

The Board of Education believes that pupils are citizens who possess the right to request redress of grievances and that pupils should be encouraged to respect lawful procedures for the resolution of disputes. Accordingly, the Board will establish and observe procedures by which the grievances of pupils will be heard.

For the purposes of this policy, a pupil grievance means any complaint that arises out of the acts or policies of this Board or the acts of its employees.

A pupil grievance will be heard in the following manner:

1. A pupil should first make the grievance known to the assistant principal or disciplinarian;
2. A grievance not resolved at the first step shall be headed by a student-faculty committee chaired by the Principal;
3. At the hearing, the pupil and all witnesses will be present to testify. The decision of the Committee will not be binding--the Principal may follow it or ignore it. However, if he or she chooses to ignore it, his or her reasons must be submitted in writing to all interested parties.

The Superintendent shall direct all staff members to respect the right of pupils to seek redress of grievances by lawful procedures without fear of reprisal.

Adopted: 18 January 1996

