### EAST HAMPTON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

# REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION Board Room at 6:30 p.m.

# Tuesday, January 21, 2020

# **AGENDA**

- 1. Executive Session (5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.). It is anticipated that the Board will make a motion to go into Executive Session and this session will likely run from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- 2. Call Meeting to Order
- 3. Pledge
- 4. Teacher Recognition
  - Lillian Bryant Vasile-Cozzo Nominated 2020 Health Educator of the Year awarded by the NYS Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, Suffolk County Zone
- Presentation
  - GEHEF Mini Grant Recipients Nancy McMullan
- 6. News of the Schools
- 7. Public Comments (Agenda Items Only)

The EHUFSD Board of Education welcomes public comment. To maintain an orderly and efficient meeting, the Board has established the following guidelines for those wishing to address the Board:

- 1. Each speaker is permitted three minutes for their comments.
- 2. The Board will listen to comments and input but will not necessarily debate or discuss items; operational matters will be directed to school administration for handling.
- 3. The Board is not permitted to address personnel or individual student matters in open session.
- 8. Consent Agenda
- 9. Superintendent's Report and Recommendations
- 10. Old Business
  - 1. Facilities Committee Update
- 11. New Business
  - 1. Athletic Committee

- 12. Public Comments
- 13. Adjournment

### Consent Agenda:

- 1. Recommended: That the Board accept the Minutes of January 7, 2020 as written and place on file.
- 2. Recommended: That the Board approve the amended medical leave for Cornelius Fulford, Custodial Worker I, which became effective December 2, 2019 and is extended through January 10, 2020 using 27 days of Mr. Fulford's accrued sick days.

## Superintendent's Report and Recommendations:

- 1. Recommended: That the Board approve the following Resolution: RESOLVED, Linda Cameron, is, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, appointed to an Elementary School teaching position as a leave replacement effective February 24, 2020 through May 22, 2020 at an annual salary based on \$55,622.00 (BA/Step 1, pro-rated).
- 2. Recommended: That the Board approve the following appointments for the 2019-2020 school year:

Laundry Worker

Edwin Rowe at \$17.94 per hour for a maximum of fifteen (15) days

Interscholastic Coach – effective January 8, 2020

Christopher Coleman – Boys V Assist. Basketball Coach, Level III, 0 years – \$6,369.00 prorated based on 25 days

- 3. Recommended: That the Board accept the letter of resignation, for the purpose of retirement, from Deborah Anderson, Elementary School Teacher, at the close of business day June 30, 2020.
- 4. Recommended: That the Board approve the following SEQRA Resolution:

State Environment Quality Review

Notice of Determination of Non-Significance

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the East Hampton Union Free School District is the lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Process for the purpose of required determinations respecting the proposed Capital Improvement Projects as follows:

Interior renovation to create commercial cooking lab at the following school:

East Hampton High School

WHEREAS, in 1995 amendments were made to the SEQRA Regulation (Part 617) to classify projects, which will be excluded from the requirements for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (Type II Actions). The project mentioned above is now classified as Type II Actions as determined by 6NYCRR§617.5, and

WHEREAS, the project falls under the following categories:

- A. Routine Maintenance and Repair 6NYCRR§617.5 (c)(1): Maintenance or repair involving no substantial change in an existing facility.
- B. Replace or Rehabilitation 6NYCRR§617.5 (c)(2): Replacement or rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure of facility, in kind, on the same site, unless the work excess a threshold for a Type I action in 6NYCRR§617.4.
- C. 6NYCRR§617.5 (c)(8); Routine activities of educational institutions, including expansion of existing facilities by less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area and school closings, but not changes in use related to such closings.

THEREFORE, as the legal agency for the SEQRA determination, the above-referenced project falls under Category "C" above. The procedure for Type II Actions, with regard to the SEQRA Process for Capital Projects noted above is "No Additional Required Action under 6NYCRR§617.5 (a)".

- 5. Recommended: That the Board approve the Consultant Agreement between East Hampton Union Free School District and Bethany Dellapolla for the purpose of providing dance instruction services for the Middle School's February 2020 Mad Heart Ball event in the amount of \$1,800.00 in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in said agreement.
- 6. Recommended: That the Board accept the second and final readings of the amended Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy and Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention Regulation (#7551 and #7551-R).
- 7. Recommended: That the Board approve the first reading of the East Hampton Union Free School District 2020-2021 School Calendar.
- 8. Recommended: That the Board approve the IRS's decreased mileage rate of 57.5 cents per mile for business travel effective January 1, 2020.

### January 2020 Committee Schedule

January 30th

• Personnel Committee – 1:00 p.m.

# February 2020 Committee Schedule

February 5<sup>th</sup>

• Athletic Committee – 1:00 p.m.

February 13th

- Facilities Committee 9:15 a.m.
- Academic Committee 1:00 p.m.
   Policy Committee meeting immediately following

February 27<sup>th</sup>

• Personnel Committee – 1:00 p.m.

# SUBJECT: STUDENT HARASSMENT AND BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

The Board of Education is committed to providing an educational and working environment that promotes respect, dignity and equality. The Board recognizes that discrimination, such as harassment, hazing and bullying, are detrimental to student learning and achievement. These behaviors interfere with the mission of the district to educate its students and disrupt the operation of the schools. Such behavior affects not only the students who are its targets but also those individuals who participate and witness such acts.

To this end, the Board condemns and strictly prohibits all forms of discrimination, such as harassment, hazing and bullying on school grounds, school buses and at all school-sponsored activities, programs and events. Discrimination, harassment, hazing or bullying that takes place at locations outside of school grounds, such as cyberbullying, which creates or can be reasonably expected to create a material and substantial interference with the requirements of appropriate discipline in the operation of the school or impinge on the rights of other students are prohibited, and may be subject to disciplinary consequences.

### **Definitions**

### Bullying

Bullying, under the amended Dignity for All Students Act, has the same meaning as harassment (see below). The accompanying regulation provides more guidance regarding the definition and characteristics of bullying to help the school community recognize the behavior.

### Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is defined as harassment (see below) through any form of electronic Communication.

#### Discrimination

Discrimination is the act of denying rights, benefits, justice, equitable treatment or access to facilities available to all others, to an individual or group of people because of the group, class or category to which that person belongs (as enumerated in the *Definitions* section, under Harassment, below).

#### Hazing

Hazing is an induction, initiation or membership process involving harassment which produces public humiliation, physical or emotional discomfort, bodily injury or public ridicule or creates a situation where public humiliation, physical or emotional discomfort, bodily injury or public ridicule is likely to occur.

### Harassment

Harassment has been defined in various ways in federal and state law and regulation. The Board recognizes that these definitions are important standards, but the Board's goal is to prevent misbehavior from escalating in order to promote a positive school environment and to limit liability. The Dignity for All Students Act (§§10-18 of Education Law) defines harassment as

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the creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by threats, intimidation or abuse, including cyberbullying, that (a) has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being; (b) reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical safety; (c) reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause physical injury or emotional harm to a student; or (d) occurs off school property and creates or would foreseeably create a risk of substantial disruption within the school environment, where it is foreseeable that the conduct, threats, intimidation or abuse might reach school property. The harassing behavior may be based on any characteristic, including but not limited to a person's actual or perceived:

- race,
- color,
- weight,
- national origin,
- ethnic group,
- religion,
- religious practice,
- disability,
- sex.
- sexual orientation, or
- gender (including gender identity and expression).

For the purpose of this definition the term "threats, intimidation or abuse" shall include verbal and non-verbal actions. In some instances, bullying or harassment may constitute a violation of an individual's civil rights. The district is mindful of its responsibilities under the law and in accordance with district policy regarding civil rights protections.

In order to streamline the wording of this policy and regulation the term bullying will be used throughout to encompass harassment, intimidation, cyberbullying and hazing behaviors.

### **Prevention**

The school setting provides an opportunity to teach children, and emphasize among staff, that cooperation with and respect for others is a key district value. A program geared to prevention is designed to not only decrease incidents of bullying but to help students build more supportive relationships with one another by integrating the bullying prevention program into classroom instruction. Staff members and students will be sensitized, through district-wide professional development and instruction, to the warning signs of bullying, as well as to their responsibility to become actively involved in the prevention of bullying before overt acts occur.

Curricular material that raises awareness and sensitivity to discrimination or harassment and civility in the relationships of people of different races, weights, national origins, ethnic groups,

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religious, religious practices, mental or physical abilities, sexual orientations, sexes or gender expression or identities will be included in the instructional program K-12.

In order to implement this program the Board will designate at its annual organizational meeting a **Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC)**] for each school in the district. One of the **DAC**'s will be designated as the district-wide coordinator whose responsibilities are described in the accompanying regulation. The role of each **DAC** is to oversee and enforce this policy in the school to which they are assigned.

### <u>Intervention</u>

Intervention by adults and bystanders is an important step in preventing escalation and resolving issues at the earliest stages. Intervention will emphasize education and skill-building.

Successful intervention may involve remediation. Remedial responses to bullying include measures designed to correct the problem behavior, prevent another occurrence of the behavior and protect the target. Remediation may be targeted to the individual(s) involved in the bullying behavior or environmental approaches which are targeted to the school or district as a whole.

In addition, intervention will focus upon the safety of the target. Staff is expected, when aware of bullying, to report it in accordance with this policy, refer the student to designated resources for assistance, or to intervene in accordance with this policy and regulation.

### Provisions for students who do not feel safe at school

The Board acknowledges that, notwithstanding actions taken by district staff, intervention may require a specific coordinated approach if the child does not feel safe at school. Students who do not feel safe at school are limited in their capacity to learn and reach their academic potential. Staff, when aware of bullying, should determine if accommodations are needed in order to help ensure the safety of the student and bring this to the attention of the Building Principal or her/his designee. The *building principal*, other appropriate staff, the student and the student's parent will work together to define and implement any needed accommodations.

The district recognizes that there is a need to balance accommodations which enhance student safety against the potential to further stigmatize the targeted student. Therefore, each case will be handled individually. The student, parent/guardian, and school administration will collaborate to establish safety provisions that best meet the needs of the targeted student. Follow-up discussion and/or meetings will be scheduled, as needed, to ensure that safety concerns have been adequately addressed and to determine when and if accommodations need to be changed or discontinued.

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# **Incident Reporting and Investigation**

Although it can be difficult to step forward, the district can't effectively address bullying if incidents are not reported. Students who have been bullied, parents whose children have been bullied or other students who observe bullying behavior are encouraged and expected to make a verbal and/or written complaint to any school personnel in accordance with the training and guidelines provided. Staff who observe or learn of incident(s) of bullying are required, in accordance with State law, to make an oral report to Building Principal or her/his designee within one school day and to fill out the district reporting form within two school days. If a staff person is unsure of the reporting procedure, he/she is expected to inquire about how to proceed by speaking with his/her supervisor. A district employee may be deemed to have permitted unlawful discrimination or harassment if he/she fails to report an observed incident, whether or not the target complains.

At all times, complaints will be documented, tracked and handled in accordance with the regulations and procedures accompanying this policy, or, if applicable, Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination, or Sexual Harassment and the district's Code of Conduct.

An equitable and thorough investigation will be carried out by Building Principal or her/his designee in accordance with the accompanying regulation. In addition, the results of the investigation shall be reported back to both the target and the accused as specified in the accompanying regulation. If either of the parties disagrees with the results of the investigation, they can appeal the findings in accordance with the regulations that accompany this policy. Verified bullying incidents that meet the criteria established by the state will be included in the statewide reporting system when applicable, in accordance with law and regulation.

The Board will receive the annual VADIR report, as well as any other state-required report relevant to bullying and/or school climate, for each building and for the district as a whole. Based on the review of the data, the Board may consider further action, including but not limited to modification of this policy and additional training.

# **Disciplinary Consequences/Remediation**

While the focus of this policy is on prevention, acts of bullying may still occur. In these cases, offenders will be given the clear message that their actions are wrong and the behavior must improve. Student offenders will receive in-school guidance in making positive choices in their relationships with others. If appropriate, disciplinary action that is measured, balanced and age-appropriate will be taken by the administration in accordance with the district's Code of Conduct, as applicable. If the behavior rises to the level of criminal activity, law enforcement will be contacted.

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Consequences for a student who commits an act of bullying shall be unique to the individual incident and will vary in method and severity according to the nature of the behavior, the developmental age of the student, and the student's history of problem behaviors, and must be consistent with the district's Code of Conduct.

# Non-Retaliation

All complainants and those who participate in the investigation of a complaint in conformity with state law and district policies, who have acted reasonably and in good faith, have the right to be free from retaliation of any kind.

### **Training**

The Board recognizes that in order to implement an effective bullying prevention and intervention program, professional development is needed. The Superintendent, the districtwide DAC and the District Professional Development Team will incorporate training to support this program in new teacher orientation and the annual professional development plan, as needed. Training opportunities will be provided for all staff, including but not limited to bus drivers, cafeteria and hall monitors and all staff who have contact with students. The DACs will be trained in accordance with state requirements and will continue their professional development so as to successfully support this policy and program.

# Dissemination, Monitoring and Review

This policy, or a plain language summary, shall be published in student registration materials, student, parent and employee handbooks, and posted on the district's website. A bullying complaint form will be available on the district's website. The district will ensure that the process of reporting bullying is clearly explained to students, staff and parents on an annual basis.

Each year, as part of the annual review of the Code of Conduct, this policy will be reviewed to assess its effectiveness and compliance with state and federal law. If changes are needed, revisions will be recommended to the Board for its consideration.

The district will ensure that reporting of information to the public in conjunction with this policy will be in a manner that complies with student privacy rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Cross-ref:

3410, Code of Conduct on School Property

3420 Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment in the School District

6119, Non-discrimination and Equal Opportunity

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## Cross-ref continued:

6121 Sexual Harassment of District Personnel 7550, Dignity For All Students Act 7552, Bullying in the Schools 7553, Hazing of Students

Ref: Dignity for All Students Act, Education Law, §10 – 18
Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.
Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq.
Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq.; 34 CFR §100 et seq.
Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq.
§504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §794

Individuals with Disabilities Education Law, 20 U.S.C §§1400 et seq. Executive Law §290 et seq. (New York State Human Rights Law) Education Law §§313(3), 3201, 3201-a 8 NYCRR 100.2(c), (l), (jj), (kk); 119.6 Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School Dist., 393 US 503, (1969) Doninger v. Niehoff, 527 F.3d 41 (2d. Cir. 2008) Pollnow v. Glennon, 594 F.Sup. 220, 224 aff'd 757 F.2d, 496 Zeno v. Pine Plains 702 F3rd 655 (2nd Cir. 2012) Cuff v. Valley Central School District F3rd 109 (2nd Cir 2012) Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education, 526 U.S. 629 (1999) Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent School District, 524 U.S. 274 (1998) Faragher v. City of Boca Raton, 524 U.S. 775 (1998) Burlington Industries v. Ellerth, 524 U.S. 742 (1998) Oncale v. Sundowner Offshore Services, Inc., 523 U.S. 75 (1998) Franklin v. Gwinnett County Public Schools, 503 U.S. 60 (1992) Meritor Savings Bank, FSB v. Vinson, 477 U.S. 57 (1986) Appeal of K.S., 43 Ed. Dept. Rep. 492

Adopted: 5/21/13 Amended:

Appeal of Ravick, 40 Ed. Dept. Rep. 262 Appeal of Orman, 39 Ed. Dept. Rep. 811

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The Board condemns and strictly prohibits all forms of discrimination, such as harassment, hazing, intimidation and bullying on school grounds, school buses and at all school-sponsored activities, programs and events. Discrimination, harassment, hazing or bullying that takes place at locations outside of school grounds, such as cyberbullying, which can be reasonably expected to materially and substantially interfere with the requirements of appropriate discipline in the operation of the school or impinge on the rights of other students are prohibited, and may be subject to disciplinary consequences

### **Definitions**

# **Bullying**

Under the amended Dignity for All Students Act bullying and harassment are equivalent and used interchangeably. In order to facilitate implementation, provide meaningful guidance and prevent behaviors from rising to a violation of law, bullying is further understood to be a hostile activity which harms or induces fear through the threat of further aggression and/or creates terror. Bullying may be premeditated or a sudden activity. It may be subtle or easy to identify, done by one person or a group. Bullying often includes the following characteristics:

- 1. **Power imbalance** occurs when a bully uses his/her physical or social power over a target.
- 2. **Intent to harm** the bully seeks to inflict physical or emotional harm and/or takes pleasure in this activity.
- 3. **Threat of further aggression** the bully and the target believe the bullying will continue.
- 4. **Terror** when any bullying increases, it becomes a "systematic violence or harassment used to intimidate and maintain dominance." (Barbara Coloroso, *The Bully, The Bullied & The Bystander*, 2003)

There are at least three kinds of bullying: verbal, physical and social/relational.

- Verbal bullying (which can be delivered orally, electronically or in writing) includes name calling, insulting remarks, verbal teasing, frightening phone calls, violent threats, extortion, taunting, gossip, spreading rumors, racist slurs,), anonymous notes, etc.
- Physical bullying includes poking, slapping, hitting, tripping or causing a fall, choking, kicking, punching, biting, pinching, scratching, spitting, twisting arms or legs, damaging clothes and personal property, or threatening gestures.
- Social or relational bullying includes excluding someone from a group, isolating, shunning, spreading rumors or gossiping, arranging public humiliation, undermining relationships, teasing about clothing, looks, giving dirty looks, aggressive stares, etc.

The New York State Education Department provides further guidance on bullying and cyberbullying prevention on the following website:

<a href="http://www.p12.nysed.gov/technology/internet\_safety/documents/cyberbullying.html">http://www.p12.nysed.gov/technology/internet\_safety/documents/cyberbullying.html</a>

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### **Discrimination**

Discrimination is the act of denying rights, benefits, justice, equitable treatment or access to facilities available to all others, to an individual or group of people because of the group, class or category to which that person belongs (as listed under *Harassment* as defined below).

### **Harassment**

Harassment has been defined in various ways in federal and state law (including the penal law) and regulation. The Board recognizes that these definitions are important standards, but the Board's goal is to prevent behaviors from escalating to violations of law and, instead, to promote a positive school environment and limit liability. The Dignity for All Students Act (§§10-18 of Education Law) defines harassment as the creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by threats, intimidation or abuse, including cyberbullying, that (a) has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being; (b) reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical safety; (c) reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause physical injury or emotional harm to a student; or (d) occurs off school property and creates or would foreseeably create a risk of substantial disruption within the school environment, where it is foreseeable that the conduct, threats, intimidation or abuse might reach school property. The harassing behavior may be based on any characteristic, including but not limited to a person's actual or perceived:

- race,
- color,
- weight,
- national origin,
- ethnic group,
- religion,
- religious practice,
- disability,
- sex,
- sexual orientation, or
- gender (including gender identity and expression).
- Gender identity is one's self-conception as being male or female, as distinguished from actual biological sex or sex assigned at birth.
- Gender expression is the manner in which a person represents or expresses gender to others, often through behavior, clothing, hairstyles, activities, voice or mannerisms.

For purposes of this definition, the term "threats, intimidation or abuse" shall include verbal and non-verbal actions.

#### Hazing

Hazing is an induction, initiation or membership process involving harassment which produces public humiliation, physical or emotional discomfort, bodily injury or public ridicule or creates a

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situation where public humiliation, physical or emotional discomfort, bodily injury or public ridicule is likely to occur.

# **Prevention**

Prevention is the cornerstone of the district's effort to address bullying. The components of such an effort involve the following:

- Following the principles and practices of "Educating the Whole Child Engaging the Whole School: Guidelines and Resources for Social and Emotional Development and Learning (SEDL) in New York State Adopted by the Board of Regents July 18, 2011." District curriculum will emphasize developing empathy, tolerance and respect for others.
- Learning about and identifying the early warning signs and precursor behaviors that may lead to bullying.
- Gathering information about bullying at school directly from students (through surveys and other mechanisms); analyzing and using the data gathered to assist in decision-making about programming and resource allocation.
- Establishing clear school wide and classroom rules about bullying consistent with the district's code of conduct.
- Training adults in the school community to respond sensitively and consistently to bullying.
- Raising awareness among adults, through training, of the school experiences of marginalized student populations (as enumerated in the *Definitions* section above), social stigma in the school environment, gender norms in the school environment, and strategies for disrupting bullying or other forms of violence.
- Providing adequate supervision, particularly in less structured areas such as in the hallways, cafeteria, school bus and playground.
- Raising parental awareness and involvement in the prevention program and in addressing problems.
- Using educational opportunities or curriculum, including, if applicable, the Individual Educational Program (IEP), to address the underlying causes and impact of bullying.

The Superintendent will appoint a district-wide bullying prevention committee, chaired by the districtwide DAC. The committee will include representation from staff, administration, students and parents. The committee will assist with the development and implementation of the prevention and intervention program, which may include the strategies listed above. Building-level committees will be appointed by the building principal and will include representation from staff, administration, students and parents associated with that building.

# Role of the Dignity Act Coordinator(s)(DAC)

The Board of Education will annually designate a staff member, who has been thoroughly trained in human relations in the areas of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and expression), and sex, as the Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for each school, accountable for

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implementation of this policy. In addition, one will be designated as the district-wide coordinator who will be responsible for ensuring equivalency in programming across buildings. The building-level DAC will be responsible for coordinating and enforcing this policy and regulation in the school to which they are assigned, including but not limited to coordination of:

- the work of the building-level committees;
- professional development for staff members and,
- the complaint process, and
- management of the Dignity Act's civility curriculum components.

### **Incident(s)** Reporting

In order for the Board to effectively enforce this policy and to take prompt corrective measures, it is essential that all targets and persons with knowledge of bullying report such behavior immediately to the principal, the principal's designee or the Dignity Act Coordinator as soon as possible after the incident so that it may be effectively investigated and resolved. The district will also make a bullying complaint form available on its website to facilitate reporting. The district will collect relevant data from written and verbal complaints to allow for systematic reporting.

Staff who observe or learn of incident(s) of bullying are required, in accordance with State law, to orally report it to the building principal or DAC within one school day and to fill out the district reporting form within two school days. If a staff person is unsure of the reporting procedure, he/she is expected to inquire about how to proceed by speaking with his/her supervisor. A district employee may be deemed to have permitted unlawful discrimination or harassment if he/she fails to report an observed incident, whether or not the target complains

The district will thoroughly, promptly and equitably investigate all complaints, formal or informal, verbal or written. To the extent possible, all complaints will be treated in a confidential manner, although limited disclosure may be necessary to complete a thorough investigation.

In order to assist investigators, individuals should document the bullying as soon as it occurs and with as much detail as possible including: the nature of the incident(s); dates, times, places it has occurred; name of perpetrator(s); witnesses to the incident(s); and the target's response to the incident.

### Confidentiality

It is district policy to respect the privacy of all parties and witnesses to bullying. To the extent possible, the district will not release the details of a complaint or the identity of the complainant or the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed to any third parties who do not need to know such information. However, because an individual's desire for confidentiality must be balanced with the district's legal obligation to provide due process to the accused, to conduct a prompt and thorough investigation, and/or to take necessary action to resolve the complaint, the district retains the right to disclose the identity of parties and witnesses to complaints in appropriate circumstances to individuals with a need to know. The staff member responsible for

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investigating complaints will discuss confidentiality standards and concerns with all complainants.

If a complainant requests that his/her name not be revealed to the individual(s) against whom a complaint is filed, the staff member responsible for conducting the investigation shall inform the complainant that:

- 1. the request may limit the district's ability to respond to his/her complaint;
- 2. district policy and federal law prohibit retaliation against complainants and witnesses;
- 3. the district will attempt to prevent any retaliation; and
- 4. the district will take strong responsive action if retaliation occurs.

If the complainant still requests confidentiality after being given the notice above, the investigator will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request as long as doing so does not preclude the district from responding effectively to the bullying and preventing bullying of other students.

# Investigation and Resolution Procedure

A. Initial (Building-level) Procedure

Whenever a complaint of bullying is received whether verbal or written, it will be subject to a thorough preliminary review and investigation. Except in the case of severe or criminal conduct, the principal, the principal's designee or the Dignity Act Coordinator shall make all reasonable efforts to resolve complaints informally at the school level. The goal of informal procedures is to end the bullying, prevent future incidents, ensure the safety of the target and obtain a prompt and equitable resolution to a complaint.

As soon as possible, but no later than three school days following receipt of a complaint, the principal, the principal's designee or the Dignity Act Coordinator will begin an investigation of the complaint by:

- Reviewing any written documentation provided by the target(s).
- Conducting separate interviews of the target(s), alleged perpetrator(s), and witnesses, if any, and documenting the conversations.
- Providing the alleged perpetrator(s) a chance to respond and notify him/her that if objectionable behavior has occurred, it must cease immediately. The individual will be made aware of remediation opportunities as well as potential disciplinary consequences.
- Determining whether the complainant needs any accommodations to ensure his/her safety, and following up periodically until the complaint has been resolved. Accommodations may include, but are not limited to:
  - A "permanent" hall pass that allows the student to visit a designated adult at any time;
  - Access to private bathroom facilities;
  - Access to private locker room facilities;

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- o An escort during passing periods;
- If the student feels unsafe in a specific class, an opportunity for individual tutoring or independent study until the case is resolved;
- An opportunity for independent study at home with district-provided tutor until the case is resolved;
- o Permission to use personal cell phone in the event that the student feels threatened and needs immediate access to parent or guardian;
- o Assignment of a bus monitor.

The district recognizes that there is a need to balance accommodations which enhance student safety against the potential to further stigmatize the targeted student. Therefore, each case will be handled individually, and the student, parent/guardian, and school administration will collaborate to establish safety provisions that best meet the needs of the targeted student. Follow-up discussion and/or meetings will be scheduled, as needed, to ensure that safety concerns have been adequately addressed and to determine when and if accommodations need to be changed or discontinued.

Parents of student targets and accused students should be notified within one school day of allegations that are serious or involve repeated conduct.

Where appropriate, informal methods may be used to resolve the complaint, including but not limited to:

- 1. discussion with the accused, informing him or her of the district's policies and indicating that the behavior must stop;
- 2. suggesting counseling, skill building activities and/or sensitivity training;
- 3. conducting training for the department or school in which the behavior occurred, calling attention to the consequences of engaging in such behavior;
- 4. requesting a letter of apology to the target;
- 5. writing letters of caution or reprimand; and/or
- 6. separating the parties.

Appropriate disciplinary action shall be recommended and imposed in accordance with district policy, the applicable collective bargaining agreement or state law. The district will make every reasonable effort to attempt to first resolve the misconduct through non-punitive measures.

The investigator shall report back to both the target and the accused, within five school days, notifying them in writing, and also in person, as appropriate, regarding the outcome of the investigation and the action taken to resolve the complaint. The actions taken will be in conformance with the *Remediation/Discipline/Penalties* section of this regulation. The target shall report immediately if the objectionable behavior occurs again or if the alleged perpetrator retaliates against him/her.

# SUBJECT: STUDENT HARASSMENT AND BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION REGULATION

If a complaint contains evidence or allegations of serious or extreme bullying, or a civil rights violation, the complaint shall be referred promptly to the Superintendent. The complainant will also be advised of other avenues to pursue their complaint, including contact information for state and federal authorities.

In addition, where the principal, the principal's designee or the Dignity Act Coordinator has a reasonable suspicion that the alleged bullying incident involves criminal activity, he/she should immediately notify the Superintendent, who shall then contact the school attorney, appropriate child protection and, if appropriate, law enforcement authorities.

Any party who is not satisfied with the outcome of the initial investigation may request a district-level investigation by submitting a written complaint to the Superintendent within 30 days.

#### B. District-level Procedure

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall promptly investigate and equitably resolve all bullying complaints that are referred to him/her, as well as those appealed to the Superintendent following an initial investigation. In the event the complaint involves the Superintendent, the complaint shall be filed with or referred to the Board President, who shall refer the complaint to an appropriate independent individual for investigation.

The district level investigation should begin as soon as possible, but not later than three school days, following receipt of the complaint by the Superintendent or Board President.

In conducting the formal district level investigation, the district will endeavor to use individuals who have received formal training regarding such investigations or that have previous experience investigating such complaints.

If a district level investigation results in a determination that bullying did occur, prompt corrective action will be taken to end the misbehavior in accordance with the *Remediation/Discipline/Penalties* section of this regulation.

No later than 30 days following receipt of the complaint, the Superintendent (or in cases involving the Superintendent, the Board-appointed investigator) will notify the target and alleged perpetrator, in writing, of the outcome of the investigation. If additional time is needed to complete the investigation or take appropriate action, the Superintendent or Board-appointed investigator will provide all parties with a written status report within 30 days following receipt of the complaint.

Any party who is not satisfied with the outcome of the district-level investigation may appeal to the Board of Education by submitting a written request to the Board President within 30 days.

### C. Board-level Procedure

When a request for review by the Board has been made, the Superintendent shall submit all written statements and other materials concerning the case to the President of the Board.

# SUBJECT: STUDENT HARASSMENT AND BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION REGULATION

The Board shall notify all parties concerned of the time and place when a hearing will be held. Such hearing will be held within 15 school days of the receipt of the request of the complainant.

The Board shall render a decision in writing within 15 school days after the hearing has been concluded.

The district shall retain documentation associated with complaints and investigations in accordance with Schedule ED-1.

### Retaliation Prohibited

Any act of retaliation against any person who opposes bullying behavior, or who has filed a complaint, is prohibited and illegal, and therefore subject to disciplinary action. Likewise, retaliation against any person who has testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing of a bullying complaint is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, retaliation includes but is not limited to: verbal or physical threats, intimidation, ridicule, bribes, destruction of property, spreading rumors, stalking, harassing phone calls, and any other form of harassment. Any person who retaliates is subject to immediate disciplinary action up to and including suspension or termination.

## Remediation/Discipline/Penalties

Any individual who violates this policy by engaging in bullying will be subject to appropriate action, which may include disciplinary action. Remedial responses to bullying include measures designed to correct the problem behavior, prevent another occurrence of the behavior, and protect the target of the act. Appropriate remedial measures may include, but are not limited to:

- Restitution and restoration;
- Peer support group;
- Corrective instruction or other relevant learning or service experience;
- Changes in class schedule:
- Supportive intervention;
- Behavioral assessment or evaluation;
- Behavioral management plan, with benchmarks that are closely monitored;
- Student counseling:
- Parent conferences; or
- Student treatment or therapy.

Environmental remediation may include, but is not limited to:

- School and community surveys or other strategies for determining the conditions contributing to the relevant behavior;
- Modification of schedules;
- Adjustment in hallway traffic and other student routes of travel:
- Targeted use of monitors;
- Parent education seminars/workshops;

# SUBJECT: STUDENT HARASSMENT AND BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION REGULATION

Peer support groups.

Disciplinary measures available to school authorities include, but are not limited to the following:

<u>Students</u>: Discipline may range from a reprimand up to and including suspension from school, to be imposed consistent with the Code of Conduct and applicable law.

<u>Employees</u>: Discipline may range from a warning up to and including termination, to be imposed consistent with all applicable contractual and statutory rights.

<u>Volunteers</u>: Penalties may range from a warning up to and including loss of volunteer assignment.

<u>Vendors</u>: Penalties may range from a warning up to and including loss of district business.

Other individuals: Penalties may range from a warning up to and including denial of future access to school property.

### **Policy Dissemination**

All students and employees shall be informed of this policy in student and employee handbooks, on the district website and student registration materials. A poster summarizing the policy shall also be posted in a prominent location at each school.

All employees shall receive information about this policy and regulation at least once a year.

Principals in each school shall be responsible for informing students and staff on a yearly basis of the terms of this policy, including the procedures for filing a complaint and information about the impact of bullying on the target and bystanders.

#### Training

Training needs in support of this bullying prevention and intervention program will be reflected in the district's annual professional development plan, new teacher orientation, in curriculum and will be considered in the budget process. The DAC(s), administrative employees and other staff, such as counselors or social workers who have specific responsibilities for investigating and/or resolving complaints of bullying shall receive yearly training to support implementation of this policy, regulation and on related legal developments.

Adopted: 5/21/13

Amended:

# SUBJECT: STUDENT HARASSMENT AND BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION REGULATION

# HARASSMENT AND/OR BULLYING COMPLAINT FORM

and/or harassment so we can investigate your child feels that way, fill out this	the district of an incident or series of incidents ate and take appropriate steps. If you feel unsais form, but we urge you to speak directly with	afe, or if th (insert
we can address your concerns.	ng room or calling as soon as po	ossible so
Student Name: School:	Student ID:	
<u> </u>	·	
List the name(s) of the individual(s) as	ccused of bullying and/or harassment.	
Were there any witnesses?Yes	No If yes, please list the names of the ind	lividual(s).
I certify that all statements on this fort	m are accurate and true to the best of my knowl	edge.
Signature	Date	
Please attach any supporting documen	ntation (i.e., copies of emails, notes, photos, etc.	).
Return this form to: (insert applicable name and address of	of school staff)	,

# Note on confidentiality:

In order to investigate the complaint, the district will disclose the content of the complaint only to those persons who have a need to know. This form will not be shown to the accused student(s)/staff.

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480 Student Days + 4 Snow Days + 3 Superintendent Conference Days

28-29 - Staff Only

• If NO snow days are used, the District will be closed in the following order: 1st day - June 29th; 2nd day - June 28th; 3rd day - June 1st; 4th day - May 28th. = School & District Closed Key: School Closed (Instructional Staff) --- (-{ } = Superintendent Conference Day

• If, in the event of emergency school closings, the District will be OPEN for instructional days in the following order: 1st day - May 28th; 2nd day - June 1st; 3rd day - June 28th; and 4th day - June 29th. Any additional instructional make-up days will be scheduled during the March/April Recess Break.

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT made this	day of	, 2019, by	and between
Bethany Dellapolla, whose principal	place of business is	50 Woodbine	Drive, East
Hampton, NY 11937, and the Board	of Education of the	East Hampton	Union Free
School District ("District"), 4 Long Lar	ne, East Hampton, Nev	v York 11572.	

WHEREAS, the District desires to retain the professional services of <u>Bethany</u> <u>Dellapolla</u> to provide Dance Lessons.

WHEREAS <u>Bethany Dellapolla</u> is duly certified and/or qualified under the laws of the State of New York and regulations of the Commissioner of Education to provide such services:

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants, conditions and agreements herein contained, and for other good and valuable considerations, <u>Bethany Dellapolla</u> and the District hereby agree as follows:

1. At the District's request, <u>Bethany Dellapolla</u> will provide the following services:

Plan and instruct 5 daily lessons in preparation for the Mad Heart Ball event during in-school physical education class; Periods 1-4 and Period 9 Monday-Friday (except holidays) for the 2019-20 school year, starting January 21st, 2020 ending January 31st, 2020. Coach a team of students during recess time for group competition in the Mad Heart Ball on February 3, 2020, to February 7, 2020.

- 2. The District agrees to pay Bethany Dellapolla \$1,800.00. There shall be no other benefits or compensation.
- 3. <u>Bethany Dellapolla</u> will not be eligible for any benefits relative to this contract for social security, New York State worker's compensation, unemployment insurance, New York State Employee's Retirement System, etc. <u>Bethany Dellapolla</u> shall be solely responsible for the payment of federal and state income taxes applicable to any payments received under this agreement.
- 4. This Agreement shall be subject to termination with or without cause by the District upon seven (7) days' notice in writing to <u>Bethany Dellapolla</u> at the address noted above. Upon termination, all obligations under this Agreement shall cease, and the <u>Bethany Dellapolla</u> shall be entitled to reimbursement only for services rendered as of the effective date of termination.
- 5. <u>Bethany Dellapolla</u> and the District will have the status of independent contractor one to the other, and, unless otherwise expressly agreed in writing, neither will constitute the agent of the other for any purpose.

- 6. Bethany Dellapolla, does hereby covenant and agree to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the East Hampton Union Free School District, its Board of Education members, officers, agents and employees from and against any and all liability, loss, damages, claims or actions (including costs and attorney fees) for bodily injury and/or property damage, to the extent permissible by law, arising out of or in connection with the actual or proposed use of East Hampton Union Free School District property, facilities and/or services, and/or in any manner from the performance of services under this Agreement by Bethany Dellapolla.
- 7. <u>Bethany Dellapolla</u> shall comply with all applicable Federal, State and local statutes, rules and regulations including the New York State Safe Schools Against Violence in Education ("SAVE") legislation, including fingerprinting and clearance requirements. <u>Bethany Dellapolla</u> shall adhere to all applicable policies, procedures, rules and regulations of the District and the State Education Department.
- 8. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provisions of this Agreement shall in no way affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision.
- 9. This Agreement cannot be changed, modified or discharge orally, but only if consented to in writing by the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

BY:

James P. Foster, President
Board of Education

DANCE INSTRUCTOR

Bethany Dellapolla