

Student Complaints and Grievances

Federal Programs Discrimination Grievance Procedure

The Huron school district will not discriminate in any of its policies and programs on the basis of age, race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, marital status, or disability, and will not violate any provisions of applicable federal programs, statutes or regulations (e.g., Title IX, Title I, Rehabilitations Act, Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA], Section 504, etc.).

Definitions

- A. A <u>grievance</u> is a complaint made by a student, parent, or other patron of the district, an employee, employee representatives, or other concerned groups or advisory organizations based upon or concerning an alleged violation, misinterpretation or inequitable application of any existing policy, rule, regulation, or program of the school district, state or federal statutes/regulations, regarding discrimination or concerning violations of Title IX, Title I, 504, ADA, and/or federal programs.
- B. An <u>employee</u> is considered to mean <u>all</u> persons employed by the school district.
- C. A <u>student</u> is considered to mean all persons enrolled in the school district.
- D. An <u>aggrieved person</u> is the individual making the claim.
- E. The <u>board</u> means the board of education of the Huron school district.
- F. <u>Days</u> shall mean calendar days.

Informal Procedure

Any person wishing to pursue the filing of a grievance should first utilize normal channels of communication, involving the teacher, administrator, or board in an attempt to seek clarification of areas of concern and resolution of the problem. It is of utmost importance that prior to filing a grievance, students and employees first discuss areas of concern with their immediate supervisor to whom they are directly responsible.

Formal Procedure

Level I

A grievance should be filed in writing within a reasonable amount of time after the grievant knew, or should have known, of the act or condition on which the grievance is based. The grievant shall file a formal grievance in writing with the Title IX coordinator/Title I coordinator/504 coordinator/ADA coordinator/and/or federal programs coordinator. Such coordinator or his/her designee shall act upon said grievance within seven days. If the grievant is not satisfied with this disposition of the complaint at this level, or if this level is inapplicable, grievant may proceed to Level II.

Level II

Within three days after disposition at Level I, grievant may file in writing a grievance with the superintendent, stating the full nature of the complaint and the procedural history to date, including the disposition at Level I and the remedy requested. The superintendent shall act on said grievance within ten days.



Level III

If the aggrieved is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at Level II, he or she shall within five days thereafter, transmit it by letter to the business manager with a statement of reasons why it is being appealed.

At its next regular meeting, the board or its designated agent, shall consider the grievance or may designate a committee which may or may not include the board members to hold a hearing or otherwise investigate the grievance or prescribe such procedure as it may deem appropriate for consideration of the grievance. The hearing or other manner prescribed shall provide, if requested, an opportunity for the complainant or the complainant's representative, or both, to present evidence, including an opportunity to question parties involved. The board shall make a final decision thereon at the following regular or special board meeting.

Level IV

If the aggrieved is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at Level III, he/she may appeal the final resolution of the local educational agency to a state educational agency within 30 days after receipt of the written decision. The appeal may be submitted to the South Dakota Division of Human Rights or the Office of Civil Rights.