

Rainier School District 13

Code: **BBD**
Adopted: 7/01/89
Revised/Readopted: 10/14/19
Orig. Code(s): BBD

Board Member Removal from Office

The Board shall declare the office of a director vacant upon any of the following:

1. The death or resignation of an incumbent;
2. When an incumbent ceases to be a resident of the district;
3. When an incumbent ceases to discharge the duties of office for two consecutive months unless prevented by sickness or unavoidable cause;
4. When an incumbent ceases to discharge the duties of office for four consecutive months for any reason;
5. When an incumbent is removed from office by judgment of any court;
6. When an incumbent has been recalled from office by district voters;
7. When an incumbent is elected by zone and moves from the zone to which he/she was elected. The incumbent shall continue to serve as director to June 30 next following the next regular district election. At that election, a successor shall be elected to serve the remainder, if any, of the unexpired term to which the director was elected. If the term to which the director was elected expires June 30 next following the election of the successor, the successor shall be elected to a full term.

Vacancies will be filled through appointment by the Board unless a majority of the positions are vacant at the same time. In that case, vacancies will be filled by the Northwest Regional Education Service District.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 249.865 to -249.877

ORS 332.030

ORS 408.240

Cross Reference(s):

BBE - Vacancies on the Board

Rainier School District 13

Code: BDDH
Adopted: 1/08/18
Revised/Readopted: 10/14/19
Orig. Code: BDDH

Public Comment at Board Meetings

All Board meetings, with the exception of executive sessions, will be open to the public. The board invites district community members to attend Board meetings to become acquainted with the program and operation of the district. Members of the public also are encouraged to share their ideas and opinions with the Board when appropriate.

It is the intent of the Board to ensure communications with individuals with disabilities are as effective as communications with others. Individuals with hearing, vision or speech impairments will be given an equal opportunity to participate in Board meetings. Primary consideration will be given to requests of qualified individuals with disabilities in selecting appropriate auxiliary aids¹ and services.

If requested to do so at least 48 hours before a meeting held in public, the Board shall provide an interpreter for hearing-impaired persons. Other appropriate auxiliary aids and services will be provided upon request and appropriate advance notice. Communications with all qualified individuals with disabilities shall be as effective as communications with others.

Auxiliary aids and services for persons with disabilities will be available at no charge to the individual.

All auxiliary aids and/or service requests must be made with appropriate advance notice. Should the Board demonstrate such requests would result in a fundamental alteration in the service, program or activity or an undue financial and administrative burden, alternative, equally effective means of communication will be used.

Audience

During an open session of a Board meeting, members of the public may be invited to present comments during the designated portion of the agenda. At the discretion of the Board chair, further public comment may be allowed.

Procedures for Public Comment at Meetings

The Board will establish procedures for public comment in open meetings. The purpose of these procedures will be to inform the public how to effectively participate in Board meetings for the best interests of the individual, the district and the patrons. The information will be easily accessible and available to all patrons attending a public Board meeting.

1. Discussion or presentation concerning a published agenda item is limited to its designated place on the agenda, unless otherwise authorized by the Board chair.
2. A visitor speaking during the meeting may introduce a topic not on the published agenda. The Board, at its discretion, may require that a proposal, inquiry or request be submitted in writing, and reserves the right to refer the matter to the administration for action or study.

¹ Auxiliary aids may include, but are not limited to, such services and devices as qualified interpreters, assistive listening systems, note takers, readers, taped texts, Braille materials and large print.

3. Any person who is invited by the Board chair to speak to the Board during a meeting should state their name and address and, if speaking for an organization, the name and identity of the organization. A spokesperson should be designated to represent a group with a common purpose.
4. Statements by members of the public should be brief and concise. The Board chair may use discretion to establish a time limit on discussion or oral presentation by visitors.
5. Questions asked by the public, when possible, will be answered immediately by the Board chair or referred to the superintendent for reply. Questions requiring investigation may, at the discretion of the Board chair, be referred to the superintendent for response at a later time.
6. At the discretion of the Board chair, anyone wishing to speak before the Board, either as an individual or as a member of a group, on any agenda item or other topic, may do so by providing the Board secretary with a completed Public Comment Form (See BDDH-AR) prior to the Board meeting in order to allow the Board chair to provide adequate time for each item.

Petitions

Petitions may be accepted at any Board meeting. No action will be taken in response to a petition before the next regular meeting. Petitions will be referred to the superintendent for consideration and recommendation.

Comments Regarding Staff Members

Speakers may offer objective criticism of district operations and programs. The Board will not hear comments regarding any individual district staff member. The Board chair will direct the visitor to the procedures in Board policy KL – Public Complaints for Board consideration of a legitimate complaint involving a staff member. The association contract governing the employee's rights will be followed. A commendation involving a staff member should be sent to the superintendent, who will forward it to the employee, a supervisor and the Board.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 165.535
ORS 165.540

ORS 192.610 to -192.690
ORS 332.057

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213 (2012); 29 C.F.R. Part 1630 (2017); 28 C.F.R. Part 35 (2017).

Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008.

Baca v. Moreno Valley Unified Sch. Dist., 936 F. Supp. 719 (C.D. Cal. 1996).

Leventhal v. Vista Unified Sch. Dist., 973 F. Supp. 951 (S.D. Cal. 1997).

Cross Reference(s):

BDDC - Board Meeting Agenda

Rainier School District 13

Code: JECBA
Adopted: 12/09/19

Admission of Exchange Students

In the interest of furthering better understanding and improving human relations among district students and youth from all parts of the world, the Board encourages the high school(s) to participate in student foreign exchange programs.

Exchange students must meet the regulations and expectations of local students, including the immunization requirements.

A high school diploma may be awarded at regular commencement exercises to all foreign exchange students who successfully meet the necessary academic requirements during the year in which they attend.

Exchange students will be encouraged to participate in all student activities and will be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics, provided academic requirements and Oregon School Activities Association criteria are met.

The Board reserves the right to limit the number of exchange students in a given year.

Privately sponsored exchange students on an F-1 Visa may only attend secondary schools within the district and are required to pay tuition at the established district rate. The period of attendance may not exceed 12 months.

Exchange students attending district schools on a J-1 Visa as part of a group-sponsored program are not required to pay tuition.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 339.133

ORS 433.267

OAR 581-022-2000

Illegal Immigration and Immigration Reform Act of 1996, 8 U.S.C. §§ 1101, 1221, 1252, 1324, 1363, 1367 (2012).

Rainier School District 13

Code: ACB
Adopted: 12/13/21

Every Student Belongs

All students are entitled to a high quality educational experience, free from discrimination or harassment based on perceived race, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability or national origin.

All employees are entitled to work in an environment that is free from discrimination or harassment based on perceived race, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability or national origin.

All visitors are entitled to participate in a school or educational environment that is free from discrimination or harassment based on perceived race, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability or national origin.

“Bias incident” means a person’s hostile expression of animus toward another person, relating to the other person’s perceived race, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability or national origin, of which criminal investigation or prosecution is impossible or inappropriate. Bias incidents may include derogatory language or behavior.

“Symbol of hate” means nooses^[1], symbols of neo-Nazi ideology or the battle flag of the Confederacy.

The district prohibits the use or display of any symbols of hate^{2} on school property³ or in an education program⁴ except where used in teaching curriculum that is aligned with state standards of education for public schools.

In responding to the use of any symbols of hate or bias incidents, the district will use non-disciplinary remedial action whenever appropriate.

The district prohibits retaliation against an individual^{5} because that individual has in good faith reported information that the individual believes is evidence of a violation of a state or federal law, rule or regulation.

¹ [The display of a noose on public property with the intent to intimidate may be a Class A Misdemeanor under Senate Bill 398 (2021).]

² {Prior to adopting the symbols of hate prohibition, or adding other symbols to the list, we recommend that the district document why the district feels that the presence of these symbols will cause a “material and substantial interference with schoolwork or discipline” or collide “with the rights of other students to be secure and be let alone.” These reasons may include previous incidents, current conditions in the schools and other factors.}

³ “School property” means any property under the control of the district.

⁴ “Education program” includes any program, service, school or activity sponsored by the district.

⁵ {ORS 659.852 prohibits retaliation only against students. Other statutes (and other complaint procedures) prohibit retaliation against staff and others for reporting or providing information regarding a complaint or investigation.}

Nothing in this policy is intended to interfere with the lawful use of district facilities pursuant to a lease or license.

The district will use administrative regulation ACB-AR - Bias Incident Complaint Procedure to process reports or complaints of bias incidents.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

<u>ORS 659.850</u>	<u>OAR 581-022-2312</u>	House Bill 2697 (2021)
<u>ORS 659.852</u>	<u>OAR 581-022-2370</u>	House Bill 3041 (2021)
<u>OAR 581-002-0005</u>		

Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Cmty. Sch. Dist., 393 U.S. 503 (1969).
Dariano v. Morgan Hill Unified Sch. Dist., 767 F.3d 764 (9th Cir. 2014).
State v. Robertson, 293 Or. 402 (1982).

Rainier School District 13

Code: ACB-AR
Adopted: 12/13/21

Bias Incident Complaint Procedure

The terms “bias incident” and “symbols of hate” are defined in policy. Persons impacted by a bias incident or display of a symbol of hate shall be defined broadly to include persons directly targeted by an act, as well as the community of students as a whole who are likely to be impacted by the act.¹

Step 1^{2}: When a staff member learns of a potential bias incident or display of a symbol of hate, the staff member will prioritize the safety and well-being of all persons impacted and immediately report the incident to the building administrator.

Step 2: The administrator or designee shall acknowledge receipt of the complaint, reduce the complaint to writing, and investigate any complaint of a bias incident. Responding staff will recognize the experience of all persons impacted, acknowledge the impact, commit to taking immediate action, and commit to preventing further harm against those persons impacted from taking place. Educational components and redirection procedures, if any, will:

- Address the history and impact of bias and hate;
- Advance the safety and healing of those impacted by bias and hate;
- Promote accountability and transformation for people who cause harm; and
- Promote transformation of the conditions that perpetuated the harm.^{3}

The administrator or designee must consider whether the behavior implicates other district policies or civil rights laws, and if so, respond accordingly⁴.

The administrator or designee will [make a determination within 10 days of receiving the complaint.

All persons impacted by the act will be provided with information⁵ relating to the investigation and outcome of the investigation, including:

- Notice that an investigation has been initiated;

¹ The term “complainant” in this administrative regulation includes persons filing formal complaints and persons reporting bias incidents, regardless of whether the complainant is a victim. Similarly, the term “complaint” includes any report, information or complaint.

² {These specific steps and procedures are not required. The procedures must include all of the requirements listed in House Bill 2697 § 1(3)(e) (2021) and OAR 581-022-2312(4)(e). If making changes, we recommend working closely with legal counsel.}

³ {Additional guidance from ODE can be found [here](#).}

⁴ The nature of the behavior or act must determine the process used to respond; what rights and protections are available to the person(s) impacted by the behavior or act; and an individual’s right to appeal to the Oregon Department of Education or the U.S. Department of Education.

⁵ For additional information regarding required notices, see OAR 581-022-2312(4)(e)(E).

- Notice when an investigation has been completed;
- Findings of the investigation and the final determination based on those findings;
- Actions taken to remedy a person's behavior and prevent reoccurrence; and
- When applicable, the legal citation of any law prohibiting disclosure of any information described above, and an explanation of how that law applies to the current situation.

Step 3: If complainant or a respondent wishes to appeal the decision of the administrator or designee, the complainant or respondent may submit a written appeal to the superintendent within five school days after receipt of the administrator or designee's response to the complaint.

The superintendent or designee shall acknowledge receipt of the appeal and may meet with all parties involved. The superintendent or designee will review the merits of the complaint and the administrator or designee's decision. The superintendent or designee will respond in writing to the complainant within 10 school days.

The superintendent or designee will ensure that the requirements in Steps 1 and 2 (redirection procedures, notice, etc.) are continued to be met through Step 3, as appropriate.

Step 4: If the complainant or respondent is not satisfied with the decision of the superintendent or designee, a written appeal may be filed with the Board within five school days of receipt of the superintendent or designee's response to Step 3. The Board may decide to hear or deny the request for appeal at a Board meeting. The Board may use an executive session if the subject matter qualifies under Oregon law. If the Board decides to hear the appeal, the Board may meet with the concerned parties and their representative at a Board meeting. The Board's decision will be final and will address each allegation in the complaint and contain reasons for the Board's decision. A copy of the Board's final decision shall be sent to the complainant in writing within 10 days of this meeting.

The Board will ensure that the requirements in Steps 1 and 2 (redirection procedures, notice, etc.) are continued to be met through Step 4, as appropriate.

Complaints can be filed with or communicated directly to the administrator or designee, in which case Step 1 will be skipped. Complaints against the administrator can be directed to the superintendent or designee and will begin at Step 3. Complaints against the superintendent or a Board member(s) can be directed to the Board and will begin at Step 4. If complaints begin later than Step 1, the individuals reviewing the complaint will ensure that all requirements are met.

The complainant, if a person who resides in the district or a parent or guardian of a student who attends school in the district is not satisfied after exhausting local complaint procedures, the district fails to render a written decision within 30 days of submission of the complaint at any step or fails to resolve the complaint within 90 days of the initial filing of the complaint, may appeal⁶ the district's final decision to the Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction under Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 581-002-0001 – 581-002-0023.

⁶ An appeal must meet the criteria found in OAR 581-002-0005(1)(a).

Complaints may also be filed directly with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.⁷

Building administrators will develop and implement instructional materials to ensure that all school employees, staff and students are made aware of the policy, this administrative regulation and related practices. The materials will include reporting procedures, educational processes, and possible consequences.

When necessary, timelines may be adjusted by the district by communicating to all parties in writing. This communication must include a new timeline and an explanation of why the timeline must be adjusted.

⁷ Complaints must meet criteria as established by law. For more information, visit <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html>

Rainier School District 13

Code: DBEA
Adopted: 2/21/07
Revised/Readopted: 10/14/19
Orig. Code(s): DBEA

Budget Committee

Organization, Membership and Terms of Office

The district budget committee will consist of the seven members of the Board and seven electors appointed by the Board as required by law. Terms of the appointed members of a budget committee in a district that prepares an annual budget will be three years each with appointments made so that, as nearly as practicable, the terms of one-third of the members expire each year.

The Board will establish appropriate timelines and procedures for the appointment of budget committee members.

A majority of the constituted committee is required for passing an action item. Majority for a 14-member budget committee is 8. Therefore, if only 8 members are present, a unanimous vote is needed for passing an action item.

Presiding Officer and Orientation of Budget Committee

1. Organization: The budget committee will hold its first regular organizational meeting on a day set by the Board. A presiding officer shall be elected from among its members at this meeting. Such meeting may be prior to or on the date the budget message and document are presented.
2. Background Information: Budget committee members will be provided with data for the ensuing year, such as the Board's educational plan, and other pertinent material bearing on the preparation of a school budget.

Meetings of the Budget Committee

The district's budget committee shall hold one or more meetings to receive the budget message, the budget document, and to provide members of the public with an opportunity to ask questions about and comment on the budget document. The budget officer shall announce the time and place for all meetings, as provided by law. All meetings of the budget committee are open to the public.

Function of the Budget Committee

It is the function of the budget committee to approve budget estimates for an educational plan previously determined by the Board. No new program will be considered for the budget estimate that has not previously been submitted to the Board and approved as a part of the educational plan. The budget committee will determine levels of spending, but will not determine programs.

Final Action

The budget committee will approve an estimated district budget document for submission to the Board.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 174.130

ORS 192.610 to -192.695

ORS 294.305 to -294.565

ORS 433.835 to -433.875

Cross Reference(s):

DBD - Budget Priorities

DBG - Budget Hearing and Notice