

# HAMBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: STUDENT COMPLAINT  
PROCESS

ADOPTED: March 23, 2015

REVISED:

219. STUDENT COMPLAINT PROCESS	
1. Purpose	The Board recognizes that students have the right to request redress of complaints. In addition, the Board believes that the inculcation of respect for established processes is an important part of the educational process. Accordingly, individual and group complaints shall be recognized, and appropriate appeal procedures shall be provided.
2. Definition	For purposes of this policy, a <b>student complaint</b> shall be one that arises from actions that directly affect the student's participation in an approved educational program.
3. Authority	<p>The Board and its employees shall recognize the complaints of students, provided that such complaints are submitted according to the established administrative regulations developed by the Superintendent or designee.</p> <p>At each level the student shall be afforded the opportunity to be heard personally by the school authority.</p> <p>A student shall not be subjected to any reprisals because of filing a complaint.</p>
4. Guidelines	<p>The student should first make the complaint known to the staff member most closely involved or, if none is identifiable, a guidance counselor; and both shall attempt to resolve the issue informally and directly.</p> <p>For complaints that must move beyond the first step, the student shall prepare a written statement of his/her complaint which shall set forth:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Specific nature of the complaint and a brief statement of relevant facts.</li> <li>2. Manner and extent to which the student believes s/he has been adversely affected.</li> <li>3. Relief sought by the student.</li> </ol>

4. Reasons why the student feels entitled to the relief sought.

The complaint may then be submitted, in turn, to the building principal, the Superintendent and the Board, with a suitable period of time allowed at each level for hearing of the complaint and preparation of a response.

At each level the student shall be afforded the opportunity to be heard personally by the school authority.

At each step the school authority hearing the complaint may call in the student's parent/guardian.

The student may seek the help of a parent/guardian at any step.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510