

## 4.11—EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

No student in the Benton School District shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity sponsored by the District. The District has a limited open forum granting equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other youth groups.

### ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS

It is hereby declared the intent of the Board of Education of the Benton School District No. 8, Benton, Arkansas, to comply with the guidelines of Title VI, Section 601, Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX, Section 901, Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

#### Designation of Civil Rights Coordinators

The Benton School District Board of Education hereby designates:

Administrator Title VI (Race)	Administrator 504, ADA (Disability)	Administrator Title IX (Sex)
Asst. Supt. of Personnel and Student Services 207 W. Conway Street Benton, AR 72015 (501) 778-4861 <a href="mailto:info@bentonschools.org">info@bentonschools.org</a>	Director of Special Education 207 W. Conway Street Benton, AR 72015 (501) 778-4861 <a href="mailto:info@bentonschools.org">info@bentonschools.org</a>	Asst. Supt. of Personnel and Student Services 207 W. Conway Street Benton, AR 72015 (501) 778-4861 <a href="mailto:info@bentonschools.org">info@bentonschools.org</a>

It is the responsibility of the Administrators to investigate complaints of non-compliance.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination or to file a complaint, visit <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm>; for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

#### Grievance Procedures

The board specifies that problems that the Administrator is unable to resolve through appropriate procedures should be submitted in writing and shall be signed by the person filing the complaint. The administrator shall investigate such complaints along with the Grievance Committee appointed by the Board of Education. The administrator shall provide a written report of the Committee's decision within ten working days, to the Superintendent of Schools. If the individual filing the complaint feels the problem has not been resolved, appeal may be made to the Superintendent of Schools in writing. Should the complainant wish to appeal the Superintendent's response, he/she may do so by filing the complaint in writing to the Board of Education, c/o Superintendent's Office, P.O. Box 939, Benton, AR 72018. The Board will notify the complainant of the date, time and place of the hearing before the Board. Following the hearing, the Board will render a decision within a reasonable time and notify the complainant in writing.

The Grievance Committee will consist of two administrators and a representative from each school site. The administrators will be appointed by the superintendent/designee on a case by case basis. Building representatives shall be elected annually by certified building personnel. One representative from each building shall be elected by majority vote at each school site by the September board meeting.

## STUDENT CONDUCT

### *Students Rights and Responsibilities*

Students have rights which should be recognized and respected. Every right carries with it certain responsibilities. Among these rights and responsibilities are the following:

- A. The right to attend free public schools—the responsibility to attend school regularly and to observe school rules essential for permitting others to learn at school;
- B. The right to quality education—the responsibility to put forth best efforts during the educational process;
- C. Civil rights—including the rights to equal educational opportunity and freedom from discrimination and the responsibility not to discriminate against others;
- D. The right to due process of law with respect to suspension and expulsion; and,
- E. The right to privacy which includes privacy in respect to the student’s school records.

As part of the educational process, students should be made aware of their legal rights and of the legal authority of the Board of Education to make and delegate authority to its staff to make rules regarding the orderly operation of the schools. If the policy guidelines adopted by the Board are to be successful, it must be understood that school officials and teachers have the authority to interpret and apply them in a given situation. Students must obey any such interpretation subject to an appeal.

Petitions may not be circulated in school buildings without the approval of the principal or Superintendent of Schools. Prevention of disruption in the educational process is paramount in ensuring a continuous, positive learning environment.

When the rights and responsibilities of individuals are clearly understood, the elements of respect and cooperation will result in the harmonious and constructive education of the student.

All petitions shall be free of obscenities, libelous statements and personal attack and shall be within the bounds of reasonable conduct. Students signing such petitions shall be free from recrimination or retribution from members of the staff and administration.

Legal References:     A.C.A. § 6-10-132  
                              A.C.A. § 6-18-514  
                              28 C.F.R. § 35.106  
                              34 C.F.R. § 100.6  
                              34 C.F.R. § 104.8  
                              34 C.F.R. § 106.9

34 C.F.R. § 108.9  
34 C.F.R. § 110.25  
Civil Rights Act of 1964, Education Amendment of 1972, Section  
504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Date Adopted: 09/08/2003  
Last Revised: 04/09/2018