. instruction on the State policy on the use of seclusion and restraint
- L. description and identification of dangerous behaviors
- M. methods for evaluating the risk of harm to determine whether the use of emergency seclusion or emergency physical restraint is warranted
- N. types of seclusion
- O. types of restraint
- P. the risk of using seclusion and restraint in consideration of a student's known and unknown medical or psychological limitations
- Q. cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid
- R. the effects of seclusion and restraint on all students

- S. how to monitor for and identify physical signs of distress and the implications for students generally and for students with particular physical or mental health conditions or psychological limitations
- T. ways to obtain appropriate medical assistance

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS

"Academy Personnel" includes all individuals employed in a public school or assigned to regularly and continuously work under contract or under agreement in a public school, or public school personnel providing service at a nonpublic school. Except for the obligations set out above to document seclusion or restraint, report to/consult with parents, undertake the required actions if a student shows a pattern of behavior, and collect and report data to the state, academy personnel does not include a law enforcement officer (as defined above) assigned to regularly and continuously work under contract or under agreement in a public school.

"Chemical Restraint" means the administration of medication for the purpose of restraint.

"De-escalation Techniques" means evidence- and research-based strategically employed verbal or nonverbal interventions used to reduce the intensity of threatening behavior before, during, and after a crisis situation occurs.

"Documentation" means documentation developed by the Michigan Department of Education that is uniform across the State.

"Emergency Situation" means a situation in which a student's behavior poses imminent risk to the safety of the individual student or to the safety of others. An emergency situation requires an immediate intervention.

"Functional Behavioral Assessment" means an evidence- and research-based systematic process for identifying the events that trigger and maintain problem behavior in an educational setting. A functional behavioral assessment shall describe specific problematic behaviors, report the frequency of the behaviors, assess environmental and other setting conditions where problematic behaviors occur, and identify the factors that are maintaining the behaviors over time.

"Key Identified Personnel" means those individuals who have received the mandatory training described in M.C.L. 380.1307G(B)(I) to (XVI), listed under Comprehensive Training for Identified Personnel above.

"Law Enforcement Officer" means an individual licensed under the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards Act, M.C.L. 28.601 to 28.615.

"Mechanical Restraint" means the use of any device, article, garment, or material attached to or adjacent to a student's body to perform restraint.

"Physical Restraint" means restraint involving direct physical contact.

"Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support (PBIS)" means a framework to assist academy personnel in adopting and organizing evidence-based behavioral interventions into an integrated continuum of intensifying supports based on student need that unites examination

of the function of the problem behavior and the teaching of alternative skill repertoires to enhance academic and social behavior outcomes for all students.

"Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support Plan" means a student-specific support plan composed of individualized, functional behavioral assessment-based intervention strategies, including, as appropriate to the student, guidance or instruction for the student to use new skills as a replacement for problem behaviors, some rearrangement of the antecedent environment so that problems can be prevented and desirable behaviors can be encouraged, and procedures for monitoring, evaluating, and modifying the plan as necessary.

"Prone Restraint" means the restraint of an individual face down.

"Regularly and Continuously Work Under Contract" means that term as defined in section M.C.L. 380.1230.

"Restraint" means an action that prevents or significantly restricts a student's movement. Restraint does not include the brief holding of a student in order to calm or comfort, the minimum contact necessary to physically escort a student from one area to another, the minimum contact necessary to assist a student in completing a task or response if the student does not resist or resistance is minimal in intensity or duration, or the holding of a student for a brief time in order to prevent an impulsive behavior that threatens the student's immediate safety, such as running in front of a car. Restraint does not include the administration of medication prescribed by and administered in accordance with the directions of a physician, an adaptive or protective device recommended by a physician or therapist when it is used as recommended, or safety equipment used by the general student population as intended, such as a seat belt or safety harness on academy transportation. Restraint does not include necessary actions taken to break up a fight, to stop a physical assault, as defined in M.C.L. 380.1310, or to take a weapon from a student. Restraint does not include actions that are an integral part of a sporting event, such as a referee pulling football players off of a pile or a similar action.

Restraint that negatively impacts breathing means any restraint that inhibits breathing, including floor restraints, facedown position, or any position in which an individual is bent over in such a way that it is difficult to breathe. This includes a seated or kneeling position in which an individual being restrained is bent over at the waist and restraint that involves sitting or lying across an individual's back or stomach.

"Seclusion" means the confinement of a student in a room or other space from which the student is physically prevented from leaving. Seclusion does not include the general confinement of students if that confinement is an integral part of an emergency lockdown drill required under Section 19(5) of the Fire Prevention Code, 1941 PA 207, M.C.L. 29.19, or of another emergency security procedure that is necessary to protect the safety of student.

Adapted from Michigan State Board of Education Policy for the Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint adopted in March of 2017

Adopted 4/18/19

## **EQUAL ACCESS FOR NON-SCHOOL-SPONSORED STUDENT CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES**

Reference: MCL 380.1299  
Equal Access Act of 1984, 20 USC 4071 et seq.  
Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 USC 12101 et seq.  
Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC 2000e

The Board of Directors will not permit the use of school facilities by non-school-sponsored student clubs and activities or school-sponsored extra-curricular clubs and activities during instructional hours. During non-instructional time, however, no group of students, regardless of the size of the group, will be denied an opportunity to meet on the basis of religion, politics, philosophy, or other basis.

An application for permission for non-school-sponsored student clubs and activities to meet on Academy premises shall be made to the School Leader, who shall grant permission, provided he/she determines the following:

- A. the activity is initiated by students;
- B. attendance at the activity is voluntary;
- C. no agent or employee of the Academy is promoting, leading, or participating in the activity;
- D. the activity does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of instructional activities in the Academy;
- E. non-school persons are not directing, conducting, controlling, or regularly attending the activity.

A student-initiated group granted permission to hold an activity on Academy premises shall be provided the same rights and access and shall be subject to the same Administrative Procedures that govern the activities of student organizations sponsored by this Board, except as provided by this policy. Participation in a student-initiated activity must be available to all students who wish to attend and cannot be denied on the basis of a student's gender, religion, race, color, national origin or ancestry, age, disability, height, weight, marital status, social or economic status, and/or any other legally protected characteristic. In addition, there shall be no discrimination on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at the activity.

A professional staff member may be assigned to attend a student initiated activity in a custodial capacity but shall not participate directly in the activity. No professional staff member shall be compelled to attend a student-initiated activity if the content of the speech at the activity is contrary to his/her beliefs. The School Leader may take such actions as may be necessary to maintain order and discipline on Academy premises and to protect the safety and well-being of students and staff members.

The Board will not permit the organization of a fraternity, sorority, or secret society. A student initiated activity may be attended by no more than three (3) outside resource person(s). The School Leader may exclude non-students from directing, controlling, or attending any such activities of students.

The Educational Service Provider shall develop Administrative Procedures to ensure the proper implementation of this policy.

Adopted 4/18/19

## SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Reference: MCL 380.1306  
US Constitution, 4th Amendment

The Board of Directors has charged Academy authorities with the responsibility of safeguarding the safety and well-being of the students in their care. In the discharge of that responsibility, Academy authorities may search school property such as lockers and computers used by students and/or the students' personal property, including vehicles, in accordance with the following policy:

### ***Academy Property***

The Board acknowledges the need for in-school storage of students' possessions and shall provide storage places, including desks and lockers, for that purpose. Where locks are provided for such places, students may lock them against incursion by other students, but in no such places shall students have an expectation of privacy to prevent examination by a Academy official. The Board directs the School Leader to conduct a routine inspection, at least annually, of all such storage places. In the course of any search, student's privacy rights will be respected regarding any items that are not against Board policy.

The Board also authorizes the use of canines, trained in detecting the presence of drugs or devices, when the School Leader has reasonable suspicion that illegal drugs or devices may be present in the Academy. This means of detection shall be used only to determine the presence of drugs in locker areas and other places in the where such substances could be concealed. Canine detection must be conducted in collaboration with law enforcement authorities or other certified organizations and is not to be used to search students, unless either a warrant or parental permission has been obtained prior to the search.

### ***Student Person and Possessions***

The Board recognizes that the privacy of a student and his/her belongings may not be violated by unreasonable search and seizure and directs that no student be searched without reasonable suspicion or in an unreasonable manner. The extent of the search will be governed by the seriousness of the alleged infraction, the student's age, and the student's disciplinary history.

This authorization to search shall also apply to all situations in which the student is under the jurisdiction of the Board.

Reasonable suspicion that a communication device has been used to violate Academy policies or Administrative Procedures shall be subject to disciplinary action and may result in the communication device being confiscated.

Administrators are authorized to arrange for a breath-test instrument, according to the School Leader's Administrative Procedures, for the purpose of determining if a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. It is not necessary for the test to determine blood-alcohol level, since the Board has established a zero tolerance for alcohol use.

Except as provided below, a request for the search of a student or a student's possessions will be directed to the School Leader. He/she shall attempt to obtain the freely-offered consent of the student to the inspection; however, provided there is reasonable suspicion, s/he may conduct the search without such consent. Whenever possible, a search will be conducted by the School Leader in the presence of the student and another staff member. A search, prompted by the reasonable belief that health and safety are immediately threatened, will be conducted with as much speed and dispatch as may be required to protect persons and property.

Search of a student's person or intimate personal belongings shall be conducted by a person of the student's gender, in the presence of another staff member of the same gender, and only in exceptional circumstances, when the health or safety of the student or of others is immediately threatened.

The School Leader shall be responsible for the prompt recording, in writing, of each student search, including the following information: reasons for the search; information received that established the need for the search; the name of informant, if any; the persons present when the search was conducted; any substances or objects found and the disposition made of them; and any subsequent action taken. The School Leader shall be responsible for the custody, control, and disposition of any illegal or dangerous substance or object taken from a student.

Adopted 4/18/19



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Adoption Date: **04.19**

Classification:

Revised Dates: **10/17/19; 08.21**

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## INTERNAL CONTROLS

The Educational Service Provider shall establish and maintain effective internal control over financial grants and awards that provide reasonable assurance that the program and funds are managed in compliance with applicable statutes, regulations and the terms and conditions of the awards.

The internal controls must provide reasonable assurance that transactions are properly recorded and accounted for in order to permit the preparation of reliable financial statements and Federal reports; maintain accountability over assets; and demonstrate compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. The internal controls must also provide reasonable assurance that these transactions are executed in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award that could have a direct and material effect on a Federal award, as well as any other Federal statutes and regulations that are identified in the Compliance Supplement. Finally, the internal controls must provide reasonable assurance that all Federal funds, property, and other assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition.

The Academy shall:

- A. comply with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal awards;
- B. evaluate and monitor its compliance with statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award;
- C. take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified including noncompliance identified in audit findings; and
- D. take reasonable measures to safeguard protected personally identifiable information and other information the awarding agency or pass-through entity designates as sensitive or the Academy considers sensitive information consistent with applicable Federal, state, local, and tribal laws and Academy policies regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.

Adopted 4/18/19

## CASH MANAGEMENT OF GRANTS

Reference: 2 CFR 200.305

In order to provide reasonable assurance that all assets, including Federal, State, and local funds, are safeguarded against waste, loss, unauthorized use, or misappropriation, the Educational Service Provider shall implement internal controls in the area of cash management.

The Academy's payments methods shall minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds from the United States Treasury or the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) (pass-through entity) and disbursement by the Academy, regardless of whether the payment is made by electronic fund transfer, or issuance or redemption of checks, warrants, or payment by other means.

The Academy shall use forms and procedures required by the grantor agency or pass through entity to request payment. The Academy shall request grant funds payments in accordance with the provisions of the grant. Additionally, the Academy's financial management systems shall meet the standards for fund control and accountability as established by the awarding agency.

The Educational Service Provider is authorized to submit requests for advance payments and reimbursements at least monthly when electronic fund transfers are not used, and as often as deemed appropriate when electronic transfers are used, in accordance with the provisions of the Electronic Fund Transfer Act (15 U.S.C. 1693-1693r).

When the Academy uses a cash advance payment method, the following standards shall apply:

- A. The timing and amount of the advance payment requested will be as close as is administratively feasible to the actual disbursement for direct program or project costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs.
- B. The Academy shall make timely payment to contractors in accordance with contract provisions.
- C. To the extent available, the Academy shall disburse funds available from program income (including repayments to a revolving fund), rebates, refunds, contract settlements, audit recoveries, and interest earned on such funds before requesting additional cash payments.
- D. The Academy shall account for the receipt, obligation and expenditure of funds.
- E. Advance payments will be deposited and maintained in insured accounts whenever possible.
- F. Advance payments will be maintained in interest bearing accounts unless the following apply:
  - 1. The Academy receives less than \$120,000 in Federal awards per year.

2. The best reasonably available interest-bearing account would not be expected to earn interest in excess of \$500 per year on Federal cash balances.
  3. The depository would require an average or minimum balance so high that it would not be feasible within the expected Federal and non-Federal cash resources.
- G. Pursuant to Federal law and regulations, the Academy may retain interest earned in an amount up to \$500 per year for administrative costs. Any additional interest earned on Federal advance payments deposited in interest-bearing accounts must be remitted annually to the Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System ("PMS") through an electronic medium using either Automated Clearing House ("ACH") network or a Fedwire Funds Service payment. Remittances shall include pertinent information of the payee and nature of payment in the memo area (often referred to as "addenda records" by Financial Institutions) as that will assist in the timely posting of interest earned on Federal funds. Pertinent details include the Payee Account Number ("PAN") if the payment originated from PMS, or Agency information if the payment originated from Automated Standard Application for Payment ("ASAP"), National Science Foundation ("NSF") or another Federal agency payment system.

Adopted 4/18/19

## INVESTMENTS

Reference: MCL 124.301 et seq., 129.11 to 129.118, 380.1221, 380.1223(2), 380.622  
P.A. 22 of 2009

The Academy's policy is to use investments to maximize the returns on the Academy's excess cash balances, while reasonably controlling the risk of loss and maintaining an acceptable level of liquidity in those investments to meet the Academy's operating needs.

To this end, the Academy will track, through its financial reports and investment authorizations, the credit risk, concentration of credit risk, interest rate risk and foreign currency risks related to its investments.

The Board of Directors authorizes the Chief Operating Officer or a designated Board member to make investments of available monies from the several funds of the Academy in:

- A. bonds, bills, or notes of the United States; obligations, the principal and interest of which are fully guaranteed by the United States; or obligations of the State;
- B. certificates of deposit issued by a state or nationally-chartered bank or a state or Federally-chartered savings and loan association, savings bank, or credit union whose deposits are insured by an agency of the United States government and which maintains a principal office or branch office in Michigan under Michigan and Federal laws;
- C. certificates of deposit of a public corporation(s) (CDs) in insured depository institutions in accordance with the following conditions:
  - 1. the funds are initially invested through a financial institution that is not ineligible to be a depository of surplus funds belonging to this State under (M.C.L.A. 21.146 (discriminatory lending practices))
  - 2. the financial institution arranges for the investment of the funds in certificates of deposit in one (1) or more insured depository institutions, as defined in 12 U.S.C. 1813, or one or more insured credit unions, as defined in 12 U.S.C. 1752, for the account of the school
  - 3. the financial institution acting as custodian for the Academy is insured by an agency of the United States
  - 4. the financial institution acts as custodian for the Academy with respect to each certificate of deposit
  - 5. at the same time that the funds are deposited and the certificate or certificates of deposit are issued, the financial institution receives an amount of deposits from customers of other insured depository institutions equal to or greater than the amount of the funds initially invested by the Academy through the financial institution
- D. commercial paper rated prime 1 or prime 2 at the time of purchase and maturing not more than 270 days after the date of purchase;

- E. securities issued or guaranteed by agencies or instrumentalities of the United States government;
- F. United States government or Federal agency obligation repurchase agreements;
- G. bankers' acceptances issued by a bank that is a member of the Federal deposit insurance corporation;
- H. mutual funds composed entirely of investment vehicles that are legal for direct investment by a Academy;
- I. investment pools, as authorized by the surplus funds investment pool act, Act. No. 367 of the Public Acts of 1982, being sections 129.11 to 129.118 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, composed entirely of instruments that are legal for direct investment by a Academy.

When there is a possibility that interest changes could adversely affect the fair value of a Academy's investment, as determined under the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) standards, the following method(s) will be used to assess and control such risks:

- A. weighted average maturity
- B. duration

These methods shall be implemented as defined by the Government Accountability Standards Board. The Board may apply different methods to different investments.

Investments in securities shall be with authorized investment institutions and dealers that must establish eligibility by meeting all of the following requirements.

- A. primary and regional dealers that qualify under Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15C3-1 (uniform net capital rule)
- B. capital of no less than \$10,000,000
- C. registered as a dealer under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934
- D. a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD)
- E. registered to sell securities in Michigan
- F. the firm and assigned broker have been engaged in the business of effecting transactions in United States government and agency obligations for at least five (5) years

The Chief Operating Officer is authorized to contract with a depository for the operation of a cash management system under the following conditions:

- A. the contract provides for the investment of funds by the depository with the written approval of the Board.

- B. the investments are made in accordance with State law with maturities not to exceed two (2) years

An obligation purchased in accordance with Section 380.1223(2), when received by the Chief Operating Officer, shall be deposited with the bank or trust company having the deposit of the money of the particular fund from which the obligation was purchased.

Money in the several funds of the Academy shall not be commingled for the purpose of making an investment authorized by Section 380.1223. The Board, however, may establish and maintain one common debt retirement fund for bond issues of like character.

Earnings on an investment shall become a part of the fund from which the investment was made.

The Board may adopt a resolution at its annual organizational meeting, authorizing electronic fund transfers and the Treasurer or the Electronic Transfer Officer (ETO) as authorized agent(s) to complete such transactions on behalf of the Board. The Automatic Clearing House (ACH) authorizing resolution shall include all of the following:

- A. That an officer or employee designated by the Treasurer or ETO is responsible for the local unit's ACH agreements, including payment approval, accounting, reporting, and generally for overseeing compliance with the ACH policy.
- B. That the officer or employee responsible for disbursement of funds shall submit to the local unit documentation detailing the goods or services purchased, the cost of the goods or services, the date of the payment, and the department levels serviced by payment. This report can be contained in the electronic general ledger software system of the local unit or in a separate report to the governing body of the local unit.

**(NOTE: Investment professionals utilized by the Academy should be advised of and consulted on this policy.)**

Adopted 4/18/19

## PURCHASING

Reference: MCL 380.1267, 380.1274 et seq.

Procurement of all supplies, materials, equipment, and services paid for from Academy funds shall be made in accordance with all applicable federal and State statutes, Board policies, and administrative procedures. Standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts are established in Policy 1130, Policy 3110, and Policy 4110 (as applicable) – Conflict of Interest.

All procurement transactions shall be conducted in a manner that encourages full and open competition and in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment.

Each year the State of Michigan informs the School of the legal amount for purchases which require a formal bidding process of a single item.

Purchases in a single transaction that are in excess of the dollar amount permitted by State statute shall require competitive bids and, whenever possible, have at least three (3) such bids for substantiation of purchase and shall require approval of the Board prior to purchase.

### Competitive Bids

Competitive bids are not required for items purchased through the cooperative bulk purchasing program operated by the Michigan Department of Management and Budget pursuant to M.C.L.A. 18.1263.

Competitive bids are not required for food purchases, unless food purchased in a single transaction costs \$100,000 or more.

Bids shall be sealed and shall be opened by the Chief Operating Officer in the presence of at least one (1) witness. All orders or contracts should be awarded in consideration of the following:

- A. the quality of the item(s) to be supplied;
- B. its conformity with specifications;
- C. suitability to the requirements of the Academy;
- D. delivery terms;
- E. past performance of vendor;
- F. price.

In addition to the factors above, the Board may consider and provide a preference to bidders

- A. which use a Michigan-based business as the primary contractor.
- B. which use one (1) or more Michigan-based business as subcontractors.



For purposes of this preference a Michigan-based business means a business that would qualify for a Michigan preference for procurement contracts under M.C.L.A. 18.1268, which requires that the businesses certify that since inception or during the last twelve (12) months it has done one of the following:

- A. have filed a Michigan business tax return showing an allocation of income tax base to Michigan
- B. have filed a Michigan income tax return showing income generated in or attributed to Michigan
- C. withheld Michigan income tax from compensation paid to the bidder's owners and remitted the tax to the Michigan Department of Treasury

This preference shall not apply to any procurement or project using Federal funds, nor shall it be used if it would violate any Federal law or requirements.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

#### Bid Protest

A bidder who wishes to file a bid protest must file such notice and follow procedures prescribed by the Request For Proposals (RFP) or the individual bid specifications package, for resolution. Bid protests must be filed in writing with the Educational Service Provider within seventy-two (72) hours of the opening of the bids in protest.

Within five (5) days of receipt of a protest, the Educational Service Provider shall review the protest as submitted and render a decision regarding the merits of the protest and any impact on the acceptance and rejection of bids submitted. Notice of the filing of a bid protest shall be communicated to the Board and shall be so noted in any subsequent recommendation for the acceptance of bids and awarding of contracts.

Failure to file a notice of intent to protest, or failure to file a formal written protest within the time prescribed, shall constitute a waiver of proceedings.

#### General Provisions

The Educational Service Provider is authorized to purchase all items within budget allocations.

The Educational Service Provider and School Leader (as employed by the Board) is authorized to make emergency purchases, without prior approval, of those goods and/or services needed to keep the school in operation. Such purchases shall be brought to the Board's attention at the next regular meeting.

In order to promote efficiency and economy in the operation of the school, the Board requires that the Educational Service Provider and School Leader (as employed by the Board) periodically estimate requirements for standard items or classes of items and make quantity purchases on a bid basis to procure the lowest cost consistent with good quality.

Whenever storage facilities or other conditions make it impractical to receive total delivery at any one time, the total quantity to be shipped but with staggered delivery dates, shall be made a part of the bid specifications.

Before placing a purchase order, the Educational Service Provider and School Leader (as employed by the Board) shall check as to whether the proposed purchase is subject to bid, whether sufficient funds exist in the budget, and whether the material might be available elsewhere in the school. All purchase orders shall be numbered consecutively.

In the interests of economy, fairness, and efficiency in its business dealings, the Board requires that:

- A. opportunity be provided to as many responsible suppliers as possible to do business with the Academy;
- B. a prompt and courteous reception, insofar as conditions permit, be given to all who call on legitimate business matters;
- C. where the requisitioner has recommended a supplier, the Educational Service Provider and School Leader (as employed by the Board) may make alternate suggestions to the requisitioner if, in his/her judgment, better service, delivery, economy, or utility can be achieved by changing the proposed order;
- D. upon the placement of a purchase order, the Educational Service Provider and School Leader (as employed by the Board) shall commit the expenditure against a specific line item to guard against the creation of liabilities in excess of appropriations.

The Educational Service Provider and School Leader (as employed by the Board) shall determine the amount of purchase which shall be allowed without a properly signed purchase order. Employees may be held personally responsible for anything purchased without a properly signed purchase order or authorization.

The Board may acquire office equipment as defined in law by lease, by installment payments, by entering into lease-purchase agreements, or by lease with an option to purchase, provided the contract sets forth the terms of such a purchase.

#### Procurement – Federal Grants

The Educational Service Provider and School Leader (as employed by the Board) shall maintain a procurement and contract administration system in accordance with the United States Department of Education requirements (34 CFR 80.36) for the administration and management of Federal grants and federally-funded programs. The Academy shall maintain a compliance system that requires contractors to perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders. Except as otherwise noted, procurement transactions shall conform to the provisions of this policy and administrative guidelines (AG 6320).

Adopted 4/18/19

## **PROCUREMENT – FEDERAL GRANTS/FUNDS**

Reference:

2 C.F.R. 200.317 - .326, Appendix II to Part 200  
2 C.F.R. 200.520

Procurement of all supplies, materials, equipment, and services paid for from Federal funds or Academy matching funds shall be made in accordance with all applicable Federal, State, and local statutes and/or regulations, the terms and conditions of the Federal grant, Board policies, and administrative procedures.

The Educational Service Provider shall have and use a procurement and contract administration system in accordance with the USDOE requirements (2 CFR 200.317-.326), including affirmative steps for small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises, for the administration and management of Federal grants and Federally-funded programs. The Educational Service Provider shall maintain oversight that requires contractors to perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders. Except as otherwise noted, procurement transactions shall conform to the provisions of the Academy's documented general purchasing Policy 6320 and AG 6320.

All Academy employees, whether employed by the Board or by an Educational Service Provider, all officers of the Academy, and all agents of the Academy who have purchasing authority shall abide by the standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees, whether employed by the Board or by an Educational Service Provider, officers, and agents engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts as established in Policy 1130 and Policy 3110 – Conflict of Interest.

The Academy will avoid acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items. Additionally, consideration shall be given to consolidating or breaking out procurements to obtain a more economical purchase. And, where appropriate, an analysis shall be made of lease versus purchase alternatives, and any other appropriate analysis to determine the most economical approach. These considerations are given as part of the process to determine the allowability of each purchase made with Federal funds.

To foster greater economy and efficiency, the Academy may enter into State and local intergovernmental agreements where appropriate for procurement or use of common or shared goods and services.

### **Competition**

All procurement transactions for the acquisition of property or services required under a Federal award paid for from Federal funds or Academy matching funds shall be conducted in a manner that encourages full and open competition and that is in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgement. In order to promote objective contractor performance and eliminate unfair competitive advantage, the Academy shall exclude any contractor that has developed or drafted specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids or requests for proposals from competition for such procurements.

Some of the situations considered to be restrictive of competition include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. unreasonable requirements on firms in order for them to qualify to do business;
- B. unnecessary experience and excessive bonding requirements;
- C. noncompetitive pricing practices between firms or between affiliated companies;

- D. noncompetitive contracts to consultants that are on retainer contracts;
- E. organizational conflicts of interest;
- F. specification of only a "brand name" product instead of allowing for an "or equal" product to be offered and describing the performance or other relevant requirements of the procurement; and
- G. any arbitrary action in the procurement process.

Further, the Academy does not use statutorily or administratively imposed State, local, or tribal geographical preferences in the evaluation of bids or proposals, unless (1) an applicable Federal statute expressly mandates or encourages a geographic preference; or (2) the Academy is contracting for architectural and engineering services, in which case geographic location may be a selection criterion provided its application leaves an appropriate number of qualified firms, given the nature and size of the project, to compete for the contract.

To the extent that the Academy uses a pre-qualified list of persons, firms or products to acquire goods and services that are subject to this policy, the pre-qualified list includes enough qualified sources as to ensure maximum open and free competition. The Academy allows vendors to apply for consideration to be placed on the list continuously.

The Academy shall require that all prequalified lists of persons, firms, or products which are used in acquiring goods and services are current and include enough qualified sources to provide maximum open and free competition. The Academy shall not preclude potential bidders from qualifying during the solicitation period.

#### **Solicitation Language (Purchasing Procedures)**

The Academy shall have written procurement procedures that require that all solicitations made pursuant to this policy incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Such description shall not, in competitive procurements, contain features which unduly restrict competition. The description may include a statement of the qualitative nature of the material, product or service to be procured and, when necessary, shall set forth those minimum essential characteristics and standards to which it shall conform if it is to satisfy its intended use. Detailed product specifications should be avoided if at all possible.

When it is impractical or uneconomical to make a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements, a "brand name or equivalent" description may be used as a means to define the performance or other salient requirements of procurement. The specific features of the named brand which shall be met by offers shall be clearly stated; and identify all requirements which the offerors shall fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.

The Academy will not approve any expenditure for an unauthorized purchase or contract.

#### **Procurement Methods**

The Academy shall have and use documented procedures, consistent with the standards described above for the following methods of procurement:

##### **A. Informal Procurement Methods**

When the value of the procurement for property or services under a Federal award does not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, or a lower threshold established by the State, formal procurement methods are not required. The Academy may use informal procurement methods to expedite the completion of its transactions and minimize the associated administrative burden and cost. The informal methods used for procurement of property or services at or below the simplified acquisition threshold include:

1. Micro-purchases

Procurement by micro-purchase is the acquisition of supplies or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which does not exceed \$10,000. To the maximum extent practicable, the Academy should distribute micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers. Micro-purchases may be made without soliciting competitive quotations if Educational Service Provider considers the price to be reasonable based on research, experience, purchase history or other relevant information and documents are filed accordingly. The Academy shall maintain evidence of this reasonableness in the records of all purchases made by this method.

2. Small Purchases

Small purchases include the acquisition of property or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which is higher than the micro-purchase threshold but does not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold established by the State. Purchase procedures require that price or rate quotations shall be obtained from an adequate number of qualified sources.

Academies are responsible for determining an appropriate simplified acquisition threshold based on internal controls, an evaluation of risk, and its documented procurement procedures which must not exceed the threshold established in the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR). When applicable, a lower simplified acquisition threshold used by the non-Federal entity must be authorized or not prohibited under State, local, or tribal laws or regulations.

## B. Formal Procurement Methods

When the value of the procurement for property or services under a Federal award exceeds the simplified acquisition threshold, or a lower threshold established by the State, formal procurement methods are required. Formal procurement methods require following documented procedures. Formal procurement methods also require public advertising unless a non-competitive procurement method can be used in accordance with the standards on competition in C.F.R. 200.319 or non-competitive procurement. The formal methods of procurement are:

1. Sealed Bids

Sealed, competitive bids shall be obtained when the purchase of, and contract for, single items of supplies, materials, or equipment which amounts more than to the amount allowed by Michigan statute and when the Board determines to build, repair, enlarge, improve, or demolish an academy building/facility the cost of which will exceed the amount allowed by Michigan statute.

In order for sealed bidding to be feasible, the following conditions shall be present:

- a. a complete, adequate, and realistic specification or purchase description is available;
- b. two (2) or more responsible bidders are willing and able to compete effectively for the business; and
- c. the procurement lends itself to a firm fixed price contract and the selection of the successful bidder can be made principally on the basis of price.

When sealed bids are used, the following requirements apply:

- a. Bids shall be solicited in accordance with the provisions of State law and Policy 6320. Bids shall be solicited from an adequate number of qualified suppliers, providing sufficient response time prior to the date set for the opening of bids. The invitation to bid shall be publicly

advertised.

- b. The invitation for bids will include product/contract specifications and pertinent attachments and shall define the items and/or services required in order for the bidder to properly respond.
- c. All bids will be opened at the time and place prescribed in the invitation for bids; bids will be opened publicly.
- d. A firm fixed price contract award will be made in writing to the lowest responsible bidder. Where specified in bidding documents, factors such as discounts, transportation cost, and life cycle costs shall be considered in determining which bid is lowest. Payment discounts may only be used to determine the low bid when prior experience indicates that such discounts are usually taken.
- e. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids for sound documented reason.

## 2. Proposals

Procurement by proposals is a method in which either a fixed price or cost-reimbursement type contract is awarded. Proposals are generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids or in the case of a recognized exception to the sealed bid method. (See Policy 6320 for competitive bid procedures.)

If this method is used, the following requirements apply:

- a. Requests for proposals shall be publicized and identify all evaluation factors and their relative importance. Any response to the publicized requests for proposals shall be considered to the maximum extent practical.
- b. Proposals shall be solicited from an adequate number of sources.
- c. The Academy shall use its written method for conducting technical evaluations of the proposals received and for selecting recipients.
- d. Contracts shall be awarded to the responsible firm whose proposal is most advantageous to the program, with price and other factors considered.

The Academy may use competitive proposal procedures for qualifications-based procurement of architectural/engineering (A/E) professional services whereby competitors' qualifications are evaluated and the most qualified competitor is selected, subject to negotiation of fair and reasonable compensation. The method, where price is not used as a selection factor, can only be used in procurement of A/E professional services. It cannot be used to purchase other types of services though A/E that firms are a potential source to perform the proposed effort.

## 3. Noncompetitive Procurement

Procurement by noncompetitive proposals allows for solicitation of a proposal from only one source and may be used only when one or more of the following circumstances apply:

- a. micro-purchases
- b. the item is available only from a single source
- c. the public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from publicizing a competitive solicitation

- d. the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity expressly authorizes noncompetitive proposals in response to a written request from the Academy
- e. after solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined to be inadequate

### **Domestic Preference for Procurement**

As appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, the Academy shall, to the extent practicable under a Federal award, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States. Such requirements shall be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products under the Federal award.

### **Contract/Price Analysis**

The Academy shall perform a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of \$250,000, including contract modifications. A cost analysis generally means evaluating the separate cost elements that make up the total price, while a price analysis means evaluating the total price, without looking at the individual cost elements.

The method and degree of analysis is dependent on the facts surrounding the particular procurement situation; however, the Academy shall come to an independent estimate prior to receiving bids or proposals.

When performing a cost analysis, the Academy shall negotiate profit as a separate element of the price. To establish a fair and reasonable profit, consideration is given to the complexity of the work to be performed, the risk borne by the contractor, the contractor's investment, the amount of subcontracting, the quality of its record of past performance, and industry profit rates in the surrounding geographical area for similar work.

### **Time and Materials Contracts**

The Academy uses a time and materials type contract only (1) after a determination that no other contract is suitable; and (2) if the contract includes a ceiling price that the contractor exceeds at its own risk. Time and materials type contract means a contract whose cost to the Academy is the sum of the actual costs of materials, and direct labor hours charged at fixed hourly rates that reflect wages, general and administrative expenses, and profit.

Since this formula generates an open-ended contract price, a time-and-materials contract provides no positive profit incentive to the contractor for cost control or labor efficiency. Therefore, the Academy sets a ceiling price for each contract that the contractor exceeds at its own risk. Further, the Academy shall assert a high degree of oversight in order to obtain reasonable assurance that the contractor is using efficient methods and effective cost controls.

### **Suspension and Debarment**

The Academy will award contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the proposed procurement. All purchasing decisions shall be made in the best interests of the Academy and shall seek to obtain the maximum value for each dollar expended. When making a purchasing decision, the Academy shall consider such factors as (1) contractor integrity; (2) compliance with public policy; (3) record of past performance; and (4) financial and technical resources.

The Educational Service Provider shall have the authority to suspend or debar a person/corporation, for cause, from consideration or award of further contracts. The Academy is subject to and shall abide by the nonprocurement debarment and suspension regulations implementing Executive Orders 12549 and 12689, 2 CFR Part 180.

Suspension is an action taken by the Academy that immediately prohibits a person from participating in covered transactions and transactions covered under the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR chapter 1)

for a temporary period, pending completion of an agency investigation and any judicial or administrative proceedings that may ensue. A person so excluded is suspended. (2 CFR Part 180 Subpart G)

Debarment is an action taken by the Educational Service Provider to exclude a person from participating in covered transactions and transactions covered under the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR chapter 1). A person so excluded is debarred. (2 CFR Part 180 Subpart H)

The Academy shall not subcontract with or award subgrants to any person or company who is debarred or suspended. For contracts over \$25,000, the Academy shall confirm that the vendor is not debarred or suspended by either checking the Federal government's System for Award Management, which maintains a list of such debarred or suspended vendors at [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov); collecting a certification from the vendor; or adding a clause or condition to the covered transaction with that vendor. (2 CFR Part 180 Subpart C)

### **Bid Protest**

The Academy maintains the following protest procedures to handle and resolve disputes relating to procurements and, in all instances, discloses information regarding the protest to the awarding agency.

A bidder who wishes to file a bid protest shall file such notice and follow procedures prescribed by the Request For Proposals (RFPs) or the individual bid specifications package, for resolution. Bid protests shall be filed in writing with the Educational Service Provider within seventy-two (72) hours of the opening of the bids in protest.

Within five (5) days of receipt of a protest, the Educational Service Provider shall review the protest as submitted and render a decision regarding the merits of the protest and any impact on the acceptance and rejection of bids submitted. Notice of the filing of a bid protest shall be communicated to the Board and shall be so noted in any subsequent recommendation for the acceptance of bids and awarding of contracts.

Failure to file a notice of intent to protest, or failure to file a formal written protest within the time prescribed, shall constitute a waiver of proceedings.

### **Maintenance of Procurement Records**

The Academy shall maintain records sufficient to detail the history of all procurements. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis for the contract price (including a cost or price analysis).

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Adoption Date: **04.19**

Classification: **Legally Required**

Revised Dates: **10/17/19; 08.21**

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### **7000 PROPERTY**

<b>7450</b>	<b>Property Inventory</b>	<b>LR</b>
7545	Electronic Communications	BP

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Adoption Date: **04.19**

Classification:

Revised Dates: **08/18/2021; 02.22**

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## **PROPERTY INVENTORY**

As steward of this Academy's property, the Board of Directors recognizes that efficient management and full replacement upon loss require accurate inventory and properly maintained property records.

The Board shall conduct and maintain a continuous inventory of all Academy-owned equipment and supplies in accordance with all applicable law.

For purposes of this policy, "equipment" shall mean a unit of furniture or furnishings, an instrument, a machine, an apparatus, or a set of articles which retains its shape and appearance with use, is nonexpendable, costs at least \$5,000 to replace or as a single unit and does not lose its identity when incorporated into a more complex unit. When defining supplies for inventory purposes, no items will be counted whose total value is less than \$5,000. [The Federal threshold for a supply designation is \$5,000 regardless of length of useful life, however, the Academy may set an early acquisition cost level for designation as supply. Capital expenditures with a unit cost of \$5,000 or more require prior written approval of the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity.]

The duty of the Business Manager shall be to ensure that inventories are recorded systematically and accurately and that property records of equipment are updated and adjusted annually by reference to purchase orders and withdrawal reports.

Equipment acquired under a Federal award will vest upon acquisition to the Academy, subject to the following conditions:

- A. The equipment shall be used for the authorized purposes of the award project during the period of performance or until the equipment is no longer needed for the purposes of the project.
- B. The equipment shall not be encumbered without the approval of the Federal awarding agency or the pass-through entity.
- C. The equipment may only be used and disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Federal awarding agency or the pass-through entity and Board Policy and guidelines.
- D. Property records shall be maintained that include a description of the equipment, a serial number or other identification number, the source of funding for the equipment (including the Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN), title entity, acquisition date, cost of the equipment, percentage of Federal participation in the project costs for the award under which the equipment was acquired, the location, use, and condition of the equipment, and ultimate disposition data, including date of disposal and sale price of the equipment.
- E. A physical inventory of the property must be taken and results reconciled with property records at least once every two (2) years.
- F. A control system shall be developed to provide adequate safeguards to prevent loss, damage, or theft of the property. Any such loss, damage, or theft shall be investigated.
- G. Adequate maintenance procedures shall be implemented to keep the property in good condition.
- H. Proper sales procedures shall be established to ensure the highest possible return, in the event the Academy is authorized or required to sell the equipment/property.

- I. When original or replacement equipment acquired under a Federal award is no longer needed for the original project/program or for activities currently or previously supported by a Federal awarding agency, and except as otherwise provided by Federal statutes, regulations, or Federal awarding agency disposition instructions, the Academy shall request disposition instructions from the Federal awarding agency if required by the terms and conditions of the Federal award. Disposition of the equipment shall be made in accordance with the provisions of C.F.R. 200.313.

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Adoption Date: **08.21**  
Classification: **Legally Required**  
Revised Dates: ; **02.22**

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## **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

The advancement of technology has provided many new ways for individuals to communicate with one another. These electronic communications include social networking sites, instant messaging, text messaging, e-mailing and photo-sharing, among others. Additional methods of electronic communication can be anticipated as the technology continues to evolve.

However, use of such technology must be approached with caution by Educational Service Provider employees. Given the nature of the communications, there is a significant potential both for inappropriate use and for alleged inappropriate use. To protect staff and students, the following restrictions are established:

- A. Electronic communications with students should be appropriate in tone, content, and quantity. Stalking, harassment, or other unwelcome behaviors are prohibited, including any type of sexually suggestive comments, photos, or graphics.
- B. Electronic communications with other employees should be appropriate in tone, content, and quantity. Stalking, harassment, or other unwelcome behaviors are prohibited.

The Educational Service Provider may require the employee to produce records for review when there is reason to believe that this policy has been violated. Records within the Academy's control may be reviewed periodically to assure that this policy is being complied with. These may include Internet logs, cell phone records, or other similar documentation.

Questions regarding acceptable electronic communications or unwelcomed electronic communications from someone associated with the Academy should be submitted to Educational Service Provider.

Adopted 4/18/19

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Adoption Date: **04.19**

Classification:

Revised Dates: **10/17/19; 12/19/19; 12/19/20; 2/20/20; 8/20/20; 8/18/21; 02.22**

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## **PUBLIC RECORDS**

Reference:

MCL 15.231 et seq.  
MCL 445.81 et seq.  
Michigan Federation of Teachers v. University of Michigan, 481 Mich. 657 (2008)

The Board of Directors recognizes its responsibility to maintain the public records of this Academy and to make such records available to residents of Michigan for inspection and reproduction.

The public records of this Academy include any writing or other means of recording or retaining meaningful content prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the Academy, its Board, officers, or employees, subject to certain exemptions according to the Michigan Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The Academy shall not disclose the confidential address of a student or of an employee who has provided proper notice of a participation card issued by the department of the attorney general under the Address Confidentiality Program Act.

Any person may make a written request for any public records of the Academy. The person may inspect, copy, or receive copies of the public record requested. The Academy shall respond to such requests within five (5) working days after receipt unless otherwise agreed to in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

An individual may purchase copies of the Academy 's public records upon payment of a fee. No original public record may be removed from the office in which it is maintained except by a Board officer or employee in the course of the performance of his/her duties. Neither the Board nor its employees shall permit the release of the social security number of an employee, student, or other individual except as authorized by law (see Policy 8350 and AG 8350).

The Board authorizes the School Leader to provide, upon written request, enhanced i.e. immediate access to any public record which the Academy has stored in an electronic database and is not confidential or exempt from disclosure by State or Federal statute. Such a record may be provided by means of a computer disk provided by the requestor, electronic mail, or a modem providing the requestor has paid the fee established for such transmission.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed as preventing a Board member from inspecting in the performance of his/her official duties any record of this Academy, except student records and certain portions of personnel records.

The School Leader is authorized to dispose of correspondence on a daily basis including those transmitted by means of voice mail or E-mail, providing the message does not alter existing Academy records.

The School Leader is responsible for transmission of data contained in the single record student data base established by the Michigan Department of Education. Such transmission shall be in accordance with procedures established by the Kalamazoo Intermediate School District and the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI).

The School Leader shall establish administrative guidelines to ensure proper compliance with the intent of this policy and the Freedom of Information Act.

Adoption Date: **04.19**  
Classification: **Legally Required**  
Revised Dates: ; **02.22**

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## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SECURITY (NON-CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCY)**

Reference:

Criminal Justice Information Services - Security Policy (Version 5.2, 2013),  
U.S. Dept. of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Noncriminal Justice Agency Compliance Audit Review, Michigan State Police, Criminal Justice  
Information, Center, Audit and Training Section  
Conducting Criminal Background Checks, Michigan State Police, Criminal Justice Information  
Center

The Academy is required by State law to have the Michigan State Police (MSP) obtain both a State and a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) criminal history record information (CHRI) background check report for all employees of the Academy and contractors, vendors and their employees who work on a regular and continuous basis in the Academy. To assure the security, confidentiality, and integrity of the CHRI background check information received from the MSP/FBI the following standards are established.

### **Sanctions for Non-Compliance**

Employees who fail to comply with this policy and any guidelines issued to implement this policy will be subject to discipline for such violations. Discipline will range from counseling and retraining to discharge, based on the nature and severity of the violation. All violations will be recorded in writing, with the corrective action taken. The School Leader shall review, approve, sign and date all such corrective actions.

### **Local Agency Security Officer (LASO)**

The School Leader shall be designated as the Academy's Security Officer ("LASO") and shall be responsible for overall implementation of this policy and for data and system security. This shall include:

- A. ensuring that personnel security screening procedures are being followed as set forth in this policy;
- B. ensuring that approved and appropriate security measures are in place and working as expected;
- C. supporting policy compliance and instituting the CSA incident response reporting procedures;
- D. ensuring the MSP Information Security Officer is promptly informed of any security incidents involving the abuse or breach of the system and/or access to criminal justice information;
- E. to the extent applicable, identifying and documenting how Academy equipment is connected to the MSP system;
- F. to the extent applicable, identifying who is using the MSP approved hardware, software and firmware, and ensuring that no unauthorized individuals have access to these items.

The Academy's LASO shall be the point of contact for the Michigan State Police and should be the person most knowledgeable about this policy. The Academy's LASO shall be designated on the appropriate form as prescribed and maintained by the Michigan State Police. A new form shall be submitted every time a new LASO is designated. Each LASO must attend MSP Audit, Security and Access to Criminal History training.



### **Agency User Agreements**

The Academy shall enter into any required User Agreement for Release of CHRI ("User Agreement"), and future amendments, by the MSP necessary to access the required CHRI on applicants, volunteers, and all other statutorily required individuals, such as contractors and vendors and their employees assigned to the Academy. The LASO shall be responsible for the Academy's compliance with the terms of any such User Agreement.

### **Personnel Security**

Authorized users/personnel shall be individuals who have been appropriately vetted through a national fingerprint-based background check, as required by school safety legislation, and have been granted access to CHRI data, wherein access is only for the purpose of evaluating an individual's qualifications for employment or assignment.

- A. **Subsequent Arrest/Conviction** - If an individual granted access to criminal justice information is subsequently arrested and/or convicted, access shall be suspended immediately until the matter is reviewed by the LASO to determine if continued access is appropriate. Such determination shall be recorded in writing, signed, dated and maintained with the individual's file. In the event that the LASO has the arrest/conviction, the School Leader (if not the designated LASO) shall make the determination. If the School Leader is also the designated LASO, the determination shall be made by the School Leader's designee except that, as noted in (D)(1)(a), individuals with a felony conviction of any kind will have their access indefinitely suspended.
- B. **Public Interest Denial** - If the LASO determines that access to criminal justice information by any individual would not be in the public interest, access shall be denied whether that person is seeking access or has previously been granted access. Such decision and reasons shall be in writing, signed, dated and maintained in the individual's file.
- C. **Approval for Access** - All requests for access to criminal justice information shall be as specified and approved by the LASO. Any such designee must be a direct employee of the Academy; however, if approved by the Board and an appropriate waiver obtained from the prospective employee, ESP personnel may be given view only access to the information by the LASO if needed to review the results for determining an individual's qualifications for employment. The Academy must maintain a readily accessible list that includes the names of all LASO-approved personnel with access to criminal justice information, as well as the reason for providing each individual access. This list shall be made available to Michigan State Police upon request.
- D. **Termination of Employment/Access** - Within twenty-four (24) hours of the termination of employment, all access to criminal justice information shall be terminated immediately for that individual, such as requiring the individual to return any keys or access cards to buildings, offices, and/or files, or closing the individual's account and/or blocking access to any systems containing such information at the Academy.
- E. **Transfer/Re-assignment** - When an individual who has been granted access to criminal justice information has been transferred or re-assigned to other duties, the LASO shall determine whether continued access is necessary and appropriate. If not, s/he shall take such steps as necessary to block further access to such information within the twenty-four (24) hour period immediately following the transfer or reassignment.

### **Media Protection**

Access to digital and physical media in all forms, which contains criminal history background information provided by the MSP through the statutory record check process, is restricted to authorized individuals only. Only individuals involved in the hiring determination of both Academy employees and volunteers shall be authorized to access digital and physical media containing CHRI; provided, however, if approved by the Board and an appropriate waiver obtained from the prospective employee, ESP personnel may be given view only access to the information by the LASO if needed to review the results for determining an individual's qualifications for employment.

- A. **Media Storage and Access** - All digital and physical media shall be stored in a physically secure location or controlled area, such as locked office, locked cabinet or other similarly secure area(s) which can only be accessed by authorized individuals. If such security cannot be reasonably provided, then all digital CHRI background data shall be encrypted. Digital media shall be stored on an Academy server. Storage on a third party server, such as cloud service, is not permitted. Storage of digital media must conform to the requirements in AG 8321.
- B. **Media Transport** - Digital and physical media shall only be transported upon sufficient justification approved by the LASO. Digital and physical media shall be protected when being transported outside of a controlled area. Only authorized individuals shall transport the media. Physical media (e.g. printed documents, printed imagery, etc.) shall be transported using a locked container, sealed envelope, or other similarly secure measure. To the extent possible, digital media (e.g., hard drives and removable storage devices such as disks, tapes, flash drives and memory cards) shall be either encrypted and/or be password protected during the transport process. The media shall be directly delivered to the intended person or destination and shall remain in the physical control and custody of the authorized individual at all times during transport. Access shall only be allowed to an authorized individual.
- C. **Media Disposal/Sanitization** - When the CHRI background check is no longer needed, the media upon which it is stored shall either be destroyed or sanitized. The LASO and the School Leader shall approve in writing the media to be affected. This record shall be maintained by the LASO during the individual's active employment plus an additional six (6) years.
1. **Digital Media** - Sanitization of the media and deletion of the data shall be accomplished by either overwriting at least three (3) times or by degaussing, prior to disposal or reuse of the media. If the media is inoperable or will not be reused, it shall be destroyed by shredding, cutting, or other suitable method to assure that any data will not be retrievable.
  2. **Physical Media** - Disposal of documents, images or other type of physical record of the criminal history information shall be cross-cut shredded or incinerated. Physical security of the documents and their information shall be maintained during the process by authorized individuals. Documents may not be placed in a waste basket or burn bag for unauthorized individuals to later collect and dispose of.
- All disposal/sanitization shall be either conducted or witnessed by authorized personnel to assure that there is no misappropriation of or unauthorized access to the data to be deleted. Written documentation of the steps taken to sanitize or destroy the media shall be maintained for ten (10) years, and must include the date as well as the signatures of the person(s) performing and/or witnessing the process. (See also, AG 8321.)
- D. **Personal Mobile Devices** - A personally-owned mobile device (mobile phone, tablet, laptop, etc.) shall not be authorized to access, process, store or transmit criminal justice information unless the Academy has established and documented the specific terms and conditions for personally-owned mobile devices through a Mobile Device Management (MDM) system. An MDM is not required when receiving CHRI from an indirect access information system (i.e., the system provides no capability to conduct transactional activities on State and national repositories, applications, or services).

### **CHRI Background Check Consent and Documentation**

All individuals requested to complete a fingerprint-based CHRI background check must execute Michigan State Police Form RI-088A at time of application and be notified fingerprints will be used to check the criminal history records of the FBI, prior to completing a fingerprint-based CHRI background check. The most current and unaltered Livescan form (RI-030) will satisfy this requirement and must be retained. Individuals subject to a fingerprint-based CHRI background check shall be provided the opportunity to complete or challenge the accuracy of the individual's criminal history record. Additionally, if the Board approves ESP personnel receiving view only access to the information if needed to review the results for determining an individual's qualifications for employment, an appropriate waiver allowing the results to be shared with the ESP must be obtained from the prospective employee.

Some type of documentation identifying the position for which a fingerprint-based CHRI background check has been obtained must be retained for every CHRI background check conducted, such as the "Agency User Agreement" (RI-087), an offer letter, employment agreement, new hire checklist, employment contract, volunteer background check form, etc.

The Academy shall retain the red light / green light letter received from an Authorized Recipient on site as documentation that a CHRI background check has been completed.

The Educational Service Provider shall retain the red light / green light letter received from an Authorized Recipient on site as documentation that a CHRI background check has been completed.

### **Controlled Area/Physical Protection**

All CHRI obtained from the Michigan State Police pursuant to the statutorily required background checks shall be maintained in the Educational Service Provider's Office, which is a physically secure and controlled area. The following security precautions will apply to the controlled area:

- A. Limited unauthorized personnel access to the area during times that criminal justice information is being processed or viewed.
- B. The controlled area shall be locked at all times when not in use or attended by an authorized individual.
- C. Information systems devices (e.g., computer screens) and physical documents, when in use, shall be positioned to prevent unauthorized individuals from being able to access or view them.
- D. Encryption shall be used for digital storage of criminal justice information. (See AG 8321.)

### **Passwords (Standard Authentication)**<sup>1</sup>

All authorized individuals with access to computer or systems where processing is conducted or containing criminal justice information must have a unique password to gain access. This password shall not be used for any other account to which the individual has access and shall comply with the following attributes and standards.

- A. at least eight (8) characters long on all systems
- B. not be a proper name or a word found in the dictionary
- C. not be the same as the user identification
- D. not be displayed when entered into the system (must use feature to hide password as typed)
- E. not be transmitted in the clear outside of the secure location used for criminal justice information storage and retrieval
- F. must expire and be changed every ninety (90) days
- G. renewed password cannot be the same as any prior ten (10) passwords used (See also, AG 8321.)

### **Security Awareness Training**

All individuals who are authorized by the Academy to have access to criminal justice information or to systems which store criminal justice information shall have basic security awareness training within six (6) months of initial assignment/authorization and every two (2) years thereafter. The training shall, to the extent possible, be received through a program approved by the Michigan State Police. A template of the training is provided on the Michigan State Police 's website. At a minimum, the training shall comply with the

standards established by U.S. Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation for Criminal Justice Information Services. (See AG 8321.) A record shall be kept current of all individuals who have completed the security awareness training.

### **Secondary Dissemination of Information**

If criminal history background information received from the Michigan State Police is released to another authorized agency under the sharing provision designated by The Revised School Code, a log of such releases shall be maintained and kept current indicating:

- A. the date of release;
- B. record disseminated;
- C. method of sharing;
- D. agency personnel that shared the CHRI;
- E. the agency to which the information was released;
- F. the name of the individual recipient at the agency; and
- G. whether authorization was obtained.

A log entry need not be kept if the receiving agency/entity is part of the primary information exchange agreements between the Academy and the MSP. A release form consenting to the sharing of CHRI shall be maintained at all relevant times.

If CHRI is received from another Academy, district or outside agency, an Internet Criminal History Access Tool (ICHAT) background check shall be performed to ensure the CHRI is based on personal identifying information, including the individual's name, sex, and date of birth, at a minimum.

### **Incident Handling and Responses**

Information system security incidents shall be tracked using Form CJIS-016 and documented on an ongoing basis. Incident-related information may be obtained from audit monitoring, network monitoring, physical access monitoring, and user/administrator reports. The LASO shall maintain completed security incident reporting forms for three (3) years or until legal action (if warranted) is complete, whichever timeframe is greater. The Academy shall implement steps for incident handling capabilities, for both digital and physical CHRI media. At a minimum, the following will be implemented:

	<b>Physical - Hard Copy CHRI</b>	<b>Digital - Digitally Saved CHRI</b>
1. Preparation	The CHRI container will be locked at all times in the business office where it is stored. The office must be locked when the office staff is not present.	Firewalls, virus protection, and/or malware/spyware protection shall be implemented and maintained to prevent unauthorized access or intrusion of the information systems.
2. Detection	Unauthorized activities or physical intrusions to the building shall be monitored by building alarm or video surveillance. Doors must be locked and checked at night.	Electronic intrusions shall be monitored and detected by the firewalls, virus protection, and/or malware/spyware protection software.

3. Analysis	The LASO will work with police authorities to determine how the incident occurred and what data was affected.	The LASO shall work with the IT department to determine what systems or data were compromised and affected.
4. Containment	The LASO shall lock uncompromised CHRI information in a secure container, or transport CHRI to a secure area.	The IT department shall stop the spread of any intrusion of the information systems and prevent further damage.
5. Eradication	The LASO shall work with law enforcement to remove any threats and compromised CHRI data.	The IT department shall remove the intrusion of the information systems before restoring the system. All steps necessary to prevent recurrence shall be taken before restoring the system.
6. Recovery	The Police shall handle and/or oversee the recovery of stolen CHRI media. The LASO may contact MSP for assistance in re-fingerprinting if necessary.	The IT department shall restore the agency information system and media to a safe environment.

When an incident involving the security of CHRI or systems with access to CHRI is discovered, the following procedures shall be followed:

- A. The LASO shall be notified immediately.
- B. The breach shall be assessed and steps taken to correct the situation:
  - 1. access shall be stopped for any unauthorized user;
  - 2. media shall be secured;
  - 3. systems shall be shut down as necessary to avoid further exposure to unauthorized access or dissemination of CHRI;
  - 4. such steps are deemed necessary by the LASO or authorized personnel involved in assessing the incident.
- C. All necessary information regarding the security breach and Academy responses shall be recorded, analyzed, and preserved, including who was involved in taking incident response measures.
- D. The LASO shall be responsible for filing the incident report with the MSP.

The LASO shall monitor MSP information/guidance on incident reports and train authorized users with access to CHRI on detection and response to security incidents.

- E. Mobile Device - Incident Handling and Response
  - 1. The LASO shall be notified immediately.
  - 2. The breach shall be assessed and steps taken to correct the situations:
    - a. access shall be stopped immediately, and remotely if necessary, for any authorized user;
    - b. media shall be secured and steps taken to identify how the incident occurred and what systems or data were compromised or affected;

- c. systems shall be shut down as necessary to avoid further exposure to unauthorized access or dissemination of CJI;
  - d. such other steps as are deemed necessary by the LASO or authorized personnel involved in assessing the incident.
- 3. All necessary information regarding the security breach and Academy responses shall be recorded, analyzed, and preserved, including who was involved in taking incident response measures.
- 4. Steps shall be taken to restore the device and media to a safe environment.
- 5. The LASO shall be responsible for filing the incident report with the MSP using form CJIS-016. A copy of the completed form shall be retained and produced to MSP upon request.

When a device is lost the Academy shall document and indicate how long the device has been lost. Special reporting procedures for mobile devices shall apply in any of the following situations:

- a. for a lost device, report if the owner:
  - 1. believed the device was locked;
  - 2. believed the devices was unlocked;
  - 3. could not validate the device's locked state.
- b. for a total loss of a device, report if:
  - 1. CHRI was stored on the device;
  - 2. the device was locked or unlocked;
  - 3. capable of remote tracking or wiping of device.
- c. report any compromise of a device when the intrusion occurs while still in the owner's possession
- d. report any compromise outside of the United States

### **Collection of Evidence**

Where an information security incident involves legal action against the Academy or an individual (either civil or criminal), evidence shall be collected, retained, and presented in accordance with the rules of evidence of the relevant jurisdiction(s).

<sup>1</sup> Applicable to Academies that maintain CHRI within a digital system of records, such as a digital database, filing system, record keeping software, spreadsheets, etc. Not applicable if CHRI kept solely via e-mail and/or paper copies.

Adoption Date: **12.19**  
Classification: **Legally Required**  
Revised Dates: ; **08.21**

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## **STUDENT RECORDS**

Reference:

MCL 380.1135  
Letter, April 6, 2004 Jeremy Hughes, Deputy Supt. Department of Education  
34 CFR Part 99, 2002  
Section 444 of subpart of part C of the General Education Provisions Act  
Title IV of Public Law 90-247  
20 USC, Section 1232f through 1232i (FERPA)  
20 USC 1400 et seq., Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act  
20 USC 7165(b)  
26 USC 152  
20 USC 7908

In order to provide appropriate educational services and programming, the Board of Directors must collect, retain, and use information about individual students. Simultaneously, the Board recognizes the need to safeguard student's privacy and restrict access to student's personally identifiable information.

If the parent or legal guardian of a student provides the Academy with notice that s/he/they have received a participation card issued by the attorney general under the address confidentiality program act, the Academy shall not disclose the confidential address of the student, regardless of any other provision of this policy. The School Leader, or his or her designee, shall develop a process to ensure that a student's participation in the address confidentiality program act is appropriately noted to avoid disclosure of this information to any person or entity.

Student "personally identifiable information" ("PII") includes, but is not limited to: the student's name; the name of the student's parent or other family members; the address of the student or student's family; a personal identifier, such as the student's social security number, student number, or biometric record; other indirect identifiers, such as the student's date of birth, place of birth, and mother's maiden name; other information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student with reasonable certainty; or other information requested by a person who the Academy reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the education record relate.

The Board hereby authorizes collection of the following student records, in addition to the membership record required by law:

- A. observations and ratings of individual students by professional staff members acting within their sphere of competency
- B. samples of student work
- C. information obtained from professionally acceptable standard instruments of measurement such as:
  - 1. interest inventories and aptitude tests
  - 2. vocational preference inventories
  - 3. achievement tests



4. standardized intelligence tests

- D. authenticated information provided by a parent or eligible student concerning achievements and other school activities which the parent or student wants to make a part of the record
- E. verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior patterns
- F. psychological tests
- G. attendance records
- H. health records
- I. custodial arrangements

In all cases, permitted, narrative information in student records shall be objectively-based on the personal observation or knowledge of the originator.

Student records shall be available only to students and their parents, eligible students, and designated Academy officials who have a legitimate educational interest in the information, or to other individuals or organizations as permitted by law. The term "parents" includes legal guardians or other persons standing in loco parentis (such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the welfare of the child). The term "eligible student" refers to a student who is eighteen (18) years of age or older or a student of any age who is enrolled in a postsecondary institution.

In situations in which a student has both a custodial and a noncustodial parent, both shall have access to the student's educational records unless stipulated otherwise by court order. In the case of eligible students, parents will be allowed access to the records without the student's consent, provided the student is considered a dependent under section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code.

An Academy official is a person employed by the Educational Service Provider as an administrator, supervisor, teacher/instructor (including substitutes), or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); and a person serving on the Board. The Board further designates the following individuals as entities as "school officials" for the purpose of FERPA:

- A. persons or companies with whom the Board has contracted to perform a specific task (such as an attorney, auditor, insurance representative, or medical consultant);
- B. contractors, consultants, volunteers or other parties to whom the Board has outsourced a service or function otherwise performed by the Board employees (e.g. a therapist, authorized information technology (IT) staff, and approved online Educational Service Providers).

The above-identified outside parties must (a) perform institutional services or functions for which the Board would otherwise use its employees, (b) be under the direct control of the Board with respect to the use and maintenance of education records, and (c) be subject to the requirements of 34 CFR 99.33(a) governing the use and re-disclosure of PII from education records.

Finally, a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his/her tasks (including volunteers) is also considered an "Academy official" for purposes of FERPA provided s/he meets the above-referenced criteria applicable to other outside parties.

"Legitimate educational interest" shall be defined as a "direct or delegated responsibility for helping the student achieve one (1) or more of the educational goals of the Academy" or if the record is necessary in order for the Academy official to perform an administrative, supervisory or instructional task or to perform a service or benefit for the student or the student's family. The Board directs that reasonable and appropriate methods (including but not limited to physical and/or technological access controls) are utilized to control

access to student records and to make certain that Academy officials obtain access to only those education records in which they have legitimate educational interest.

The Board authorizes the administration to:

- A. forward student records, including any suspension and expulsion action against the student, on request to a school or school district in which a student of this Academy seeks or intends to enroll upon condition that the student's parents be notified of the transfer, receive a copy of the record if desired, and have an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of the record;
- B. forward student records, including disciplinary records with respect to suspensions and expulsions, upon request to a public school or school Board in which a student in foster care is enrolled. Such records shall be transferred within one (1) school day of the enrolling school's request;
- C. provide "personally-identifiable" information to appropriate parties, including parents of an eligible student, whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals, if there is an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals, considering the totality of the circumstances;
- D. report a crime committed by a child with or without a disability to appropriate authorities and, with respect to reporting a crime committed by a student with a disability, to transmit copies of the student's special education records and disciplinary records including any suspension and expulsion action against the student to the authorities and Academy officials for their consideration;
- E. release de-identified records and information in accordance with Federal regulations;
- F. disclose personally identifiable information from education records, without consent, to organizations conducting studies "for, or on behalf of" the Academy for purposes of developing, validating or administering predictive tests, administering student aid programs, or improving instructions;

Information disclosed under this exception must be protected so that students and parents cannot be personally identified by anyone other than representative of the organization conducting the study, and must be destroyed when no longer needed for the study. In order to release information under this provision, the Academy will enter into a written agreement with the recipient organization that specifies the purpose of the study. (See Form 8330 F14.) Further, the following personally identifiable information will not be disclosed to any entity: a student or his/her family member's social security number(s); religion; political party affiliation; voting history; or biometric information.

This written agreement must include:

- 1. specification of the purpose, scope, duration of the study, and the information to be disclosed;
- 2. a statement requiring the organization to use the personally identifiable information only to meet the purpose of the study;
- 3. a statement requiring the organization to prohibit personal identification of parents and students by anyone other than a representative of the organization
- 4. a requirement that the organization destroy all personally identifiable information when it is no longer needed for the study, along with a specific time period in which the information must be destroyed.

While the disclosure of personally identifiable information (other than social security numbers, religion, political party affiliation, voting record, or biometric information) is allowed under this exception, it is recommended that de-identifiable information be used whenever possible. This

reduces the risk of unauthorized disclosure.

- G. disclose personally identifiable information from education records without consent, to authorized representatives of the Comptroller General, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of Education, as well as state and local educational authorities. The disclosed records must be used to audit or evaluate a federal or state supported education program, or to enforce or comply with Federal requirements related to those education programs. A written agreement between the parties is required under this exception. (See Form 8330 F16)

The Academy will verify that the authorized representative complies with FERPA regulations.

- H. request each person or party requesting access to a student's record to abide by the Federal regulations concerning the disclosure of information.

The Board will comply with a legitimate request for access to a student's records within a reasonable period of time but not more than forty-five (45) days after receiving the request or within such shorter period as may be applicable to students with disabilities. Upon the request of the viewer, a record shall be reproduced, unless said record is copyrighted, and the viewer may be charged a fee equivalent to the cost of handling and reproduction. Based upon reasonable requests, viewers of education records will receive explanation and interpretation of the records.

The Board shall maintain a record of those persons to whom information about a student has been disclosed. Such disclosure records will indicate the student, person viewing the record, information disclosed, date of disclosure, and date parental/eligible student consent was obtained (if required).

Upon written request by a student's parent or legal guardian, the Academy shall disclose to the parent or legal guardian any personally identifiable information concerning the student that is collected or created by the Academy as part of the student's education records.

If the Academy provides any personally identifiable information concerning the student that is collected or created by the Academy as part of the student's education records to any person, agency, or organization, then the Academy shall disclose to the student's parent or legal guardian upon his or her written request:

- A. The specific information that was disclosed.
- B. The name and contact information of each person, agency, or organization to which the information has been disclosed.
- C. The legitimate reason that the person, agency, or organization had in obtaining the information.

This information shall be provided without charge within 30 days after the Academy receives the written request and without charge to the parent or legal guardian.

The Academy is not required to disclose to the parent or legal guardian, even upon written request, any personally identifiable information concerning the student that is collected or created by the Academy as part of the student's education records and is provided to any person, agency, or organization in any of the following situations:

- A. Provision of such information to the Michigan Department of Education or CEPI.
- B. Provision of such information to the student's parent or legal guardian.
- C. Provision of such information to its authorizing body or to an educational management organization with which it has a management agreement.
- D. Provision of such information to or from its intermediate school board or to another intermediate school board providing services to the Academy or its students pursuant to a written agreement.

- E. Provision of such information to a person, agency, or organization with written consent from the student's parent or legal guardian or, if the student is at least age 18, the student.
- F. Provision of such information to a person, agency, or organization seeking or receiving records in accordance with an order, subpoena, or ex parte order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- G. Provision of such information as necessary for standardized testing that measures the student's academic progress and achievement.
- H. Provision of such information that is covered by the opt-out form described above, unless the student's parent or legal guardian or, if the student is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the student has signed and submitted the opt-out form referenced below.

Only "directory information" regarding a student shall be released to any person or party, other than the student or his/her parent, without the written consent of the parent; or, if the student is an eligible student, the written consent of the student, except those persons or parties stipulated by the Board policy and Administrative Procedures and/or those specified in the law.

The Board shall exempt from disclosure directory information, as requested for the purpose of surveys, marketing, or solicitation, unless the Board determines that the use is consistent with the educational mission of the Board and beneficial to the affected students. The Board may take steps to ensure that directory information disclosed shall not be used, rented, or sold for the purpose of surveys, marking, or solicitations. Before disclosing the directory information, the Board may require the requester to execute an affidavit stating that directory information provided shall not be used, rented, or sold for the purpose of surveys, marketing, or solicitation.

### **Directory Information**

Each year the School Leader shall provide public notice to students and their parents of the Academy's intent to make available, upon request, certain information known as "directory information." The Board designates as student "directory information":

- A. a student's name;
- B. address (except for students participating in the address confidentiality program act);
- C. date and place of birth;

The School Leader will also develop a list of uses for which the Academy commonly would disclose a student's directory information and develop an opt-out form that lists all of the uses or instances and allows a parent or legal guardian to elect not to have his or her child's directory information disclosed for 1 or more of these uses.

Each student's parent or legal guardian will be provided with the opt-out form within the first 30 days of the school year. The form shall also be provided to a parent or legal guardian at other times upon request.

If an opt-out form is signed and submitted to the Academy by a student's parent or legal guardian, the Academy shall not include the student's directory information in any of the uses that have been opted out of in the opt-out form. A student who is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor may act on his or her own behalf with respect to the opt-out form.

Parents and eligible students may also refuse to allow the Academy to disclose any or all of such "directory information" upon written notification to the Academy within five (5) days after receipt of the Academy's public notice.

### **Armed Forces Recruiting**

The Board shall provide United States Armed Forces recruiters with at least the same access to the high school campus and to student directory information (names, addresses, Academy-assigned email addresses

(if available) (except for students participating in the address confidentiality program act), and telephone listings of secondary students) as is provided to other entities offering educational or employment opportunities to those students. "Armed forces of the United States" means the armed forces of the United States and their reserve components and the United States Coast Guard.

If a student or the parent or legal guardian of a student submits a signed, written request to the Board that indicates that the student or the parent or legal guardian does not want the student's directory information to be accessible to official recruiting representatives, then the officials of the school shall not allow that access to the student's directory information. The Board shall ensure that students and parents and guardians are notified of the provisions of the opportunity to deny release of directory information.

Public notice shall be given regarding the right to refuse disclosure of any or all "directory information" including to the armed forces of the United States and the service academies of the armed forces of the United States.

A fee, not to exceed the actual costs incurred by the high school, for copying and mailing student directory information under this section, may be charged an official recruiting representative.

Directory information received under armed services authorization request shall be used only to provide information to students concerning educational and career opportunities available in the armed forces of the United States or the service academies of the armed forces of the United States. An official recruiting representative who receives student directory information under this section shall not release that information to a person who is not involved in recruiting students for the armed forces of the United States or the service academies of the armed forces of the United States.

Annually, the Board will notify male students age eighteen (18) or older that they are required to register for the selective service.

Requests to the Academy Records Officer shall be presented on a standardized form developed by the armed forces of the United States requesting access to a high school campus and a time for the access. Requests should bear the signature of the ranking recruiting officer of the armed service making the request.

Whenever consent of the parent(s)/eligible student is required for the inspection and/or release of a student's education records or for the release of "directory information", either parent may provide such consent unless stipulated otherwise by court order. If the student is under the guardianship of an institution, the School Leader shall appoint a person who has no conflicting interest to provide such written consent.

The Board may disclose "directory information" on former students without student or parental consent, unless the parent or eligible student previously submitted a request that such information not be disclosed without their prior written consent.

The Academy shall not sell or otherwise provide to a for-profit business entity any personally identifiable information that is part of a student's education records. This does not apply to any of the following situations:

- A. Providing the information to an educational management organization with which the Academy has a management agreement.
- B. Providing the information as necessary for standardized testing that measures the student's academic progress and achievement.
- C. Providing the information as necessary to a person that is providing educational or educational support services to the student under a contract with the Academy.

The parent of a student or an eligible student has the right to inspect upon request any instrument used in the collection of personal information before the instrument is administered or distributed to a student. Personal information for this section is defined as individually identifiable information including a student or parent's first and last name, a home or other physical address (including street name and the name of the city or town), a telephone number, or a Social Security identification number. In order to review the

instrument, the parent or eligible students, must submit a written request to the building principal at least five (5) work days before the scheduled date of the activity. The instrument will be provided to the parent within five (5) business days of the principal receiving the request.

The School Leader shall directly notify the parent(s) of a student and eligible students, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when such activities are scheduled or expected to be scheduled.

This section does not apply to the collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students from the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or service for, or to, students or educational institutions, such as the following:

- A. college or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment;
- B. book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products;
- C. curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary and secondary schools;
- D. tests and assessments used by elementary and secondary schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments;
- E. the sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities; and
- F. student recognition programs.

The Board may establish online access for the parents or the eligible student to the student's confidential academic and attendance record. To authorize such access, the parents or the eligible student must sign a release (see Form 8330 F10). This release shall remind the parents or eligible student that the account and confidential information about the student is only as secure as they keep their account information. Neither the Educational Service Provider nor its employees will be held responsible for any breach of this policy by the parent/eligible student or any unauthorized party.

The School Leader shall prepare Administrative Procedures to ensure that students and parents are adequately informed each year regarding their rights to:

- A. inspect and review the student's education records;
- B. request amendments if the record is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's rights;
- C. consent to disclosures of personally-identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to unauthorized disclosures allowed by the law;
- D. challenge the Board's noncompliance with a parent's request to amend the records through a hearing;
- E. file a complaint with the United States Department of Education;
- F. obtain a copy of the Board's policy and Administrative Procedures on student records;

The School Leader shall also develop procedural guidelines for:

- A. the proper storage and retention of records including a list of the type and location of records;

B. informing employees of the Federal and State laws concerning student records.

The Board authorizes the use of the microfilm process or electromagnetic processes of reproduction for the recording, filing, maintaining, and preserving of records.

No liability shall attach to any member, officer, or Educational Service Provider employees of this Academy specifically as a consequence of permitting access or furnishing student records in accordance with this policy and regulations.

Any entity receiving personally identifiable information pursuant to a study, audit, evaluation or enforcement/compliance activity must comply with all FERPA regulations. Further, such an entity must enter into a written contract with the Board of Directors delineating its responsibilities in safeguarding the disclosed information. Specifically, the entity must demonstrate the existence of a sound data security plan or data stewardship program, and must also provide assurances that the personally identifiable information will not be re-disclosed without prior authorization from the Board. Further, the entity conducting the study, audit, evaluation or enforcement/compliance activity is required to destroy the disclosed information once it is no longer needed or when the timeframe for the activity has ended, as specified in its written agreement with the Board of Directors. See Form 8330 F14 and Form 8330 F16 for additional contract requirements.

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Adoption Date: **04.19**

Classification: **Legally Required**

Revised Dates: **08/18/2021; 02.22**

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## **ACADEMY SAFETY INFORMATION**

Reference:

Title IX, Section 9532 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended  
MCL 380.1241, 380.1308, 380.1308a, 380.1310a, 752.913, 771.2a

The Board of Directors is committed to maintaining a safe academy environment. The Board believes crime and violence at the Academy are potential, multifaceted problems that need to be addressed by utilizing the best resources and coordinated efforts of Academy personnel, law enforcement agencies, and families. The Board further believes the Academy and local law enforcement officials must work together to provide for the safety and welfare of students while at the academy, at an academy-sponsored activity or while en route to or from the academy or an academy-sponsored activity. The Board also believes the first step in addressing academy crime and violence is to assess the extent and nature of the problem(s) or threat, and then plan and implement strategies that promote safety and minimize the likelihood of crime and violence at the Academy.

In furtherance of its commitment to a safe academy environment, the Board has prohibited weapons on academy property and at academy-sponsored events, except in very limited circumstances. See Board Policy 3217, and Policy 5772. This prohibition is reasonably related to legitimate educational concerns, including the ability to provide a safe and secure learning and social environment for its students and controlling and minimizing disruptions to the educational process. The presence of dangerous weapons on academy property or at academy-sponsored events, except under very controlled circumstances, creates a potentially dangerous situation for students, staff and visitors, and may trigger precautionary safety responses, which disrupt the educational process and learning environment for students.

Federal law establishes a "Student Safety Zone" that extends 1,000 feet from the boundary of any academy property in relation to weapons and drugs. Individuals are prohibited from possessing or using weapons or drugs at any time on academy property, within the Student Safety Zone, or at any academy-related event.

The Academy will work with local officials in arranging signage defining the 1,000-foot boundary.

The School Leader shall hold a meeting for the purpose of conferring regarding the School Safety Information Policy Agreement and making modifications deemed necessary and proper; discussing additional training that might be needed; and, discussing any other such related matters as may be deemed to be necessary by the participants. Participants in this meeting shall include the School Leader, members of the Board of Directors, the County Prosecutor or his/her designee, and representatives from the local law enforcement agencies. Others may also be invited to participate in the meeting.

The School Leader shall make a report to the Board about all such reviews and recommend the approval and adoption of any proposed revisions or additions.

### **Academy Contact Person**

Furthermore, in accordance with state law, the Board hereby designates the School Leader as the Academy contact person who shall receive information from law enforcement officials, prosecutors and the court officials, including receipt of information provided from the Michigan State Police relating to the student safety act hotline ("OK2Say"). The current contact information for Muskegon Covenant Academy shall be provided to the Michigan State Police in the manner and frequency required by law.

The Academy contact person shall notify the School Leader of the academy of attendance of a student about whom information is received from law enforcement officials, prosecutors, or court officials within twenty-four (24) hours of the receipt of that information. The School Leader shall, in turn, notify the building staff



members who s/he determines have a need to know the information that has been received within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of that information.

The School Leader shall notify the appropriate law enforcement officials when an eligible student commits any offense listed as a reportable incident in the School Safety Information Policy Agreement and shall report all information that is required to be reported to State or local law enforcement agencies and prosecutors. Reporting such information is subject to 20 USC 1232g, commonly referred to as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.

If a student is involved in an incident that is reported to law enforcement officials pursuant to the Academy's School Safety Information Policy Agreement, then, upon request by academy officials, the student's parent or legal guardian shall execute any waivers or consents necessary to allow academy officials access to academy, court, or other pertinent records of the student concerning the incident and action taken as a result of the incident.

### **Required Reporting**

The School Leader shall submit a report at least annually to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, in the form prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, stating the number of students expelled from the Academy during the preceding school year and the reason for the expulsion.

The School Leader shall post a report on the Academy website at least annually, in the form prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, stating the incidents of crime occurring at the Academy. At least once annually, a copy of the most recent report of incidents of crime, disaggregated by academy building, shall be made available to the parent or legal guardian of each student enrolled in the Academy. This report will minimally include crimes involving any of the following:

- A. physical violence;
- B. gang related acts;
- C. illegal possession of a controlled substance, controlled substance analogue or other intoxicant;
- D. trespassing;
- E. property crimes, including, but not limited to, theft and vandalism, as well as an estimate of the cost to the Academy that results from the property crime.

The School Leader shall collect weekly and keep current the information required for the report on incidents of crime, and must provide that information, within seven (7) days, upon request.

Each Academy building shall collect and keep current on a weekly basis the information required from the report of incidents of crime, and must provide that information, within seven (7) days, upon request.

Additionally, the Academy shall report all incidents of and attempted commissions of the crimes listed above to the Michigan State Police, in the form and manner prescribed by the Michigan State Police, within twenty-four (24) hours after the incident occurs.

### **Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN)**

The Board authorizes the School Leader to request vehicle registration information for suspicious vehicles within 1,000 feet of academy property through the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN).

### **Persistently Dangerous Schools**

The Board recognizes that State and Federal law requires that the Academy report annually incidents which meet the statutory definition of violent criminal offenses that occur in the Academy, on academy grounds, on an academy conveyance, or at an academy-sponsored activity. It is further understood that the State

Department of Education will then use this data to determine whether or not an academy is considered "persistently dangerous," as defined by State policy.

Pursuant to the Board's stated intent to provide a safe academy environment, Academy administrators are expected to respond appropriately to any and all violations of the Student Code of Conduct, especially those of a serious, violent nature. In any year where the number of reportable incidents of violent criminal offenses in the Academy exceed the threshold number established in State policy, the School Leader shall convene a meeting of the building administrator, representative(s) of the local law enforcement agencies, and any other individuals deemed appropriate for the purpose of developing a plan of corrective action that can be implemented in an effort to reduce the number of these incidents in the subsequent year.

The School Leader shall make a report to the Board about this plan of corrective action and shall recommend approval and adoption of it.

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Adoption Date: **02.20**

Classification: **Legally Required**

Revised Dates: **8/20/20;; 08.21**

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## EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

References: M.C.L.380.1308a

By no later than January 1, 2020, each Academy shall 1) develop an emergency operations plan or 2) adapt its statewide academy information policy (referred to as the "Plan" throughout the remainder of this Policy) to comply with the requirements of this Policy. This action shall be taken with input from the public. Academy building means any building intended to be used to provide instruction to students and any recreational or athletic structure or field intended to be used by students.

Beginning in the 2019-2020 school year, and at least biennially thereafter, the Academy shall conduct a review of its Plan, including a review of the vulnerability assessment, with at least one law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the Academy.

The Plan must include guidelines and procedures that address all of the following:

- A. academy violence and attacks
- B. threats of academy violence and attacks
- C. bomb threats
- D. fire
- E. weather-related emergencies
- F. intruders
- G. parent and pupil reunification
- H. threats to an academy-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on academy premises
- I. a plan to train teachers on mental health and pupil and teacher safety
- J. a plan to improve academy building security
- K. an active violence protocol
- L. continuity of operations after an incident
- M. a vulnerability assessment

The Academy shall notify the Michigan Department of Education not later than thirty (30) days after it adopts its Plan and after each biennial review in the form and manner prescribed by the Department.

Adopted 12/19/19

## EMERGENCY SITUATIONS AT THE ACADEMY

Reference: MCL 29.19  
A.C. 1301:7-7-01, 3301-35-03 (D), 3301-83-15  
HB No. 4713 (2013)

The Board of Directors is committed to providing a safe learning and work environment. Unfortunately, natural and man-made disasters do occur. Such emergencies are best met by preparedness and planning.

### A. Emergency Preparedness

The Academy shall develop emergency preparedness procedures that address the following goals and/or objectives:

1. the health and safety of students and staff are safeguarded;
2. the time necessary for instructional purposes is not unduly diverted;
3. minimum disruption to the educational program occurs;
4. students are helped to learn self-reliance and trained to respond sensibly to emergency situations.

All threats to the safety of Academy facilities shall be identified by appropriate personnel and responded to promptly in accordance with the plan for emergency preparedness.

Academy personnel, including teachers, shall provide for unrestricted emergency egress during school hours and when the school is open to the public.

### B. Drills

1. Each Academy shall conduct a minimum of five (5) fire drills each school year. Three (3) of the fire drills shall be held by December 1<sup>st</sup> of the school year, and two (2) shall be held during the remaining part of the school year, with a reasonable spacing interval between each drill.
2. Each Academy shall conduct a minimum of two (2) tornado safety drills each school year. At least one (1) of the tornado safety drills shall be conducted during March of the school year. These drills shall be conducted for the purpose of preventing injuries caused by severe weather.
3. Each Academy shall conduct a minimum of three (3) drills in which the occupants are restricted to the interior of the building and the building secured each school year. At least one (1) of these drills shall be conducted by December 1<sup>st</sup> of the school year, and at least one (1) shall be conducted after January 1<sup>st</sup> of the school year, with a reasonable spacing interval between each drill. Such drills shall include security measures that are appropriate to an emergency such as the release of a hazardous material or the presence of a potentially dangerous individual on or near the premises. The School Leader

(employed by the Board) shall seek input from local public safety officials on the nature of the drills to be conducted under this subsection.

4. Each Academy shall conduct at least one (1) of the drills required under Sections 2(A)-(C) during a lunch or recess period, or at another time when a significant number of the students are gathered but not in the classroom.
5. Schools shall not conduct a drill required under Sections 2(A)-(C) at a time that would interfere with the conduct of a state-mandated assessment.
6. Not later than September 15<sup>th</sup> of each school year, the School Leader shall provide a list of the scheduled drill days to the county emergency management coordinator.
7. If a drill is not conducted on a scheduled drill day due to conditions not within the control of school authorities, such as severe storms, fires, epidemics, utility power unavailability, water or sewer failure, or health conditions as defined by the city, county, or state health authorities, the school shall reschedule the drill to occur within ten (10) school days after the scheduled date of the cancelled drill. The School Leader shall notify the county emergency management coordinator of the rescheduled date for the drill.

C. Drill Result Publication

1. The School Leader shall provide that documentation of a completed school safety drill is posted on the school's website within thirty (30) school days after the drill is completed and is maintained on the website for at least three (3) years.
2. The documentation posted on the website shall include at least all of the following:
  - a. Name of the Academy
  - b. School year of the drill
  - c. Date and time of the drill
  - d. Type of drill completed
  - e. Number of completed drills for that school year for each type of drill required under Sections 2(A)-(C)
  - f. Signature of the School Leader or his/her designee acknowledging the completion of the drill.
  - g. Name of the individual in charge of conducting the drill, if other than the School Leader.

D. Cardiac Emergency Response Plan

1. Use and regular maintenance of the automated external defibrillators, if available.

2. Activation of a cardiac emergency response team during an identified cardiac emergency.
3. A plan for effective and efficient communication throughout the school campus.
4. If the school includes grades 9 to 12, a training plan for the use of an automated external defibrillator and in cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques.
5. Incorporation and integration of the local emergency response system and emergency response agencies with the school's plan.
6. An annual review and evaluation of the cardiac emergency response plan.

Adopted 4/18/19

## PREPAREDNESS FOR TOXIC HAZARD AND ASBESTOS HAZARD

Reference: MCL 324.8316, 380.1256  
15 USC 2601  
20 USC 4022  
20 USC 4014  
20 USC 4011  
20 USC 4011 et. seq.  
Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 (AHERA)  
Asbestos School Hazard Abatement Act of 1984  
Asbestos School Hazard Abatement Reauthorization Act of 1990

The Board of Directors is concerned for the safety of the students and staff members and will comply with all Federal and State statutes and regulations concerning hazards resulting from industrial accidents beyond the control of Academy officials and/or from the presence of asbestos materials used in previous construction.

### ***Toxic Hazards***

These hazards exist in chemicals, pesticides, and other substances used in school settings such as laboratories, science classrooms, and kitchens. Such toxins are also found in the cleaning supplies for the school's rooms and equipment. The School Leader (employed by the Board), will appoint an employee to serve as Toxic Hazard Preparedness (THP) Officer. The THP Officer will be responsible for the following:

A. *Hazard Determination*

Identifying potential sources of toxic hazards, in cooperation with material suppliers, who shall supply the Toxic Hazard Preparedness Officer with Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs). The School Leader will rely on MSDSs from material suppliers to meet hazard determination requirements.

B. *Labeling*

Ensuring that all incoming materials are properly labeled with the identity of the chemical, the hazard warning, and the name and address of the manufacturer or responsible party and making certain that any containers to which the materials are transferred are also properly labeled.

C. *Material Safety Data Sheets*

Maintaining a current file of MSDSs for all hazardous materials present on school property. The MSDS files will be kept at the School Office.

MSDSs will be available for review by all employees. Copies will be available upon request of the Toxic Hazard Preparedness Officer. Posters will be displayed, identifying the person responsible for monitoring MSDSs and where MSDSs are located at the School Office. When new MSDs are received, notification posters for employees will be displayed in the same location.

The Toxic Hazard Preparedness Office shall contact the supplier, in writing, if a required MSDS is not received and shall promptly procure the MSDS before releasing the material for use.

If he/she is unable to obtain an MSDS from a supplier, he/she should contact MIOSHA's Occupational Health Division (OHD) or General Industry Safety Division for assistance in obtaining the MSDS.

### ***Multi-Employer Work Sites – Informing Contractors***

Informing contractors and their employees of any hazardous substances to which they may be exposed; determining measures to be employed to control or eliminate exposure; labeling system for container and pipes used onsite; and informing staff where applicable MSDSs can be reviewed or obtained. Whenever employees may potentially be exposed to hazards brought on site by contractors, the THP Officer will obtain information from the contractor pertaining to the chemicals brought on-site, and the measures that should be taken to control or eliminate exposure the chemicals.

### ***Employee Information and Training***

Providing information and conducting a training program for all employees on topics such as detection of hazards, explanation of the health hazards to which they could be exposed in their work environment, and the plan for communication and labeling. Information given to employees shall include the following:

- A. regulations of MIOSHA's hazardous communication standard;
- B. all operations in the employee's work area in which hazardous chemicals are present;
- C. location and availability of written hazardous communication policy and program, with the list of hazardous chemicals and the MSDSs in the Academy.

Employee training should include the following:

- A. techniques used to detect the presence or release of hazardous chemicals in a work area;
- B. physical and health hazards of hazardous chemicals;
- C. measures the employees should take to protect themselves from these hazards;
- D. details of the hazardous communication program including an explanation of the labeling system and MSDSs and how employees can obtain and use hazard information.

Employees shall be informed of the employer's anti-discrimination/discharge policy for employees accessing hazard information and how the employee can contact the Michigan Department of Industry and Consumer Services, Bureau of Safety Regulation and Occupational Health for assistance in obtaining an MSDS if he/she is unable to obtain the MSDS from the employer.



Records of each employee's hazardous communication training should be maintained, and all new employees should receive training regarding any hazardous chemicals with which they may potentially have contact as part of their job.

### ***Hazardous non-routine tasks***

Before an employee is required to start a non-routine task (e.g., enter confined space), the employee will be given information about the hazards of the area, including specific chemical hazards, the procedures for protection or safety to lessen the hazard, and measures the company has taken to eliminate or control the hazard.

Any staff member or contractor who applies pesticides on school property shall meet the requirements of AG 8413A, in addition to requirements established by the State. He/She shall provide written notification each year, prior to any application, to all parents and staff members regarding the pesticide to be applied; the type of pesticide; its potential side effects; the location of the application; and the scheduled date of the application.

In fulfilling these responsibilities, the THP Officer may enlist the aid of county and municipal authorities and, if possible, the owners or operators of identified potential sources of toxic hazard.

### ***Asbestos***

In its efforts to comply with Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) and the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act (MIOSHA), the Board recognized its responsibility to:

- A. inspect the building for the existence of asbestos or materials containing asbestos;
- B. take appropriate actions, in accordance with State Law and EPA regulations, based on the inspections;
- C. establish a program for dealing with friable asbestos, if found;
- D. maintain a program of periodic surveillance and inspection of facilities or equipment containing asbestos;
- E. comply with EPA regulations governing the transportation and disposal of asbestos and materials containing asbestos.

The School Leader (employed by the Board), shall appoint a person to develop and implement the Academy's Asbestos-Management Program to ensure proper compliance with Federal and State laws and appropriate instruction of staff and students. Upon completion the Academy's Asbestos Plan must be submitted to the Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services, Occupational Health Division, Lansing, Michigan 48909.

When conducting asbestos abatement projects, the School Leader (employed by the Board), shall also ensure each contractor employed by the school is licensed, pursuant to the Michigan Department of Health Regulations.

Nothing in this policy should be construed in any way as an assumption of liability by the Board for any death, injury, or illness that may be a consequence of an accident, an

equipment failure, a negligent act, or a deliberate act beyond the control of the Board or its officers and Educational Service Provider employees.

However, the Board may provide legal representation and indemnification against civil liability regarding claims or actions resulting from, or arising out of, negligence (or alleged negligence) of persons responsible for inspecting, monitoring, removing, treating asbestos or material containing asbestos or supervising these activities -- provided the employee was performing the duties while in the course of his/her employment or while acting within the scope of his/her authority. The Board reserves the right to deny representation and indemnification in those circumstances wherein the employee's actions demonstrate gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct.

This policy may apply to work performed by authorized employees prior to the date of its adoption.

Adopted 4/18/19

## **AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AED)**

Reference: 2014 PA 12 (MCLA § 29.19)

The Board of Directors and the School Leader (employed by the Board) has determined that safety may be enhanced at the Academy by having an automatic external defibrillator (AED) placed in building(s) within the Academy.

An AED is a medical device containing a heart monitor and defibrillator, used to administer an electric shock through a person's chest wall to the heart. The built-in computer system of the AED assesses the patient's heart rhythm, determines whether defibrillation is needed, and then administers a shock, if necessary. Audible and/or visual prompts guide the user through the process of using the AED.

The Board directs the School Leader (employed by the Board) to develop, adopt and implement a cardiac emergency response plan that addresses all of the following:

- A. The use and regular maintenance of AED's, if available;
- B. The activation of a cardiac emergency response team during an identified cardiac emergency;
- C. A plan for effective and efficient communication throughout the Academy campus;
- D. The incorporation and integration of the local emergency response system and emergency response agencies with the Academy's plan;
- E. An annual review and evaluation of the cardiac emergency plan;
- F. If the Academy includes grades 9-12, a training plan for the use of an AED in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) techniques.

Adopted 4/18/19

## **STUDENT ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

Reference: MCL 380.1505, 722.621 et. seq.

The Board of Directors is concerned with the physical and mental well-being of the students in this Academy and will cooperate in identifying and reporting cases of child abuse or neglect, in accordance with law.

Any staff and all other persons employed by the Educational Service Provider who are mandatory reporters under the law with reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or neglect shall be responsible for immediately reporting every case, whether ascertained or suspected, of abuse or neglect resulting in physical or mental injury to a student by other than accidental means.

The staff member or other mandatory reporter shall immediately notify the local office of the Central Registry of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Family Independence Agency, by telephone, or, if available, through the online reporting system, of the suspected child abuse or child neglect. If an oral report is made by telephone, the reporting person shall file a written report within seventy-two (72) hours of making the oral report as required by the Child Protection Law.

The identity of the reporting person shall be confidential, subject to disclosure only by consent or court order. A reporting Educational Service Provider employee shall not be dismissed or otherwise penalized for making a report of child abuse or neglect.

Information concerning alleged child abuse is confidential. Any unauthorized disclosure by an official or employee of the Academy is a violation of law and subjects the disseminator to civil liability for any resulting damages.

The Educational Service Provider should be mindful of the possibility of physical or mental abuse inflicted on a student by a staff member. Any such instances, whether real or alleged, should be handled in accordance with the Administrative Procedures established by the Educational Service Provider.

Adopted 10/17/19  
Revised 2/20/20; 8/20/20

## WELLNESS

Reference:

42 USC §§ 1751, Sec. 204, 42 USC § 1771  
7 CFR Parts 210 and 220

The Board recognizes that good nutrition and regular physical activity affect the health and well-being of the Academy's students. Furthermore, research concludes that there is a positive correlation between a student's health and well-being and his/her ability to learn. Moreover, schools can play an important role in the developmental process by which students establish their health and nutrition habits by providing nutritious meals and snacks through the schools' meal programs, by supporting the development of good eating habits, and by promoting increased physical activity both in and out of school.

The Board, however, believes this effort to support the students' development of healthy behaviors and habits with regard to eating and exercise cannot be accomplished by the schools alone. It will be necessary for not only the staff, but also parents and the public at large to be involved in a community-wide effort to promote, support, and model such healthy behaviors and habits.

The Board sets the following goals in an effort to enable students to establish good health and nutrition habits:

- A. With regard to nutrition education, the Academy shall:

**(Specific goals need to be inserted here. See Appendix A.)**

- B. With regard to physical activity, the Academy shall:

**(Specific goals need to be inserted here. See Appendix B.)**

- C. With regard to other school-based activities the Academy shall:

**(Specific goals need to be inserted here. See Appendix C.)**

- D. D. With regard to nutrition promotion, the Academy shall:

**(Specific goals need to be inserted here. See Appendix D.)**

Furthermore, with the objectives of enhancing student health and well-being, and reducing childhood obesity, the following guidelines are established:

**(Specific guidelines need to be inserted here. See Appendix E.)**

The Board designates the School Leader as the individual(s) charged with operational responsibility for verifying that the Academy meets the goals established in this policy.

The School Leader shall appoint an Academy wellness committee that includes parents, students, representatives of the Academy food authority, educational staff (including health and physical education teachers), mental health and social services staff, school health professionals, members of the public and Academy administrators to oversee development, implementation, evaluation and periodic update of the wellness policy. The Wellness Committee shall be an ad hoc committee with members recruited and chosen

annually. Academy-level health advisory teams may assist in the planning and implementation of these Wellness initiatives.

The Wellness Committee shall be responsible for:

- A. assessment of the current Academy environment;
- B. review of the Academy's wellness policy;
- C. presentation of the wellness policy to the Board for approval;
- D. measurement of the implementation of the policy;
- E. recommendation for the revision of the policy, as necessary.

Before the end of each school year the Wellness Committee shall recommend to the School Leader any revisions to the policy it deems necessary and/or appropriate. In its review, the Wellness Committee shall consider evidence-based strategies in determining its recommendations.

The School Leader shall report annually to the Board on the progress of the Wellness Committee and on its evaluation of policy implementation and areas for improvement, including status of compliance by individual schools and progress made in attaining goals of policy.

The School Leader is also responsible for informing the public, including parents, students and community members, on the content and implementation of this policy. In order to inform the public, the School Leader shall include information in the student handbook; and post the policy on the Academy's website, including the Wellness Committee's assessment of the implementation of the policy.

The Academy shall assess the Wellness Policy at least once every three (3) years on the extent to which Academies are in compliance with the Academy policy, the extent to which the Academy policy compares to model wellness policies, and the progress made in attaining the goals of the Academy Wellness Policy. The assessment shall be made available to the public in the parent and staff handbooks.

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Adoption Date: **04.19**  
Classification: **Legally Required**  
Revised Dates: ; **08.21**

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## **SPECIFIC GOALS FOR NUTRITION**

Select one or more of the following:

- A. Nutrition education shall be integrated into other subject areas of the curriculum, when appropriate, to complement, but not replace, the standards and benchmarks for health education.

Adopted 4/18/19

## **SPECIFIC GOALS FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**

### Physical Education

The sequential, comprehensive physical education curriculum shall stress the importance of remaining physically active for life.

Adopted 4/18/19



## **SPECIFIC GOALS FOR OTHER ACADEMY-BASED ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO PROMOTE STUDENT WELLNESS**

Free drinking water shall be available to students during designated meal times and may be available throughout the school day.

The Academy shall schedule mealtimes so there is minimum disruption of the Academy.

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Adoption Date: **04.19**  
Classification: **Legally Required**  
Revised Dates: ; **08.21**

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## **SPECIFIC GOALS FOR NUTRITION PROMOTION**

With regard to nutrition promotion, any foods and beverages marketed or promoted to students on the school campus, during the school day, will meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.

Additionally, the Academy shall:

- A. encourage students to increase their consumption of healthful foods during the school day;

Adopted 4/18/19

## **NUTRITION GUIDELINES FOR ALL FOODS AVAILABLE ON CAMPUS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY**

- A. In accordance with Policy 8500, entitled Food Service, the food service program shall comply with Federal and State regulations pertaining to the selection, preparation, consumption, and disposal of food and beverages, including but not limited to the USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, as well as to the fiscal management of the program.
- B. As set forth in Policy 8531, entitled Free and Reduced Price Meals, the guidelines for reimbursable school meals are not less restrictive than the guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The sale of foods of minimal nutritional value in the food service area during the lunch period is prohibited.

- C. The sale of foods and beverages to students that do not meet the USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards to be consumed on the school campus, defined as the Academy's physical plant as delineated in the Academy's charter during the school day is prohibited.
- D. All food items and beverages available for sale to students for consumption on the school campus (any area of property under the jurisdiction of the school that is accessible to students during the school day) between midnight and thirty (30) minutes after the close of the regular school day (the "School day"), as defined in the Academy's charter contract shall comply with the current USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, including, but not limited to, competitive foods that are available to students a la carte or as entrees in the dining area (except entrée items that were offered on the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or School Breakfast Program (SBP) menu on the day of and the day after they are offered from vending machines, from school stores, or as authorized fundraisers including those operated by student clubs and organizations, parent groups, or boosters clubs.
- E. All foods offered on the school campus during the school day shall comply with the current USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans, including competitive foods that are available to students a la carte in the dining area, as classroom snacks, or from vending machines.
- F. All food and beverages that are provided, other than through sale, on the school campus during the school day (which may include classroom snacks, for classroom parties, and at holiday celebrations) shall comply with the food and beverage standards approved by the School Leader.
- G. The food service program will provide all students affordable access to the varied and nutritious foods they need to be healthy and to learn well regardless of unpaid meal balances and without stigma.

Adoption Date: **04.19**  
Classification: **Legally Required**  
Revised Dates: ; **08.21**

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**9000 RELATIONS**

**9250 Parent/Legal Guardian Review of Instructional Materials and  
Observation of Instructional Activities**

**LR**

Adopted 4/18/19

## **PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN REVIEW OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND OBSERVATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Reference: MCL 380.1137

Where the term “parent” or “parents” is used in this policy, it shall include legal guardians.

Parents have the right to inspect any instructional materials used as part of the educational curriculum for their student. “Instructional materials” includes curricula, textbooks, teaching materials and other instructional content, regardless of format, that is provided to the student, including printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials available in electronic or digital formats (such as material accessible through the Internet). “Instructional materials” does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

Parents also have the right to be present, to a reasonable degree, and at reasonable times and subject to reasonable restrictions, to observe instructional activity (excluding testing) in a class or course in which the parent’s pupil is enrolled and present.

The School Leader (employed by the Board), shall develop Administrative Procedures for addressing the rights of parents and to assure timely response to parental requests to review instructional material or to observe instructional activity. The procedures also shall address reasonable notification to parents and students of their rights pursuant to this policy.

This policy shall not supersede any rights provided under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Adopted 4/18/19