



## BETHEL PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

Where Futures Begin

◆ Administration Building

◆ 301 Church Rd., Bethel Park, PA 15102

◆ Phone: (412) 854-8420

◆ [www.bpsd.org](http://www.bpsd.org)

**Elizabeth Wells**

Coordinator of Curriculum, K-12

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### *Title I Complaint Procedures*

#### **Introduction**

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 requires State Educational Agencies (SEAs) to adopt written procedures for “receiving and resolving and complaint alleging violations of the law in the administration of programs.” In accordance with this legislative requirement, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has also required Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to adopt written procedures for resolving complaints filed.

#### **Definition**

A “complaint” is written, signed statement filed by an individual or an organization. It must include:

- a) A statement that a school has violated a requirement of federal statute or regulation that applies to Title I.
- b) The facts on which the statement is based.
- c) Information on any discussions, meetings or correspondence with a school regarding the complaint.

#### **Complaint Resolution Procedures**

- 1) Referral – Complaints against schools should be referred the District’s Federal/State Programs  
Bethel Park School District  
301 Church RD  
Bethel Park, PA 15102
- 2) Notice to School – The Federal/State Programs Office will notify the school Superintendent and Principal that a complaint has been received. A copy of the complaint will be given to the Superintendent and Principal with direction given to the Principal to respond
- 3) Investigation – After receiving the Principal’s response, The Federal/State Programs Office, along with the Superintendent, will determine whether further investigation is necessary. If necessary, the Federal/State Programs Director and the Superintendent may do an onsite investigation at the school.
- 4) Opportunity to Present Evidence – Federal/State Programs Director may provide for the complainant and the Principal to present evidence.
- 5) Report and Recommended Resolution – Once The Federal/State Programs Director has completed the investigation and the taking of evidence, a report will be prepared with recommendation for resolving the complaint. The report will give the name of the party bringing the complaint, the nature of the complaint, a summary of the investigation, the recommended resolution and the reasons for the recommendation. Copies of the report will be issued to all parties involved. The recommended resolution will become effective upon issuance of the report.

#### **MISSION**

To lead an educational partnership with the community, maintaining an environment that challenges all students to reach their potential as lifelong learners and responsible members of society.



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- 6) Follow up – The Federal/State Programs Director and the Superintendent will ensure that the resolution of the complaint is implemented.
- 7) Time Limit – The period between the Federal/State Programs Director receiving the complaint and resolution of the complaint shall not exceed thirty (30) calendar days.
- 8) Right to Appeal – Either party may appeal the final resolution the Department of Education.

Appeals should be addressed as follows:

Mrs. Susan McCrone, Acting Chief  
Division of Federal Programs  
Pennsylvania Department of Education  
333 Market Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

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