

Santa Barbara Unified School District

Administrative Regulation

AR 1312.1

Community Relations

COMPLAINTS CONCERNING DISTRICT EMPLOYEES OR POLICIES

The Superintendent or designee shall determine whether a complaint should be considered a complaint against the district and/or an individual employee, and whether it should be resolved by the district's process for complaints concerning personnel and/or other district procedures.

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 4144/4244/4344 - Complaints)

To promote prompt and fair resolution of the complaint, the following procedures shall govern the resolution of complaints against district employees:

1. Every effort should be made to resolve a complaint at the earliest possible stage. Whenever possible, the complainant should communicate directly to the employee in order to resolve concerns.
2. If a complainant is unable or unwilling to resolve the complaint directly with the employee, he/she may submit a written complaint to the employee's immediate supervisor or the principal.
3. All complaints related to district personnel other than administrators shall be submitted in writing to the principal or immediate supervisor. If the complainant is unable to prepare the complaint in writing, administrative staff shall help him/her to do so. Complaints related to a principal or central office administrator shall be initially filed in writing with the Superintendent or designee. Complaints related to the Superintendent shall be initially filed in writing with the Board, and the Board's decision will be final.
4. When a written complaint is received, the employee shall be notified within five days or in accordance with collective bargaining agreements.
5. A written complaint shall include:
 - a. The full name of each employee involved
 - b. The full name of the complainant
 - c. A brief but specific summary of the complaint and the facts surrounding it
 - d. A specific description of any prior attempt to discuss the complaint with the employee and the failure to resolve the matter
6. Staff responsible for investigating complaints shall attempt to resolve the complaint to the satisfaction of the parties involved within 30 days.
7. Both the complainant and the employee against whom the complaint was made may appeal a decision by the principal or immediate supervisor to the Superintendent or designee, who shall

attempt to resolve the complaint to the satisfaction of the person involved within 30 days. Parties should consider and accept the Superintendent or designee's decision as final.

Any complaint of child abuse or neglect alleged against a district employee shall be reported to the appropriate local agencies in accordance with law, Board policy and administrative regulation.

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Barbara, California September 9, 2008