

## **FIT Academy**

### **215 BOARD REVIEW OF COMPLAINTS RELATED TO ACADEMIC CONTENT**

#### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction to the board for the review and response ~~related~~ to complaints related to academic content.

#### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The BOD is responsible for the oversight of the school and as such, will review and respond to complaints related to academic content. Academic content may include electronic content, writing, books, or content presented orally. All content or communications related to teaching or learning are deemed as meeting the definition of academic content. The BOD recognizes that it is impossible to review and approve all content prior to introduction in the classroom and defers to the professional judgment of school administration, teachers, and staff in selecting and delivering content that is aligned with the school's mission and statutory responsibilities. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance in dealing with complaints to the board and in no way is intended to interfere with the teaching process including the selection and delivery of instruction as these are the responsibility of school staff.

#### **III. FILING OF COMPLAINT**

The BOD will accept and review complaints filed by members of the school community including students, parents or guardians, and staff. The BOD will defer the complaint whenever appropriate to the teacher or school administration. The BOD has no obligation to accept or entertain complaints from non-members. The BOD will acknowledge complaints, even if no action was taken.

#### **IV. PROCESS FOR FILING A COMPLAINT**

Members of the school community may file a complaint related to academic content in writing and share it with the school superintendent or any member of the board of directors. The complaint should explicitly include the following information:

- Name of the complainant, membership in the school community, and contact information
- Specific content that they are filing a complaint about
- Name of the staff person who delivered the content
- Manner in which the content was delivered
- Reason why the complainant is concerned with the content
- Attempts made to discuss the concerns with the teacher or administration

- Any action resulting from discussion with the teacher or administration

## **V. PROCEDURES FOR BOARD REVIEW OF COMPLAINT**

- The person receiving the complaint shall forward it to any member of the board
- The board shall assign at least two members of the board to review the complaint with the superintendent as a committee reporting back to the board
- The board chair may choose to have the entire board review the complaint along with the superintendent
- The board will make a final determination as to how to proceed including whether or not to take any action on the complaint
- The board or superintendent shall interview all parties involved if any action is to be taken to address the complaint

## **VI. GUIDING QUESTIONS TO EVALUATE A COMPLAINT**

- Is the content directly related to the school's mission
- Is the content required by state standard OR in order to meet state standards
- Does content detract from the purpose of instruction
- Is the content factual or opinion and by who's standards
- Is there alternate but equally valuable content to achieve the same learning objectives
- Is the content likely to offend or make individuals feel uncomfortable
- Does the content discriminate or misrepresent any populations
- Was the content required or accessed voluntarily
- How widely available was the content
- What control does the staff person have on student access to the content
- Any other determining items the board deems appropriate

## **VII. POSSIBLE ACTIONS RESULTING FROM A COMPLAINT**

- Determination that no action is necessary or appropriate
- Removal or restricting of content (with explanation)
- Providing an option for the student to opt out of the content
- Identification and selection of alternate content
- Other action as deemed appropriate by the board