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**GA Employees Using Cellular Phones on Duty**

**GA**

The board may issue cellular telephones, paging devices or other electronic devices to staff members under the following conditions:

- Staff members shall make written application to the executive director explaining the need for the device and the perceived benefits to the Interlocal.
- The board shall act upon the request based on the executive director's recommendation.
- Staff members shall agree in writing to reimburse the district for any inadvertent or emergency personal use of the device.

Approved:  
2/07

**GA** Personnel Policy Organization

**GA**

These policies are arranged in the following manner:

- GA policies apply to all employees.
- GB policies apply to teachers and other licensed staff covered by the negotiated agreement.
- GC policies apply to classified staff.

Approved:  
10/17/07

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

**GAA**

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

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

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

Approved:

KASB Recommendation—2/98; 4/07; 12/13; 6/19; 7/20/22

Keystone Board Approved—10/17/07; 6/19; 7/20/22

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

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

Inquiries regarding compliance may be directed to Executive Director, 500 E. Sunflower Blvd., Ozawkie, KS 66070, 785-876-2214 or to:

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

or

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

or

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

Approved:

KASB Recommendation—2/98; 8/98; 6/06; 4/07; 12/15; 6/19  
Keystone Board Approved—10/17/07; 6/19



(See GAAC, GAACA, JDDC, JGEC, JGECA, KN, and KNA)

The service center is committed to maintaining a working and learning environment free from discrimination, insult, intimidation, and harassment due to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, genetic information, or disability.

Discrimination against any individual on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, genetic information, or religion in the admission to, access to, treatment, or employment in the service center's programs and activities is prohibited. Compliance Coordinator, Doug Anderson, [danderson@keystonelearning.org](mailto:danderson@keystonelearning.org), 785-876-2214 has been designated to coordinate compliance with nondiscrimination requirements contained in Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (with the exception of discrimination on the basis of sex), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Personal Responsibility Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, and the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended.

Complaints regarding alleged discrimination on the basis of sex, as prohibited by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and other federal and state laws regulating such discrimination and discriminatory harassment, shall be handled in accordance with the procedures outlined in board policies GAAC and JGEC and shall be directed to the Title IX Coordinator, Doug Anderson, [danderson@keystonelearning.org](mailto:danderson@keystonelearning.org), 785-876-2214. More information may be obtained on discrimination on the basis of sex by contacting the Title IX Coordinator.

Complaints alleging discrimination in child nutrition programs offered by the service center shall be handled in accordance with the procedures outlined in board policy KNA, and more information may be obtained on procedures for filing such a complaint by contacting the service center compliance coordinator.

Unless otherwise provided in board policy, general complaints, those not alleging acts of discrimination, will be resolved using the service center's general complaint procedures in policy KN.

Any employee who engages in discriminatory, harassing, or retaliatory conduct shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Except as otherwise provided in this policy and board policies GAAC, JGEC, and KNA, any incident of discrimination in any form shall promptly be reported to an employee's immediate supervisor, the building principal, or the district compliance coordinator for investigation and corrective action by the building or service center's compliance officer. Complaints alleging discriminatory and/or harassing conduct on the part of the director shall be addressed to the board of education.

Except as otherwise provided in board policy regarding complaints of discrimination on the basis of sex or regarding child nutrition programs, complaints about discrimination, including complaints of harassment, will be resolved through the following complaint procedures:

#### Informal Procedures

The assistant director or building principal shall attempt to resolve complaints of discrimination or harassment in an informal manner at the building level. Any school employee who receives a complaint of such discrimination or harassment from a student, another employee, or any other individual shall inform the individual of the employee's obligation to report the complaint and any proposed resolution of the complaint to the assistant director or building principal. The assistant director or building principal shall discuss the complaint with the individual to determine if it can be resolved. If the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the individual, the assistant director or building principal shall document the nature of the complaint and the proposed resolution of the complaint and forward this record to the district compliance coordinator. Within 20 days after the complaint is resolved in this manner, the assistant director or principal shall contact the complainant to determine if the resolution of the matter remains acceptable.

If the matter is not resolved to the satisfaction of the individual in the meeting with the assistant director or principal, or if the individual does not believe the resolution remains acceptable, the individual may initiate a formal complaint.

#### Formal Complaint Procedures

- A formal complaint shall be filed in writing and contain the name and address of the person filing the complaint. The complaint shall briefly describe the alleged violation. If an individual does not wish to file a written complaint, and the matter has not been adequately resolved through the informal procedures described herein, the building principal may initiate the complaint. Forms for filing written complaints are available in each school building office and the central office.

- A complaint should be filed as soon as possible after the conduct occurs but not later than 180 days after the complainant becomes aware of the alleged violation, unless the conduct forming the basis for the complaint is ongoing.
- If appropriate, an investigation shall follow the filing of the complaint. If the complaint is against the director, the board may appoint an investigating officer. In other instances, the investigation shall be conducted by the assistant director or building principal, the compliance coordinator, or another individual appointed by the board or the director. The investigation shall be informal but thorough. The complainant and the respondent will be afforded an opportunity to submit written or oral evidence relevant to the complaint and to provide names of potential witnesses who may have useful information.
- A written determination of the complaint's validity and a description of the resolution shall be issued by the investigator, and a copy shall be forwarded to the complainant and the respondent within 30 days after the filing of the complaint. If the investigator anticipates a determination will not be issued within 30 days after the filing of the complaint, the investigator shall provide written notification to the parties including an anticipated deadline for completion. In no event shall the issuance of the written determination be delayed longer than 10 days from the conclusion of the investigation.
  - If the investigation results in a recommendation that a student be suspended or expelled, procedures outlined in board policy and state law governing student suspension and expulsion will be followed.
  - If the investigation results in a recommendation that an employee be suspended without pay or terminated, procedures outlined in board policy, the negotiated agreement (as applicable), and state law will be followed.
- Records relating to complaints filed and their resolution shall be forwarded to and maintained in a confidential manner by the district compliance coordinator.

#### Formal Complaint Appeal

- The complainant or respondent may appeal the determination of the complaint.
- Appeals shall be heard by the district compliance coordinator, a hearing officer appointed by the board or the director, or by the board itself.
- The request to appeal the resolution shall be made within 20 days after the date of the written determination of the complaint at the lower level.
- The appeal officer shall review the evidence gathered by the investigator at the lower level and the investigator's report and shall afford the complainant and the respondent an

opportunity to submit further evidence, orally or in writing, within 10 days after the appeal is filed.

- The appeal officer will issue a written determination of the complaint's validity on appeal and a description of its resolution within 30 days after the appeal is filed.

If it is determined at any level that discrimination or harassment has occurred, the service center will take prompt, remedial action to prevent its reoccurrence. The service center prohibits retaliation or discrimination against any person for opposing discrimination, including harassment; for participating in the complaint process; or making a complaint, testifying, assisting, or participating in any investigation, proceeding, or hearing.

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

Approved:

KASB Recommendation – 2/98; 8/98; 4/07; 6/09; 6/15; 6/19; 6/20; 7/20; 12/22; 1/18/23

Learning Services. More information may be obtained on discrimination on the basis of sex by contacting the Title IX Coordinator.

Complaints alleging discrimination in child nutrition programs offered by the service center shall be handled in accordance with the procedures outlined in board policy KNA, and more information may be obtained on procedures for such complaint by contacting the district compliance coordinator.

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

Unless otherwise provided herein, complaints of discrimination will be resolved using the service center's discrimination complaint procedures in policy KN.

The service center prohibits retaliation or discrimination against any person for opposing discrimination, including harassment; for participating in the complaint process; or making a complaint, testifying, assisting, or participating in any investigation, proceeding, or hearing.

Approved:

KASB Recommendation - 2/98; 8/98; 4/07; 6/09; 6/15; 6/16; 6/20

Approved: Keystone Board of Directors – 6/16; 6/19; 6/20

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

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

It shall be a violation for any employee to discourage a student or another employee from filing a complaint, or to fail to investigate or refer for investigation, any complaint lodged under the provisions of this policy. Violation of this policy by any employee shall result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Sexual harassment shall include conduct on the basis of sex involving one or more of the following: (1) A service center/school employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the service center/school on an individual's participation in unwelcomed sexual conduct;

(2) unwelcomed conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the service center/school's educational program or activity; or (3) sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking.

Sexual harassment may result from verbal or physical conduct or written or graphic material. Sexual harassment may include but is not limited to: verbal harassment or abuse of a sexual nature; pressure for sexual activity; repeated remarks to a person with sexual or demeaning implication; unwelcome touching; or suggesting or demanding sexual involvement accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning an employee's job status.

The service center/school encourages all victims of sexual harassment and persons with knowledge of such harassment to report the harassment immediately. Complaints of sexual harassment will be promptly investigated and resolved. Any person may make a verbal or written report of sex discrimination by any means and at any time.

The executive director has been designated to coordinate compliance with nondiscrimination requirements contained in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1967, and the Kansas Act Against Discrimination. Information concerning the provisions of these Acts, and the rights provided thereunder, are available from the Title IX Coordinator. Inquiries about the application of Title IX to the service center may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator; to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington D.C. 20202-1100, (800)421-3481, or at [OCR@ed.gov](mailto:OCR@ed.gov); or both.

Response to Harassment Complaints

The service center/school takes all reports of sexual harassment seriously and will respond meaningfully to every report of discrimination based on sex, including sexual harassment, of which the service center/school has actual knowledge. Employees who believe they have been subjected to sexual harassment should discuss the problem with their immediate supervisor. If an employee's immediate supervisor is the alleged harasser, the employee should discuss the problem with the building administrator or the Title IX Coordinator. All employees receiving reports of alleged sexual harassment shall notify the Title IX Coordinator.

Definitions

The following definitions apply to the service center/school in responding to complaints of sexual discrimination including sexual harassment as defined by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Kansas Act Against Discrimination.

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

"Dating violence" means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved.

The "decision-maker" reviews all the evidence and prepares an impartial written responsibility determination as to whether the alleged conduct occurred and provides an opportunity for the parties and their representatives to



prepare written questions to be answered by the other party. The decision-maker shall not be the Title IX Coordinator or investigator.

“Domestic violence” includes crimes of violence committed by a person who is a current or former spouse, partner, person with whom the victim shares a child, or who is or has cohabited with the victim as a spouse or partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under Kansas or applicable federal law, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim having protection from such person’s acts by Kansas or applicable federal law.

A “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 service center/school investigate the allegation of sexual harassment.

The “investigator” is the person who carries out the investigation after the formal complaint is filed and conducts interviews of the witnesses, collects and documents evidence, and drafts an investigative report.

A “respondent” is an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

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

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

The “Title IX Coordinator” is the individual designated at the service center level who has responsibility to coordinate compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964,

and the Kansas Act Against Discrimination. The Title IX Coordinator's responsibilities include, but are not limited to: developing materials and ensuring professional development occurs for staff involved in Title IX compliance, creating systems to centralize records, gathering relevant data, contacting the complainant (and/or parents or guardians, if applicable) once the service center/school has actual knowledge of alleged sexual harassment, coordinating the implementation of supportive measures, signing a formal complaint to initiate a grievance process, and ensuring any remedies are implemented.

The Title IX Coordinator, any investigator, decision-maker, or any person who facilitates an informal resolution process shall not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against the complainant or respondent. These individuals shall receive training on the definition of sexual harassment; the scope of the education program and activities; how to conduct an investigation, including appeals and informal resolution processes; and how to serve impartially, including avoiding prejudgment of the facts, conflicts of interest, and bias. Decision-makers shall receive training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant. Investigators shall receive training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence in order for them to create investigative reports that fairly summarize relevant evidence.

Any employee who witnesses an act of sexual harassment or receives a complaint of harassment from another employee or a student shall report the complaint to their immediate supervisor, building administrator, or Title IX Coordinator. Employees who fail to report complaints or incidents of sexual harassment to appropriate service center/school officials may face disciplinary

action. Service center/school officials who fail to investigate and take appropriate corrective action in response to complaints of sexual harassment may also face disciplinary action.

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

If discrimination or harassment has occurred, the service center/school will take prompt, remedial action to stop it and prevent its reoccurrence.

The Title IX Coordinator shall promptly respond in a meaningful way to any reports of sexual discrimination including sexual harassment of which the service center/school has actual knowledge as follows:

- Contact the complainant within 10 business days and discuss the availability of supportive measures, with or without the filing of formal complaint, and consider the complainant's wishes as to supportive measures; and
- Inform the complainant of the right to a formal complaint investigation consistent with Title IX and the informal resolution process.

#### Supportive Measures

The service center/school will treat the complainant and respondent equitably by offering supportive measures. These non-disciplinary and non-

punitive measures will be offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without cost to the complainant or the respondent. Supportive measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party. "Supportive Measures" shall include, but not be limited to, measures designed to protect the safety of all parties, to protect the service center/school's educational environment, or to deter sexual harassment. These measures may include counseling, extensions of deadlines or course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, escort services, mutual restrictions on contact between the parties, changes in work locations, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring, and other similar measures. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of supportive measures.

#### The Formal Complaint

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

A formal complaint is a document filed by the complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment and requesting an investigation. The procedures for filing a formal complaint are as follows:

- At the time of filing a formal complaint, a complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of the service center/school concerning which the formal complaint is filed.
- A formal complaint should be filed in writing and contain the name and address of the person filing the complaint. The complaint should briefly describe the alleged violation. Filing of the complaint with the Title IX Coordinator may be done in person, by mail, or by email. If an individual does not wish to file a written

- complaint, and the matter has not been adequately resolved, the Title IX Coordinator may initiate the complaint. Forms for filing written complaints are available in each school building office and the central office.
- A complaint should be filed as soon as possible after the conduct occurs, but not later than 180 calendar days after the complainant becomes aware of the alleged violation, unless the conduct forming the basis for the complaint is ongoing.
- An investigation shall follow the filing of the complaint. If the complaint is against the director, the board shall appoint an investigating officer. In other instances, the investigation shall be conducted by a qualified individual designated by the Title IX Coordinator or another individual appointed by the board. The investigation shall be thorough. All interested persons, including the complainant and the respondent, will be afforded an opportunity to submit written or oral evidence relevant to the complaint.

#### Formal Complaint Notice Requirements

Upon filing of a formal complaint, the service center shall provide written notice to the known parties including:

- Notice of the allegations of sexual harassment including sufficient details to prepare a response before any initial interview including:
  - the identities of the parties involved, if known;
  - the conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment; and
  - the date and location of the alleged incident, if known.

- The service center/school's investigation procedures, including any informal resolution process;
- A statement that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility will be made by the decision-maker at the conclusion of the investigation;
- Notice to the parties they may have an advisor of their choice and may inspect and review any evidence; and
- Notice to the parties of any provision in the service center/school's code of conduct or policy that prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information.

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

#### Formal Complaint Investigation Procedures

To ensure a complete and thorough investigation and to protect the parties, the investigator shall:

- Ensure that the preponderance of the evidence burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rests on the service center/school and not the parties;
- Provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses and evidence;

- Not restrict either party's ability to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence;
- Allow the parties to be accompanied with an advisor of the party's choice;
- Provide written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of any interview, meeting, or hearing at which a party is expected to participate;
- Provide the parties equal access to review all the evidence collected which is directly related to the allegations raised in a formal complaint, including the investigative report, and the opportunity to respond to that evidence before a determination is made;
- Be impartial and objectively evaluate all relevant evidence without relying on sex stereotypes;
- Not have conflicts of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondent;
- Not make credibility determinations based on the individual's status as complainant, respondent, or witness.

#### Formal Complaint Investigation Report

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

Before completing the investigative report, the investigator must send each party and their advisors the investigative report for review and allow the

parties 10 days to submit a written response for the investigator's consideration.

Decision-Maker's Determination

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

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

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



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

A copy of the written determination shall be provided to both parties simultaneously.

The range of disciplinary sanctions and remedies may include, but may not be limited to, supportive measures, short term suspension, long term suspension, expulsion for students, and/or termination for employees. Complainants and respondents shall be treated equitably by providing remedies to a complainant where a determination of responsibility for sexual harassment has been made. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for the effective implementation of any remedies. If the investigation results in a recommendation that a student be suspended or expelled, procedures outlined in board policy and state law governing student suspension and expulsion will be followed.

If the investigation results in a recommendation that an employee be suspended with or without pay or terminated, procedures outlined in board policy, the negotiated agreement (as applicable), and/or state law will be followed.

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

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

Appeals

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

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

The request to appeal shall be made in writing to the Title IX Coordinator within 10 days after the date of the written determination. Appeals shall be a review of the record and by an attorney, an independent hearing officer appointed by the board, or the board. The appeal decision-maker may not be the Title IX Coordinator, the Investigator, or the decision-maker from the original determination.

The appeal decision-maker will issue a written decision within 30 days after the appeal is filed. The appeal decision-maker will describe the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result.

The appeal decision-maker shall:

- Review the evidence gathered by the investigator, the investigator's report, and the original decision-maker's determination;

- Notify both parties in writing of the filing of an appeal and give them an opportunity to submit further evidence in writing;
- Not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainant or respondent and receive the required training;
- Issue a written decision and the rationale for the decision within 30 days after the appeal is filed;
- Describe the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result in the decision; and
- Provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties and to the Title IX Coordinator.

#### Informal Resolution Process

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

The informal resolution process may be facilitated by a trained educational professional, consultant, or other individual selected by the Title IX Coordinator under the following conditions:

- The parties are provided a written notice disclosing the allegations, the requirements of the informal resolution process, information on when it may preclude the parties from resuming a formal complaint arising from the same allegations;

- At any time prior to agreeing to a resolution, any party has the right to withdraw from the informal resolution process and resume the investigation of the formal complaint and be informed of any process;
- The parties voluntarily and in writing consent to the informal resolution process; and
- The informal resolution process cannot be used to resolve allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student.

If the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the parties, the facilitator shall document the nature of the complaint and the proposed resolution, have both parties sign the documentation and receive a copy, and forward it to the Title IX Coordinator. Within 20 days after the complaint is resolved in this manner, the Title IX Coordinator shall contact the complainant to determine if the resolution of the matter remains acceptable. If the matter is not resolved, or if the individual does not believe the resolution remains acceptable within 20 days after the informal resolution document is executed, the individual or the Title IX Coordinator may proceed with the formal complaint process.

If discrimination or harassment has occurred, the service center will take prompt, remedial action to prevent its reoccurrence. The service center prohibits retaliation or discrimination against any person for opposing discrimination, including harassment; for participating in the complaint process; or making a complaint, testifying, assisting, or participating in any investigation, proceeding, or appeal.

Use of this complaint procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of any other remedies including the right to file a complaint with the Office for

Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, or the Kansas Human Rights Commission.

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

To the extent possible while still following the above procedures, confidentiality will be maintained throughout the investigation and resolution of a complaint. The desire for confidentiality must be balanced with the service center/school's obligation to conduct a thorough investigation, to provide supportive measures to both parties, to take appropriate corrective action, and to provide due process to the complainant and the respondent.

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

A summary of this policy and the complaint procedures including how to report or file a formal complaint of sex discrimination or sexual harassment shall be posted in each service center/school facility, shall be published in employee handbooks, and on the service center/school's website as directed by the Title IX Coordinator. Notification of the policy may include posting information notices, publishing in local newspapers, publishing in newspapers and magazines operated by the service center/school, or distributing memoranda or other written communications to students and employees. In addition, the service center/school is required to include a statement of nondiscriminatory

policy in any bulletins, announcements, publications, catalogs, application forms, or other recruitment materials that are made available to participants, students, applicants, or employees.

Approved:

KASB Recommendation – 2/98; 8/98; 7/03; 6/04; 4/07; 6/15; 12/18; 06/20

Approved by Keystone Board of Directors—6/16; 12/18; 6/20; 6/21

The board of education is committed to providing a positive and productive working and learning environment, free from discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national origin, or disability. Racial and disability harassment will not be tolerated in the school/service center. Racial or disability harassment of employees or students of the service center in any service center education program or activity is strictly prohibited.

Racial harassment is unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Kansas Acts Against Discrimination. Disability harassment is unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. All forms of racial and disability harassment are prohibited at school, on school property, and at all school-sponsored activities, programs or events.

It shall be a violation for any employee to discourage a student or another employee from filing a complaint, or to fail to investigate or refer for investigation, any complaint lodged under the provisions of this policy.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Any employee who witnesses an act of racial or disability harassment or receives a complaint of harassment from another employee or a student shall report the complaint to the building principal. Employees who fail to report complaints or incidents of racial or disability harassment to appropriate school officials may face disciplinary action. School



administrators who fail to investigate and take appropriate corrective action in response to complaints of racial or disability harassment may also face disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

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

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

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

A summary of this policy shall be posted in the service center and shall be published in employee handbooks and on the service center's website as directed by the service center's compliance coordinator. Notification of the policy shall be included in the school newsletter or published in the local newspaper annually.

Approved:

KASB Recommendation – 8/98; 7/03; 4/07; 9/12; 6/15; 6/16; 12/18

Approved: Keystone Board of Directors – 6/16; 12/18; 6/21

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

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

#### DCF or Law Enforcement Access to Students on School Premises

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

#### Cooperation Between School and Agencies

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

Reporting Procedure

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

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

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

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

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

Mobile Crisis Helpline

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

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

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

**Annual Training**

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

Approved:

KASB Recommendation - 2/98; 4/07; 6/07; 11/10; 8/12; 10/12; 11/12; 6/20;12/21

Keystone Board Approved – 10/07; 6/20; 1/22

**GAAE Bullying By Adults**

**- Sample Form -**

Retype to suit local needs, remove from policy book and file with the clerk and principals. Form could also be included in staff handbooks.

**Report to Local Law Enforcement**  
**USD \_\_\_**

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

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

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

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

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator or other school employee

c/o Superintendent, USD \_\_\_; c/employee's file

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

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

#### Definitions

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

“Mechanical Restraint” means any device or object used to limit a student’s movement.

“Parent” means:

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

## Emergency Safety Interventions

GAAF-2

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Prohibited Types of Restraint

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

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

### Emergency Safety Interventions

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

### ESI Restrictions

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

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

### Use of Seclusion

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



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

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

### Training

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

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

### Notification and Documentation

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

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

- The events leading up to the incident;
- student behaviors that necessitated the ESI;
- steps taken to transition the student back into the educational setting;
- the date and time the incident occurred, the type of ESI used, the duration of the ESI, and the school personnel who used or supervised the ESI;
- space or an additional form for parents to provide feedback or comments to the school regarding the incident;

- a statement that invites and strongly encourages parents to schedule a meeting to discuss the incident and how to prevent future incidents; and
- email and phone information for the parent to contact the school to schedule the ESI meeting. Schools may group incidents together when documenting the items in subparagraphs (A), (B) and (C) if the triggering issue necessitating the ESIs is the same.

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

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

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

#### Law Enforcement, School Resource, and Campus Security Officers

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

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

### Documentation of ESI Incidents

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

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

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

### Reporting Data

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

### Parent Right to Meeting on ESI Use

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

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

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

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

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

#### Local Dispute Resolution Process

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

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

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

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

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

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

Approved:

KASB Recommendation – 6/13; 12/13; 6/15; 6/16; 6/18; 12/18; 6/23 Protective or stabilizing devices required by law or used in accordance with an order from a person appropriately licensed to issue the order for the device;

- Any device used by a certified law enforcement officer to carry out law enforcement duties; or
- Seatbelts and other safety equipment when used to secure students during transportation.

Use of E

Approved: 6/22/23

The executive director and other administrators designated by the executive director have the right to supervise licensed staff. The responsibility for the immediate supervision of licensed staff rests with each building principal.

KASB Recommendation—2/98; 4/07; 6/19

Keystone Board Approved: 10/17/07; 6/19

**GBI**    **Evaluation**

**GBI**

The board shall adopt an approved evaluation instrument. The instrument shall govern evaluation of teachers, shall be filed with the clerk and may be published in teacher handbooks.

Availability of Evaluation Documents

Completed evaluation documents shall be available to the employee, the executive director, other administrators under whose supervision the teacher works, and others authorized by law. (See GAK)

Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation criteria shall be established by the board.

Evaluation Procedure See the negotiated agreement.

Approved: 10/17/07

**GBK**    **Suspension**

**GBK**

The executive director shall have the authority to suspend certified employees with pay until the suspension is resolved by board action.

Approved: 10/17/07

**GBK-R**    **Suspension**

**GBK-R**

The executive director may suspend certified employees with pay for any reason, including one or more of the following: alleged violation of board policy, rule or regulation; refusal or failure to follow a reasonable directive of an administrator; the filing of a complaint against the employee with any civil or criminal authority; the alleged commission of an offense involving moral turpitude; or other good cause.

If a suspension is imposed on an employee pending dismissal, the employee is entitled to pay until the employee has a hearing before the board. The hearing shall determine whether further suspension shall be with or without pay.

Approved: 10/17/07



**GBN**    **Nonrenewal and Termination**

**GBN**

Nonrenewal or termination shall be in accordance with Kansas law and the negotiated agreement, as applicable.

KASB Recommendation—2/98; 4/07; 6/19

Keystone Board Approved: 10/17/07; 6/19

**GB0**    **Resignation**

**GB0**

The board shall consider any licensed employee's resignation which is submitted to the board in writing. The board may accept resignations from employees under contract when the resignation will be in the best interests of the service center.

Approved: 10/17/07

**GB0-R**    **Resignation**

**GB0-R**

A licensed employee who has signed a contract and accepted a teaching position in the interlocal for the coming year or who has not resigned by the continuing contract notice deadline shall not be released from that contract to accept another position until a suitable replacement has been employed.

If the licensed employee terminates employment in the Service Center without complying with board policy, the board may petition the State Board of Education to have the teacher's license suspended.

Approved: 10/17/07

Unless otherwise provided in the negotiated agreement, if the board decides that the size of the teaching staff must be reduced, the following guidelines shall be followed.

Insofar as possible, reduction of staff shall be accomplished by attrition due to resignations and retirement. Following attrition, if additional reductions are required,

The following steps will be utilized by the district's administrative staff to reduce the teaching staff:

- The number of teaching positions to be reduced shall be in accordance with the educational goals established by the board.
- The number of teachers needed to implement the district's educational program will then be determined by the administrative staff based on those educational goals in determining which teachers will be nonrenewed due to reduction in force.
- The educational goals and needs of the district, individual certifications, qualifications, training, skills, evaluations, and interests.

If all of the teachers in the area identified for reduction have similar certifications, qualifications, training, skills, evaluations and interests, the teacher(s) who best meets the needs of the district, considering the factors outlined above and any other relevant factors, will be retained.

Any certified employee who has not been reemployed as a result of reduction of the teaching staff shall be considered for reemployment if a vacancy exists for which the teacher would qualify. Certified employees who may be eligible for reemployment are required to notify the service center of their current address. The executive director will recommend to the board reinstatement of any teacher he/she deems qualified and able to serve the best interests of the service center. The board shall not be required to consider reinstatement of any teacher after a period of one year from the date of nonrenewal.

Approved:

KASB Recommendation – 2/98; 4/07; 6/14; 6/23; 6/22/23

Approved: 10/17/07

GBQA-R

**Reduction of Teaching Staff**

GBQA-R

The following steps will be utilized by the service center administrative staff to reduce the teaching staff:

The number of teaching positions to be reduced shall be in accordance with the educational goals established by the board. The number of teachers needed to implement the service center educational program will then be determined by the administrative staff based on those educational goals in determining which teachers will be nonrenewed due to reduction in force.

The educational goals and needs of the service center, individual certifications, qualifications, training, skills, evaluations and interests shall be considered.

If two or more teachers have similar certifications, qualifications, training, skills, evaluations and interests in a teaching area, those teachers who have tenure will be retained over those who are nontenured. If all of the teachers have similar certifications, qualifications, training, skills, evaluations and interests and all are tenured, the teacher(s) who best meets the needs of the service center, considering the factors outlines above and any other relevant factors, will be retained.

Any licensed employee who has not been reemployed as a result of reduction of the teaching staff shall be considered for reemployment if a vacancy exists for which the teacher would qualify. Licensed employees who may be eligible for reemployment are required to notify the service center of their current address. The executive director will recommend to the board reinstatement of any teacher he/she deems qualified and able to serve the best interests of the service center. The board shall not be required to consider reinstatement of any teacher after a period of one year from the date of nonrenewal.

Approved: 10/17/07

Licensed personnel must be at their assigned area during each duty day. Any teacher who finds it necessary to leave while supervising students shall first secure approval from the principal.

Work Schedules

Licensed personnel are expected to follow the workday schedule of the building in which they are working. Itinerant staff will begin their day at the time teachers are expected to arrive at their first school, and end their day at the time teachers are permitted to leave at their last school. Work schedules for other employees shall be defined by the executive director consistent with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and the provisions of this policy.

Attendance Required

Regular attendance is required of all employees subject to leave provisions in district policy or the negotiated agreement, as appropriate. Excessive absences or tardiness, unauthorized leave or unexcused absences may result in disciplinary action including termination of employment.

Approved: 10/17/07

There shall be a program of professional development for employees, which meets minimum statutory and State Board of Education requirements.

The program shall promote:

- continuous professional development;
- improving academic achievement for all students;
- diversification in academic foundations or subject knowledge; and
- improved job effectiveness and enhanced skills.

When appropriate, the executive director shall consult with the staff about professional development activities.

All appropriate employees shall attend professional development sessions unless excused by the executive director or their respective building administrator. Professional development programs may use all or a portion of the workday.

Approved: 10/17/07

**GBRD**    Staff Meetings

**GBRD**

Staff meetings for licensed personnel shall be called by the administration.

KASB Recommendation—2/98; 4/07; 6/19

Keystone Board Approved: 10/17/07; 6/19

The board may establish other educational assignments that may extend beyond the school day or time class is in session. For these additional duties, the employee shall be compensated at the rate consistent with the USD rate to which they are assigned or a rate established specifically by the service center (e.g., home-bound, jail-bound, hospital-bound, etc.).

Approved: 10/17/07



**GBRF**    **Travel Expenses**

**GBRF**

The board will provide reimbursement for expenses incurred in travel related to the performance and duties of licensed employees when approved in advance by the executive director. (See GAN)

Approved: 10/17/07

**GBRG**

**Non-School Employment**

**GBRG**

The board reserves the right of exclusive access to the professional services of licensed employees in accordance with the terms of the contract.

Licensed employees shall not engage in outside employment which interferes with their duties.

Approved: 10/17/07

**GBRGB**     **Tutoring for Pay**

**GBRGB**

Teachers shall not receive pay for tutoring or private instruction at school unless approved in advance by the board.

Approved: 10/17/07

**GBRH**

**Leaves and Absences (See GBRC)**

**GBRH**

Paid Leave (Discretionary/Sick): See the negotiated agreement.

Personal Leave: See the negotiated agreement.

Professional Leave: See the negotiated agreement.

Emergency Leave: See the negotiated agreement.

Judicial Leave: See the negotiated agreement.

Association Leave: See the negotiated agreement.

Bereavement Leave: See the negotiated agreement.

Leave Without Pay

Licensed employees will be provided with paid and unpaid leave in accordance with applicable law and the negotiated agreement. The board may grant a period of unpaid leave as determined by the board. The period of leave and reason for unpaid leave shall be determined by the board. The board shall not be required to pay any salary or benefits during periods of unpaid leave except as may be required by law.

KASB Recommendation—7/03; 4/07; 6/19

Keystone Board Approved: 10/17/07; 6/19

**GBRIBA**

**Disability Leave**

**GBRIBA**

The board may grant leave of absence for disability with or without pay.

Approved: 10/17/07

Qualified substitute teachers shall be secured for the district.

The superintendent or the superintendent's designee may meet with potential substitutes before the start of each school year.

The principals shall compile a list of available substitute teachers, and each principal shall have a current list.

Principals (or other designated employees) shall be responsible for obtaining substitute teachers from the list and employing them as needed.

The superintendent shall be responsible for developing a substitute's handbook.

The board shall establish the rate of pay for substitute teachers each (fill in month) annually.

Candidates will be given information regarding expectations in performance of their job duties.

Substitutes are encouraged to prepare, in advance, for the subjects in which they are most likely to substitute in case lesson plans are not available.

Approved: 10/17/07; 7/20/22

An educator in the performance of assigned duties shall:

- actively support and pursue the service center's educational mission. (see IA);
- recognize the basic dignity of all individuals;
- maintain professional integrity (GAG);
- avoid accepting anything of substantial value offered by another which is known to be or which may appear to influence judgment or the performance of duties (GAJ);
- accurately represent professional qualifications; and
- be responsible to present any subject matter in a fair and accurate manner (IKB).

Approved: 10/17/07

**GCA Compensation and Work Assignments**

**GCA**

Classified employees shall be paid according to pay rates established by the board. Payment shall be made at the established pay date following the end of each pay period.

**Work Assignments**

Subject to board approval, the classified employees immediate supervisor shall develop time schedules for their classified employees. Work assignments for classified employees will be forwarded to the director for final approval.

**Attendance Required**

Regular attendance is required of all employees subject to leave provisions in service center policy, employee handbooks or other documents approved by the board. Excessive absences or tardiness, unauthorized leave or unexcused absences may result in disciplinary action including termination of employment.

**Work week** For the purposes of Fair Lab or Standards Act (FLSA) compliance, the workweek will be 12:00 a.m. Sunday until 11:59 p.m. Saturday.

**Classification of Employees**

For purposes of compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), the executive director shall ensure that all job positions are classified as exempt or nonexempt and that employees are made aware of such classifications.

**Overtime**

No non-exempt employee shall work more than 40 hours per week without the prior permission of the appropriate supervisor. Principals and supervisors shall monitor employees' work to ensure that the overtime provisions of this policy and the Fair Labor Standards Act are followed. All employees shall be compensated for overtime worked, at a rate of one and a half times their normal rate of pay for any hours worked over 40 in a workweek. Nonexempt employees whose workweek is less than 40 hours will be paid at the regular rate of pay for time worked up to 40 hours. Overtime pay will be provided only if an employee works more than 40 hours in a workweek.



Compensation for Out-of-Town/Overnight Trips (See GAN)

When classified personnel are required to be out of town on service center business, they shall be compensated in the following manner:

Regular or overtime pay (or compensatory time) as appropriate for time away from (name of town).

MINUS:

1. Eight hours for sleep when overnight;
2. Reasonable time for meals (normally one hour per meal); and
3. Time used exclusively for pleasure or personal business.

Approved: 10/17/07

The executive director shall be responsible for supervision of all classified employees not directly under the supervision of a building administrator. A building administrator has the responsibility to supervise all classified employees who are assigned to the building.

Approved: 10/17/07

## **valuation of Coaches and Sponsors**

**GCIA**

All employees contracted to coach or sponsor an activity shall be evaluated annually. Evaluation documents will be on file with the clerk of the board.

Coaches and sponsors shall be evaluated by the supervisor to whom they are assigned. Evaluations shall be based on the employee's personal qualities, their commitment to duty, their work skills, and other appropriate issues related to the activity sponsor/coach job description. A copy of the completed evaluation shall be given to the employee after it is signed by the employee and the evaluator and will be placed in the employee's personnel file.

Approved:

KASB recommendation 6/09; 6/22; 7/20/22

Classified employees shall be evaluated by the supervisor to whom they are assigned. Classified employees shall be evaluated on their personal qualities , their commitment to duty and work skills related to their job description. A copy of the completed evaluation will be given to the employee after it is signed by the employee and the evaluator and will be placed in the employee's personnel file.

Approved: 10/17/07

**GCK**    **Suspension**

**GCK**

Classified employees may be suspended with pay by the director for cause. The board shall review each case of suspension and take action in accordance with the evidence.

Approved: 10/17/07

The board of directors delegates to the executive director the authority to accept resignations of classified staff members. The executive director shall consider any classified employee's resignation which is submitted to the executive director in writing and may accept such resignations when the executive director determines doing so will be in the best interests of the interlocal.

Approved:  
KASB Recommendation—4/19  
Keystone Approved—4/17/19

Classified employees shall not be excused during their regularly scheduled duty day to perform outside employment, unless, upon receipt of the employee's leave request, the supervisor determines:

- The requesting employee has adequate leave time available;
- The requesting employee's absence will not interfere with regular work operations; and
- The leave is approved prior to the requested leave being taken.

The supervisor may approve leave without pay for extraordinary circumstances.

Except as otherwise specified above, classified employees shall not engage in outside employment which interferes with their job duties or responsibilities.

Approved:

KASB Recommendation – 2/98; 4/07; 12/22; 1/18/23

Paid Leave

Full-time employees will be credited with paid leave in accordance with handbook language approved by the board.

Unpaid Leave

The board may grant a period of unpaid leave as determined by the board. The period of leave and reason for unpaid leave shall be determined by the board unless otherwise prescribed by law.. The board shall not be required to pay any salary or benefits during periods of unpaid leave except as may be required by law.

Jury Leave

Any employee called to jury duty will be granted paid leave and such leave will not be deducted from the employee's credited paid leave. Any compensation, except expenses, shall revert to NEKESC.

Approved: 10/17/07; 7/20/22



Full-time classified employees may be granted a paid vacation each year.

Approved: 10/17/07

**GCRI**    **Paid Holidays**

**GCRI**

Paid holiday leave may be granted to full-time classified employees.

Approved: 10/17/07