# AGENDA

# **BOARD OF EDUCATION • LEVITTOWN, NEW YORK**

LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT • TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD • LEVITTOWN, NEW YORK www.levittownschools.com

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

LEVITTOWN MEMORIAL EDUCATION CENTER Wednesday, July 5, 2017

6:30 PM (Meeting convenes with anticipated adjournment to Executive Session)
 7:30 PM (Organization Meeting reconvenes in Public Session with Regular Meeting to immediately follow)
 Success for Every Student

# **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

This meeting will be devoted to reports from the Superintendent of Schools and Board Members, regular agenda items of old and new business and schedules.

Immediately following Board Members reports, a period not to exceed two hours shall be set aside to afford residents of the community and/or school district employees an opportunity to make comments or to raise questions related to school affairs.

# NOTICE

Copies of the agenda are available to the residents of the district at the office of the Board of Education, Levittown Memorial Education Center, 150 Abbey Lane, Levittown, three days prior to the meeting date. Copies of agendas are also available on the district website and at the Levittown Public Library. Tapes of meetings are available at the Levittown Public Library. The official record of meetings is reflected in the Official Minutes.

Anyone requiring a sign language interpreter for this meeting should notify the District Clerk at 434-7002, at least five (5) days before the meeting.

The Levittown Public School District is committed to providing both equal educational opportunity for all students, and equal employment opportunity for all persons consistent with law.

# I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>

## CALL TO ORDER

A. 6:30 P.M. - Anticipated Motion to move to Executive Session.

Recommended Motion: "BE IT RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, move to Executive Session for the purpose of to the Taylor Law involving the CSEA."

- B. 7:30 P.M. Reconvene Public Session
  - 1. Pledge of Allegiance
  - 2. Moment of Silence

# II. <u>PUBLIC PORTION</u>

 1. Appointment of District Clerk
 Enclosure

 \_\_\_\_\_\_moved that Elizabeth Appelbaum be appointed for the position of District

 Clerk for the 2017-18 school year at a salary of \$\_\_\_\_\$XXXX (plus \$3,000 stipend) per year.

2. Election of Temporary Chairperson nominated\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the position of temporary chairperson.

3. Appointment of Temporary Secretary to Record this Meeting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ nominated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the position of temporary secretary to record this meeting.

4. Election of President of Board of Education

\_\_\_\_\_\_nominated\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the position of President of the Board of Education.

5. Election of Vice-President of Board of Education

\_\_\_\_\_ nominated \_\_\_\_\_ for the position of Vice President of the Board of Education.

6. Administration of Oath Administration of Oath to new Board Members and Superintendent

7. Appointment of Attorney Enclosure \_\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Lamb & Barnosky, LLP be appointed as Attorney for regular school business.

8. Appointment of Bond Counsel Enclosure moved that Hawkins, Delafield and Wood, LLP be appointed as Bond

9. Appointment of District Architect Enclosure \_\_\_\_\_\_ moved that John A. Grillo, Architect, PC is hereby appointed the Architect of Record for the school year 2017-18, to render such services as determined by the district, with compensation as described as attached.

# 11. Appointment of Insurance Broker of Record

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that NYSIR be appointed as Insurance Broker of Record for the 2017-18 school year.

12. Appointment of Internal Auditor

moved that Cullen and Danowski LLP be appointed Internal Auditor for the school year 2017-18 to render such services as determined by the Personnel office, with compensation provided in the submitted RFP, said payment to be inclusive of disbursements and/or expenses and that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to sign the attached agreement with Cullen and Danowski, LIP.

13. Appointment of External Auditor

\_\_\_\_\_\_moved that R. S. Abrams be appointed External Auditor for the 2017-18 school year to render such services as determined by the Personnel office, with compensation provided in the submitted RFP, said payment to be inclusive of disbursements and/or expenses and that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to sign the attached agreement with R. S. Abrams.

14. Appointment of Claims Auditor Enclosure \_\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Nawrocki Smith be appointed Claims Auditor for the school year 2017-18, to render such services as determined by the job specifications filed in the Personnel Office, with compensation as provided in the submitted RFP, said payment to be inclusive of disbursements and/or expenses and that the Board of Education President is authorized to sign the attached contract with Nawrocki Smith."

# 15. Appointment of Treasurer

moved that Linda Dolecek be appointed for the position of Treasurer, at no additional salary, with the amount of bond fixed at \$1,000,000.

# 16. Appointment of Assistant Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Ping-Yann Chou be appointed to the position of Assistant Treasurer at no additional salary, with the amount of bond fixed at \$1,000,000.

Enclosure

Enclosure

17. Appointment of Purchasing Agent

Enclosure

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Bonnie Pampinella be appointed to the position of Purchasing Agent for the 2017-18 school year; and in her absence, William Pastore at no additional salary.

18. Appointment of Central Treasurers for Extraclassroom Activity

Funds

Recommended motion: "The following be appointed as Central Treasurers for the Extraclassroom Activity Funds for their assigned schools for the 2017-2018 school year.

- Alice LoGiudice Division Avenue
- Diana Benevento MacArthur
- Colleen Eck Jonas Salk
- Janice Friedman Wisdom Lane
- Rachel Flanagan GC Tech"

19. Appointment of Medical InspectorsEnclosure\_\_\_\_\_\_moved that Dr. Suanne Kowal-Connellybe appointed as MedicalInspector at a contractual rate of \$27,500.00 per year.Enclosure

20. Appointment of Medical Review Officer

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Partners in Safety to be appointed as the Medical Review Officer for the district for the 2017-18 school year to provide drug/alcohol tests as needed.

# 21. Appointment of 403(b) and 457 Retirement Savings Plan Providers

moved that Aspire Financial Services, AXA Advisors, AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company, Voya Opportunity Plus, Legend Group/ADSERV, Lincoln Investment Planning, Mass Mutual-Panorama, Metlife, Mutual Inc. Financial Services, Oppenheimer Shareholder Services, and New York State Deferred Compensation as official retirement savings plan providers.

22. Appointment of Third Party Administrator for 403(b) and 457 Enclosure Retirement Plan Providers

moved that OMNI is appointed as third party administrator for 403(b) and 457 Retirement Savings Plan Providers.

23. Appointment of Surrogate Parent

Recommended Motion: "WHEREAS the Commissioner's Regulation Part 200, subchapter P, requires each local Board of Education to annually appoint surrogate parents who will represent the interests of a student with a disability whose parents are either unknown or unable to provide such representation at Committee on Special Education (CSE) meetings and/or hearings; and

WHEREAS, the Levittown CSE has carefully canvassed those persons who have demonstrated a willingness to serve in such capacity,

# AGENDA

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Karen Buttner, 57 Barbara Lane, Levittown be appointed as a surrogate parent for the 2017-2018 school year."

24. Appointment of Committee on Special Education and Committee Enclosure on Preschool Special Education

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education appoint the five parent members on the attached list dated July 1, 2017, all chairpersons, psychologists and special and regular education teachers of special education students as well as Dr. Donald Sturz, Jordan Margolis, Dr. Susan Farber, Dr. Sean Haggerty, Dawn Wang, Rocco Ognibene, Richard Cirillo, Terence Rusch, Julia Joshuakutty, Dr. Margaret Ippolito and Dr. Noreen Vail-Gandolfo to serve on the District Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education for the 2017-2018 school year."

25. Appointment of Impartial Hearing Officers

Recommended Motion: "WHEREAS, the Commissioner's Regulation Section 200.5, requires each local Board of Education to annually appoint impartial hearing officers in the event of an appeal of a CSE action by a parent of a student with a disability, or a student with a disability over the age of 18,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, appoint all impartial hearing officers from the district-specific Nassau County list of Impartial Hearing Officers as maintained by the Impartial Hearing Reporting System for the 2017-2018 school year; and authorizes the President of the Board of Education to appoint Impartial Hearing Officers from the above mentioned list on a rotational basis."

26. Appointment of Section 504 Coordinator

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Rocco Ognibene be appointed as Section 504 Coordinator for Levittown Public Schools.

27. Appointment of School Pesticide Representative

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Christopher Milano be appointed as School Pesticide Representative for Levittown Public Schools.

28. Appointment of Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act Designee

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Christopher Milano be appointed as Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) designee for Levittown Public Schools.

29. Appointment of Chemical Hygiene Committee

moved that James Ripka (MacArthur High School), Jennifer Appleton (Salk Middle School), Meghan Olsen (Wisdom Lane Middle School), and Sarah Labonte (Division Avenue High School) be appointed as Chemical Hygiene Committee for Levittown Public Schools.

30. Appointment of Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Coordinators

moved that Debbie Rifkin, George Maurer, Frank Mortillaro, Jeanmarie Wink, Jared Vanderbeck, Anthony Goss, Keith Squillacioti, John Zampaglione, John Avena, John Coscia and Joseph Sheehan be appointed as Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Coordinators for Levittown Public Schools.

# 31. Appointment of Records Officer

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Debbie Rifkin be appointed as Records Officer for Levittown Public Schools.

32. Appointment of Records Appeals Officer

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Dr. Tonie McDonald be appointed as Records Appeals Officer for Levittown Public Schools.

33. Appointment of Residency Officer

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Debbie Rifkin be appointed as Residency Officer for Levittown Public Schools.

34. Appointment of Homeless Liaison

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Jordan Margolis be appointed as Homeless Liaison for Levittown Public Schools.

35. Appointment of District Attendance Officer

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Debbie Rifkin be appointed as Attendance Officer for Levittown Public Schools.

36. Appointment of Prevailing Wage Designee

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Christopher Milano be appointed as Prevailing Wage Designee for Levittown Public Schools.

37. Civil Rights Compliance Officer

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that Debbie Rifkin be appointed Civil Rights Compliance Officer of the Levittown Public Schools for the 2017-18 school year and, in her absence, William Pastore.

38. Readoption of Board of Education Policies Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, readopt all existing policies without changes. These policies need Board of Education review every year."

39. District Code of Conduct Enclosure Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby,

# 40. Designation of Alternate to Sign Checks

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that the President of the Board of Education be designated to sign checks in the absence of the Treasurer and the Assistant Treasurer.

# 41. Audit Committee

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED that the Levittown Board of Education as a whole shall, heretofore, constitute the Audit Committee."

# 42. Finance Manager Permissions

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Director of Computer and Media Services is, hereby, designated to be the District individual responsible for adding new users in Finance Manager, and the Principal Account Clerk assigned to Department of Human Resources or the Treasurer with the approval of the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance, is responsible for assigning Finance Manager permissions and privileges."

# 43. Petty Cash Accounts

Recommended Motion: "BE IT RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, appoint the following as treasurers for a petty cash fund in the amount of \$100 for the 2017-18 school year:

- Dr. Tonie McDonald, Superintendent of Schools
- Todd Winch, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
- Debbie Rifkin, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Personnel
- William Pastore, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance
- Dr. Donald Sturz, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services
- Todd Connell, Director, Computer Department
- J. Keith Snyder, Director, Health, Physical Education and Athletics
- Dajuana Reeves, Supervisor, Transportation Department
- Christopher Milano, Supervisor, Buildings and Grounds
- Dr. George Maurer, Principal, Abbey Lane School
- Jeanmarie Wink, Principal, East Broadway School
- Dr. Jared Vanderbeck, Principal, Gardiners Avenue School
- Anthony Goss, Principal, Lee Road School
- Frank Mortillaro, Principal, Northside School
- Keith Squillacioti, Principal, Summit Lane School
- John Zampaglione, Principal, Jonas Salk Middle School

# AGENDA

Page - 8

Enclosure

- John Avena, Principal, Wisdom Lane Middle School
- John Coscia, Principal, Division Avenue High School
- Joseph Sheehan, Principal, MacArthur High School
- Frank Creter, Director, GC Tech"

# 44. Finance Manager Permissions

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Director of Computer and Media Services is, hereby, designated to be the District individual responsible for adding new users in Finance Manager, and the Principal Account Clerk assigned to the Business Office or the Treasurer with the approval of the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance, is responsible for giving out permissions and code assignments."

# 45. Mileage Compensation

moved that the mileage compensation rate for employee use of personal cars in the conduct of District business be approved at the IRS prevailing rate of 53.5 cents per mile and remaining in effect for the 2017-18 school year.

46. Purchasing Policy and Procedures Manual Enclosure Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached 'Purchasing Policy & Procedures Manual for the 2017-18 school year."

47. Authorization to sell RANS, TANS, BANS

Recommended motion: "RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education, subject to the provisions of local finance law, is delegated the power to authorize the issuance and to sell RANS, TANS and BANS including renewals thereof, in anticipation of the collection of revenues for the fiscal year."

# 48. Authorization to Approve Conference Requests

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction be authorized to approve conference attendance requests with approved expenses as permitted by Section 77-6 of the General Municipal Law."

# 49. Certifier of Payrolls

Recommended motion: "RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools or her designee are authorized to certify payrolls of the district."

# 50. Certifier of Payrolls - Civil Service Report

Recommended motion: "RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is authorized as Certifier of Payrolls for the Annual Civil Service Report."

# 51. Authorization of Grants

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is authorized to sign all applications and claims relating to Federal and State Grant applications."

# 52. Designation of Depositories

\_\_\_\_\_ moved that the following institutions be designated as official depositories:

- JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.
- HSBC Bank USA, N.A.
- Astoria Bank
- Citibank
- New York Community Bancorp
- First National Bank of Long Island
- Flushing Bank
- Bank of America

# 53. Designation of Newspapers

\_\_\_\_\_\_moved that at the discretion of the Board of Education and the Superintendent, that the Levittown Tribune, the Wantagh Herald Citizen and the Seaford Herald Citizen be designated as the newspapers for the district for the 2017-18 school year.

# 54. Dance Program Tuition

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the following increase to the Dance Program tuition commencing July 1, 2017:

Dance classes: \$170 per class/per year

Gymnastics classes \$190 per class/per year."

55. Driver Education Tuition Inclusive Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve no increase to the Driver Education tuition of \$475 for the 2017-18 school year."

56. Memorandum of Understanding - Confidential Employees Enclosure Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Levittown Union Free School District and confidential employees: Randi D'Ambrosio, Jill Steiger, Cathy Dinda, Susan Garibaldi, Debby Sloan, and Charlene Drewes, as per the terms of the attached Memorandums of Understanding;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to sign the attached Memorandum of Understanding."

57. Employee Salaries Not Covered by Collective Bargaining Enclosure moved that the salaries for the following employees not covered by a

# AGENDA

Page - 10 collective bargaining agreement be set as follows for the 2017-18 school year.

# Labor Seasonal/Summer Worker Rates:

Year 1 \$10.00/hr.

Year 2 \$11.00/hr.

# **Election Worker Rates:**

Chairperson/Inspector \$11.00/hr.

Election Workers \$9.00/hr.

# **Substitute Teacher Rate:**

\$100/day

# Substitute Nurse Rate:

see CSEA schedule for P/T Registered Nurse

# Substitute Teacher Aides/Monitor Rate:

see CSEA schedule for P/T aides/monitors

#### **Substitute Clerical Rate:**

see CSEA schedule for P/T clerical

# **Substitute Cleaner Rate:**

see CSEA schedule for P/T cleaner

# **Substitute Security:**

see CSEA schedule for P/T security aide

# **Dance Program:**

Trainee:		\$10.14/hr.
Level 1	New employees w/full class, minimum experience	\$10.51/hr.
Level 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> year teaching and/or minimum experience	\$15.77/hr.
Level 3	3-4 years in program and/or intermediate level experience	\$16.89/hr.
Level 4	More than 4 years in program and/or experienced	\$21.41/hr.
Level 5	More than 20 years in program and/or master teacher	\$24.79/hr.
	with advanced training	
Gymnastic	s: Coordinator - level 2 - with limited experience	\$24.79/hr.
Gymnastic	s: Coordinator - level 1 - experience personnel	\$36.86/hr.

# **Recital Pay:**

Except where noted, recital pay is based on 3 days of work (dress rehearsal and 2 performances)

AGENDA		July 5, 2017					
Page - 11 A.	Director	\$1,000					
В.	Stage Manager	\$1,000					
C.	Assistant Stage Manager	\$950					
D.	Artwork, program cover	\$250					
E.	Artwork, stage scenery	\$250					
F.	Program/brochure layout	\$170					
G.	Recording music	\$200					
H.	Stage crew, level 1	\$200					
I.	Stage crew, level 2	\$220					
J.	Stage crew, level 3	\$240					
Κ	Stage assistants	\$300					
	1.Dressing room monitors						
	2.Gathering/holding room monitors						
	3.Hairdresser						
	4.Hall monitors						
	5.Runners						
	6.Station monitors						
	7.Ushers						
L.	Security (2 days)	\$400					
Dance Fac	ulty						
Level 1 (1-	\$300						
Level 2 (3	\$375						
Level 3 (4 classes in recital) \$450							
Level 4 (5	classes in recital)	\$600					
Level 5 (5	classes in recital & additional responsibilities)	\$750					

The Board of Education will now continue with the regular business meeting agenda.

Attachment: Lamb and Barnosky (2679 : Appointment of Attorney)

# **Levittown Public Schools**

# CONTRACT REQUEST FORM

Only the Board of Education is authorized to enter into contracts for the District. Please use this form when you need to get a vendor approved to perform services for the District. Please leave enough lead time in the process. The contract must go to the Board of Education <u>prior</u> to the services being performed. Additionally, a Purchase Order must be completed in Finance Manager (which can be done prior to contract approval). Once the Board of Education approves the contract, please include the date approved in the body of your Purchase Order (it streamlines the PO approval process and the audit of District payments). Thank You.

Vendor Name:	Lamb & Barne	osky								
Date(s) of Service:	7/1/17-6/30/18									
Description of Servic	es Attorneys	Retai	ner as Gene	ral and Labor Counsel						
Rate for Services: \$7:	5,000.00 retaine	er \$25	5.00 standa	rd hourly rate \$150.00	legal asst.					
Annual Estimate Cost at time of approval: \$75,000.00										
Prior Year Rate for S	ervices:	\$70,0	00 & \$250.0	00 hourly rate						
Administrator Reques	sting: William l	Pastore								
Is the contract signed	by the other pa	arty:_	Yes	No						
Is the contract dated b	by the other par	ty:	Ver	Nie						
Are there any attachn	nents?		Yes	No						
-			Yes	No						
Budget Code (on pure	chase order):		04000 04100							
Purchase order		A142	04100							

# **Routing:**

- 1. Attorney review:
- 2. Department Administrator
- 3. Business Office Review

William & Partne

4. Board of Education Meeting date

July 5, 2017

# Return to: Jill Steiger

Rev. 11/18/15

2.7.a

# RFP-LPS-16-001 - LEGAL/GENERAL COUNSEL SERVICES PROPOSAL FORM

#### PRIMARY ATTORNEY:

1. Services to be provided in the annual retainer fee: SEE EXHIBIT G ATTACHED.

16



LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Levittown Memorial Education Center 150 Abbey Lane Levittown, New York 11756



2. Services to be provided in special litigation matters: SEE BELOW.

3. Schedule of professional fees and expenses (fill-in chart below):

	RETAINER	STANDARD HOURLY RATES (For special See litigation)Exh.	QUOTED HOURLY RATES (For special litigation)
<b>2016-2017</b> July 1 – June 30	\$ 70,000.00	\$ <u>450.00</u> /hour fot attorneys	\$ <u>250.00</u> /hour
<b>2017-2018</b> July 1 – June 30	\$ 75,000.00	\$ <u>450.00</u> /hour	\$ 255.00/hour
<b>2018-2019</b> July 1 – June 30	\$ 75,000.00	\$ <u>450.00</u> /hour	\$ <u>260.00</u> /hour
<b>2019-2020</b> July 1 – June 30	\$ 80,000.00	\$ <u>450.00</u> /hour	\$265.00/hour
<b>2020-2021</b> July 1 – June 30	\$ 80,000.00	\$ <u>450.00</u> /hour	\$ 270.00/hour
Out-of-Pocket Expenses: Meals & Lodging Transportation Other: (specify)			



LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Levittown Memorial Education Center 150 Abbey Lane Levittown, New York 11756



## ATTORNEY FOR SPECIAL MATTERS:

Schedule of professional fees and expenses (fill-in chart below):

	STANDARD HOURLY RATES	QUOTED HOURLY RATES
<b>2016-2017</b> July 1 – June 30	\$450.00 Avour	\$ <u>260.00</u> /hour
2017-2018 July 1 - June 30	\$ <u>450.00</u> /hour	\$ <u>265.00</u> /hour
2018-2019 July 1 - June 30	\$ <u>450.00</u> /hour	\$ <u>270.00</u> /hour
<b>2019-2020</b> July 1 – June 30	\$ 450.00/hour	\$_275.00/hour
2020-2021 July 1 – June 30	\$ <u>450.00</u> /hour	\$280.00/hour
Out-of-Pocket Expenses: Meals & Lodging Transportation Other: (specify)		

# **Levittown Public Schools**

# CONTRACT REQUEST FORM

Only the Board of Education is authorized to enter into contracts for the District. Please use this form when you need to get a vendor approved to perform services for the District. Please leave enough lead time in the process. The contract must go to the Board of Education <u>prior</u> to the services being performed. Additionally, a Purchase Order must be completed in Finance Manager (which can be done prior to contract approval). Once the Board of Education approves the contract, please include the date approved in the body of your Purchase Order (it streamlines the PO approval process and the audit of District payments). Thank You.

Vendor Name:	Hawkins Delfield & Wood								
Date(s) of Service: 7/1/17-6/30/18									
Description of Services Attorneys Service for Bond Counsel									
Rate for Services:Please see attachedAnnual Estimate Cost at time of approval:\$									
Prior Year Rate for S	ervices:								
Administrator Reque	sting: William F	astore							
Is the contract signed	by the other pa		x <i>7</i>	N					
Is the contract dated l	by the other part		Yes	No					
Are there any attachn	nents?		Yes	No					
The mere any addent			Yes	No					
Budget Code (on pur	chase order):	A13104	1000						
Purchase order									

# **Routing:**

- 1. Attorney review:
- 2. Department Administrator
- 3. Business Office Review
- 4. Board of Education Meeting date

William glastor

July 5, 2017

Return to: Jill Steiger



PHONE: 212-820-9300 FAX: 212-514-8425 28 LIBERTY STREET NEW YORK, NY 10005 WWW.HAWKINS.COM

(212) 820-9406

June 6, 2017

NEW YORK WASHINGTON NEWARK HARTFORD LOS ANGELES SACRAMENTO SAN FRANCISCO PORTLAND ANN ARBOR

# Levittown Union Free School District, New York Letter of Engagement for 2017-2018 Fiscal Year

William J. Pastore Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance Levittown Union Free School District Levittown Memorial Education Center 150 Abbey Lane Levittown NY 11756

Dear Bill:

via e-mail: wpastore@levittownschools.com

# **BOND COUNSEL ENGAGEMENT LETTER FOR 2017-2018**

This is a Letter of Engagement to retain our services as bond counsel to the Levittown Union Free School District, in the County of Nassau, New York (the "School District") for the school year commencing **July 1, 2017** and ending **June 30, 2018**, in relation to a capital project that may be submitted to the voters of the School District during the **2017-2018** school year. Accordingly, I have assembled information about our services and the fees associated therewith, and it is set forth below. Should any other School District financing requirements arise during the **2017-2018** fiscal year, we will supplement this letter.

**SERVICES:** Our primary responsibility as Bond Counsel is to render an opinion in connection with each issue of obligations by the School District, which expresses our belief (i) that the obligations have been properly authorized and issued and are valid, (ii) that the essential sources of security for the obligations have been legally provided for and (iii) that interest on the obligations is exempt from federal income taxation. A significant emphasis in discharging these responsibilities is the preparation of a record sufficient to enable us to render our opinion. However, in the process of reaching the point at which we have prepared such a record, we are called upon to perform a number of related functions, which may include the following:

> (1) Participation in conferences and telephone discussions with representatives of the School District regarding the School District's capital financing program and requirements;

- Advice in connection with the School District's compliance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA");
- (3) Preparation and delivery of a bond issue time-table/calendar letter, if requested, for use by the Administration and Board of Education;
- (4) Preparation of all finance authorization documents relating to the bond referendum;
- (5) Review of affidavits of newspaper publishers with respect to the publication of the official notices of election;
- (6) Review of election documents and procedures including:
  - Review of Resolution appointing officers to act at the Annual or Special District Meeting,
  - (b) Review of oaths of Inspectors of Election, and
  - (c) Review of Certificate of Inspectors of Election, and certificate of canvass of the vote;
- Preparation of the bond resolution to be adopted by the Board of Education after a successful referendum;
- (8) Review of affidavits of newspaper publishers with respect to the publication of the bond resolution;
- (9) Preparation and review of architect's affidavit(s), if needed;
- (10) Participation in conferences and telephone conversations, if needed, with representatives of the School District and State Department of Education Office of Facilities Planning officials with respect to final plan and specifications approval procedures and status;
- (11) Participation in conferences and telephone conversations, if needed, with representatives of the School District, the School District's financial advisor and State Department of Education Office of State Aid with respect to state aid questions;
- (12) Providing advice and consultation with respect to compliance with applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, including all federal arbitrage regulations;
- (13) Participation with the School District and its financial advisors in scheduling and structuring each bond and note financing;
- (14) Assistance in drafting and review of agreements, forms and underlying documentation relating to the financing;

- (15) Assistance in the preparation of the official statement used in the public offering of the School District's bonds and notes;
- (16) Review of maturity schedules and official statements prepared by the School District's financial advisor, including:
  - (a) Review of each proposed maturity schedule for each bond issue to verify compliance with legal requirements,
  - (b) Review of the final maturity for each bond issue to verify compliance with legal requirements (i.e. amount of annual installments and adherence to the appropriate period of probable usefulness pursuant to the Local Finance Law),
  - (c) Review and modification of, where appropriate, the description of constitutional and statutory requirements and procedures as described in each official statement,
  - (d) Review of the overall content of each official statement, and
  - (e) Participation in telephone conversations with representatives of the School District with respect to any pending litigation which may need to be disclosed in the official statement;
- (17) Preparation and drafting of the Certificate of Determination to be executed by the President of the Board of Education as the chief fiscal officer of the School District, which document authorizes the sale of each issue of bonds or notes, describes and sets forth the terms, forms and details thereof, and makes provision for the School District's continuing disclosure obligations under applicable federal securities laws and/or regulations;
- (18) Preparation and drafting of the legal Notice of Sale to be circulated to the investment community in connection with sale of bonds;
- (19) Preparation and drafting of the cost-effective short version "Summary" legal Notice of Sale, to be published in the School District's official newspaper and "*The Bond Buyer*;"
- (20) Preparation of the form of the bond for each bond sale;
- (21) Preparation of the draft opinion for each bond sale, and the furnishing of same to the credit rating agencies and bond insurance companies, as requested;
- (22) Preparation of all continuing disclosure agreements, as required under applicable federal securities laws and/or regulations;
- (23) Review of the draft preliminary official statement;
- (24) Assistance, upon request, in the negotiation of contracts and other matters related to the bond and note offering and rendering of additional opinions as to specific matters;

- (25) Consultation with the School District, its accountants and attorneys, credit rating agencies, municipal bond insurers and others in regard to the financing;
- (26) Review of the debt statement prepared by the School District with the assistance of the financial advisor and filed with the State Comptroller prior to the sale of each bond issue;
- (27) Administrative coordination of meetings and sale arrangements, including attendance at and supervision of all bond and note sales conducted in our offices;
- (28) Preparation, drafting and review of closing papers including:
  - (a) Certificate of Award of the President of the Board of Education,
  - (b) Closing Certificates,
  - (c) School Attorney's Certificate,
  - (d) Certificate of Delivery and Payment,
  - (e) Tax Certificate, and
  - (f) Certificate with Respect to the Official Statement;
- (29) Attending to all necessary Internal Revenue Service issue reporting requirements, as required pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;
- (30) Review of municipal bond insurance policy and related documents provided by bond insurer, in the event a bond issue is insured;
- (31) Delivery of securities to The Depository Trust Company in New Jersey to be held in escrow until the closing;
- (32) Preparation of formal and reliance opinions, as well as requested transcripts of proceedings, for delivery to the bond insurer for every bond issue which is insured;
- (33) Administrative coordination of bond and note closings with School District, financial advisor, underwriter and the Depository Trust Company;
- (34) Rendering of our final approving legal opinion with respect to each financing;
- (35) Continuous and unlimited communication with the School District throughout the course of each financial transaction; and
- (36) Availability at all times of our skilled and caring team of professionals to assist with any questions or concerns relating directly or indirectly to the transaction.

The scope of our services as Bond Counsel to the School District would also include advice and counsel regarding applicable law and review of financial and debt statements.

In addition, we will assemble a complete record of proceedings to which we would refer when rendering our written opinions that any obligations proposed to be issued by the School District are valid and legally binding, and we will provide advice, including consultations with representatives of the School District and any others who may be involved in the various aspects of the financing. We will prepare all relevant proceedings for action by the Board of Education to authorize the issuance of School District obligations, and we will prepare documentation for the sale and delivery of the School District's bonds and notes, as required.

\* \* \* \*

<u>FEES</u>. We propose the following schedule of fees to pertain to the submission of a capital improvement program/bond issue to the voters of the School District during the **2017-2018** fiscal year.

<u>Authorization:</u> We propose to charge a "bond authorization fee" of not to exceed \$7,500 for the preparation of all requisite resolutions and legal notices pertaining to the submission of one or more propositions at an Annual or Special District Meeting and the subsequent authorization of financing. Said fee would include customary and usual advice and consultation concerning all pre-referendum scheduling and related matters and preparation of all legal proceedings prerequisite to actual borrowing, all as more particularly described above. In the unfortunate event any proposition(s) for capital projects is unsuccessful at referendum, we would charge a fair and reasonable portion of the "bond authorization fee" for services provided through the date of the defeated proposition(s).

Serial Bonds: In connection with the sale of serial bonds, including the preparation of documentation, including the public sale authorization and the legal notice of sale, and for review of the official statement prepared in connection with the public offering of School District securities, we will charge a "bond sale fee" of \$5,750, plus a "per bond fee" based on the amount of bonds sold <u>at any one time</u>, calculated at the rate of \$1.25 per \$1,000 principal amount of bonds sold up to \$15 million, \$1.00 per \$1,000 principal amount of bonds sold in excess of \$15,000,000 and up to \$30,000,000, and 75¢ per \$1,000 principal amount of bonds sold in excess of \$30,000,000. Said fee will include bond referendum scheduling information, advice and consultation, and all other usual and customary services expected to be rendered in connection with the sale of serial bonds of the School District.

**Bond Anticipation Notes**: In the event bond anticipation notes are issued to provide temporary financing, and whether or not serial bonds are ultimately issued, a fee of \$750 will apply to bond anticipation notes in amounts of \$1,000,000 or less, sold through an informal negotiation process and not requiring an official statement. In the alternative, for any bond anticipation notes which are sold pursuant to customary formal public sale procedures, which may require the preparation and circularization of an Official Statement and a Notice of Sale, and

corresponding additional documentation and service provided by Bond Counsel, we will charge a fee of \$3,500 plus an amount based upon the dollar amount of bond anticipation notes sold <u>at</u> <u>any one time</u>, calculated at the rate of 75¢ per \$1,000 principal amount of notes sold up to \$15,000,000, 50¢ per \$1,000 principal amount of notes sold in excess of \$15,000,000 and up to \$30,000,000, and 25¢ per \$1,000 principal amount of notes in excess of \$30,000,000.

**Related Disbursements:** The foregoing fees do not include our out-of-pocket disbursements, such as duplicating, FedEx and other delivery service charges, preparation and filing of IRS 8038 Reporting Forms (\$125 for notes and \$250 for bonds), word-processing, and preparation of book-entry securities, the aggregate amount of which is usually nominal, but not subject to precise statement in advance.

We charge \$325 for the initial book-entry instrument for each bond issue (\$225 for the initial instrument for each note issue), and \$25 for each additional bond instrument and note instrument. Such charge includes our costs of security preparation, as well as our services in delivering such securities to The Depository Trust Company in escrow pending a closing. All services provided by outside vendors (express delivery and messenger service) are billed at actual cost to the firm. We charge \$90 per instrument for note instruments prepared in other than book-entry format.

\* \* \* \*

The fees provided herein for bonds and bond anticipation notes shall apply over a multi-year period to any obligations authorized and/or issued in the **2017-2018** fiscal year, unless and until such fees are modified by mutual consent.

\* \* \* \*

The fees described above do not, of course, include the drafting of legislation or the handling of litigation, none of which is necessary or to be anticipated in an ordinary financing; or assistance in responding to SEC initiatives or inquiries, IRS audits, or any related matters.

It is our practice to submit a bill for our services rendered in connection with any issue within ten days following a closing.

\* \* \* \*

This agreement is terminable at will on thirty (30) days' notice and the District's responsibility at termination would be to pay only those fees and expenses incurred up to the date of termination.

Should the terms hereof be acceptable, may I kindly ask that the President of the Board of Education acknowledge the acceptance of the terms of our engagement by signing where provided below, and returning a signed copy of this letter to us.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Martin A. Geiger

MAG:rm

# APPROVED AND ACCEPTED BY LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

By: President of the Board of Education

(printed name)

(signature)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Attachment: JAG Architect 17-18 O-A Agreement Ltr (2720 : Appointment of District Architect)



# JOHN A. GRILLO ARCHITECT, P.C. 1213 MAIN STREET

PORT JEFFERSON, NY 11777

TEL: (631) 476-2161

FAX: (631) 476-9846

June 27, 2017

Dr. Tonie McDonald Superintendent of Schools Levittown Public Schools 150 Abbey Lane Levittown, NY 11756

> RE: Levittown Public Schools 2017/18 Capital Improvement Program Owner/Architect Agreement

Dear Dr. McDonald:

Please be advised that our fees, for Architectural Services with Levittown Public Schools for the 2017/18 Budget Year, will remain at 5.0%. Overall construction fees and hourly wages for additional work will remain the same.

If additional information is required, please don't hesitate to contact our office.

Very/truly yours

John M. Grillo Architect

JMG:kw

cc: W. Pastore

Levittown 17-18 O-A Agreement Ltr

Attachment: Capital Markets (2681 : Appointment of Fiscal Advisor)

# **Levittown Public Schools**

# CONTRACT REQUEST FORM

Only the Board of Education is authorized to enter into contracts for the District. Please use this form when you need to get a vendor approved to perform services for the District. Please leave enough lead time in the process. The contract must go to the Board of Education <u>prior</u> to the services being performed. Additionally, a Purchase Order must be completed in Finance Manager (which can be done prior to contract approval). Once the Board of Education approves the contract, please include the date approved in the body of your Purchase Order (it streamlines the PO approval process and the audit of District payments). Thank You.

Vendor N	Name:	CMA – Capital	Marke	ets Advisors, LI	LC					
Date(s) of Service: July 2017-June 2018										
Descripti	Description of Services Services for Financial Advisory									
Rate for S	Services:									
Annual Estimate Cost at time of approval: \$6,100.00 for note issue \$1,750.00 for continuing disclosure with prepaid OS \$2,500.00 for continuing disclosure with no prepaid OS \$675.00 printing										
Prior Yea	ar Rate for Se	ervices:	\$2,500	.00						
Administ	trator Reques	ting: William Pa	astore							
Is the cor	ntract signed	by the other part	ty:_	Yes	No					
Is the cor	ntract dated b	y the other party	/:	Yes	No					
Are there	e any attachm	ents?		Yes	No					
Budget C Purchase <b>Routing</b>		hase order):	A13 <b>1</b> 04	4000						
1. A	ttorney revie	w:								
2. D	epartment A	dministrator								
3. B	usiness Offic	e Review		Will	an plastore					
4. B	oard of Educ	ation Meeting d	ate	July						
Return	to:	Jill Steiger			_					

# Capital Markets Advisors, LLC

Independent Financial Advisors

## LEVITTOWN UFSD FINANCIAL ADVISORY SERVICES AGREEMENT

This Agreement has been entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_, 2017 by and between the Levittown Union Free School District ("Client") and Capital Markets Advisors, LLC ("CMA"), a limited liability company created under the laws of the State of New York and having its principal place of business at 11 Grace Ave., Suite 308, Great Neck, New York 11021.

#### Section 1 Financial Advisory Services

CMA will provide the following services in connection with bond and note financings (the "Issue"), undertaken by Client during the term of this Agreement.

- 1.01 Review legal, financial, economic and other information necessary for CMA to advise Client in planning, structuring and otherwise completing each Issue to be undertaken by Client.
- 1.02 Prepare a plan of financing which will include CMA's analysis and recommendations to Client regarding funding requirements, structuring alternatives, marketing, method of sale, security features, call provisions, credit ratings, credit enhancement, term, federal tax implications and such other matters which Client and CMA agree should be included in the plan of financing.
- 1.03 Prepare or assist in the preparation of financing documents, as required by Client, including but not limited to: Official Statement, Notice of Sale and Bid Sheet, request for a credit rating, request for municipal bond insurance, DTC Letter of Representations and debt statement.
- 1.04 Upon the request of Client, CMA will assist Client in the selection of other service providers necessary to conduct each Issue including but not limited to bond counsel, rating agencies, bond insurers, underwriters, trustee and financial printer, if appropriate.
- 1.05 Prepare and maintain a financing schedule, cost of issue budget, list of participants, and take such other actions requested by Client to efficiently manage each Issue.
- 1.06 Participate in debt sale, confirm net interest cost calculation and make award recommendation.
- 1.07 Assist Client with the delivery of proceeds of each Issue, payment of issuance costs and other matters related to closing each Issue.
- 1.08 Participate in the closing of the Issue and verify receipt of Issue proceeds.

#### 1.09 Services for Required Continuing Disclosure and Material Event Notice Filing Pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

The District is obligated to submit to Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's ("MSRB") Electronic Municipal Market Access ("EMMA") system, annually, certain financial information and operating data contained in the pertinent Official Statements under the headings: "Description of the District", "District Indebtedness", "Financial Factors", "Budgetary Procedures", "Litigation", and Appendix B and a copy of the District's audited financial statements for the latest completed fiscal year no later than the 180<sup>th</sup> day following the end of the fiscal year. The District must continue to submit the aforementioned information as long as it has bonds outstanding or until such time as the District is no longer obligated for such bonds as defined in Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. CMA will gather and compile the information and submit it to EMMA at the proscribed time.

# Capital Markets Advisors, LLC

Independent Financial Advisors

In addition, the District is required to report within ten business days, to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's ("MSRB") Electronic Municipal Market Access ("EMMA"), the occurrence of any of the following events:

(i) principal and interest payment delinquencies; (ii) non-payment related defaults, if material; (iii) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties; (iv) unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties; (v) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform; (vi) adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices of determinations with respect to the tax status of the Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Bonds; (vii) modifications to rights of Bondholders, if material; (viii) Bond calls, if material, and tender offers; (ix) defeasances; (x) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds, if material; (xi) rating changes; (xii) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Issuer; (xiii) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the Issuer or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material; and (xiv) appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material.

#### Section 2 Compensation

2.01 For CMA's performance of services on behalf of Client as described in sections 1.01 through 1.09 hereof, CMA's fee will be as follows:

For Note (BAN/TAN) issues: \$6,100
For Bond issues: \$1 per thousand of par amount of bonds sold with a minimum fee of \$12,500.
For Continuing Disclosure with prepared OS within past year: \$1,750\*
For Continuing Disclosure with no prepared OS within past year: \$2,500\*

Printing, web hosting, distribution and miscellaneous expenses: Estimated at \$675

\*For Continuing Disclosure as required by SEC Rule 15 c 2-12 inclusive of all required Material Event Filings. These filings will be made in a timely manner by CMA, within the required ten business days following their occurrence, if CMA is notified by the District within seven business days of the occurrence of a Material Event.

- 2.02 Client will pay normal issuance costs such as printing, postage, photocopying, bond counsel, rating agency fees and other associated expenses.
- 2.03 Payment of CMA's compensation is due within 14 days of receipt of CMA's invoice following the closing of the financing.

#### Section 3 Term of Agreement

The term of this Agreement shall be for one (1) year from the date hereof.

#### Section 4 Disclosure

CMA does not assume the responsibilities of Client, nor the responsibilities of the other professionals and vendors representing Client, in the provision of services and the preparation of financing documents for financings under this agreement. CMA accepts the relationship of trust and confidence established between it and the Client. CMA agrees to furnish its best skill and judgment in the performance of its services in the most expeditious and economical manner consistent with the interests of the Client. Information obtained by CMA, either through its own efforts or provided by the Client, included in the

2.10.a

# Capital Markets Advisors, LLC

Independent Financial Advisors

financing documents, or otherwise provided to the Client, is by reason of experience and professional judgment, believed to be accurate; however, such information is not guaranteed by CMA.

#### Section 5 Binding Effect.

All agreements and covenants contained herein are severable and in the event any of them shall be held to be invalid by any competent court, this agreement shall be interpreted as if such invalid agreements or covenants were not contained herein, and the remaining provisions of this agreement shall remain in full force and effect. Each party hereto represents and warrants that this agreement has been duly authorized and executed by it and constitutes its valid and binding agreement.

#### Section 6 Modification and Termination

This Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties. It may be amended in whole or in part from time to time in writing by mutual consent of the parties. Either the Client or CMA can terminate this agreement, with or without cause, on thirty (30) days written notice to the other without incurring any further liability hereunder.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have duly executed this Agreement as of the day and year first set forth on the first page hereof.

Capital Markets Advisors, LLC

mp

Levittown Union Free School District

By:

Name:

Robert M. Kerr Dated:

Title:

, 2017

# **Levittown Public Schools**

# CONTRACT REQUEST FORM

Only the Board of Education is authorized to enter into contracts for the District. Please use this form when you need to get a vendor approved to perform services for the District. Please leave enough lead time in the process. The contract must go to the Board of Education <u>prior</u> to the services being performed. Additionally, a Purchase Order must be completed in Finance Manager (which can be done prior to contract approval). Once the Board of Education approves the contract, please include the date approved in the body of your Purchase Order (it streamlines the PO approval process and the audit of District payments). Thank You.

Vendor Name:	Cullen & Danowsk	i							
Date(s) of Service:	9/1/17								
Description of Services Internal Auditor-Risk Assessment & Update AND Ressible "Agreed upon Procedures" to check specific area Rate for Services: \$10,000.00 (NOT TO exceed #35,000 with Aup)									
Annual Estimate Cost at time of approval: \$10,000.00									
Prior Year Rate for Se	ervices: \$10.	,000.00							
Administrator Reques	sting: William Pasto	ore							
Is the contract signed	by the other party:_	Yes	No						
Is the contract dated b	by the other party:	Yes	No						
Are there any attachm	nents?	Yes	No						
Budget Code (on pure	chase order): A13	3204000							
Purchase order									
D									

# **Routing:**

- 1. Attorney review:
- 2. Department Administrator
- 3. Business Office Review

Willian Harto

4. Board of Education Meeting date

July 5, 2017

# Return to: Jill Steiger

Rev. 11/18/15

VINCENT D. CULLEN, CPA (1950 - 2013)

JAMES E. DANOWSKI, CPA PETER F. RODRIGUEZ, CPA JILL S. SANDERS, CPA DONALD J. HOFFMANN, CPA CHRISTOPHER V. REINO, CPA ALAN YU, CPA

July 1, 2017

Board of Education and Audit Committee Levittown Union Free School District Administrative Office 150 Abbey Lane Levittown, New York 11756

CULLEN & DANOWSKI, LLP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Dear Members of the Board and Audit Committee:

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the nature and limitations of the services we are to provide for the Levittown Union Free School District (District) for the year ending June 30, 2018. We will perform a risk assessment and provide services for the District as follows:

#### **Risk Assessment**

We will perform a risk assessment of the District's business operations for the year ending June 30, 2018. Our risk assessment will be in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and guidelines promulgated by the Department of Audit and Control and Education Department of the State of New York. Our risk assessment will include identification of the District's audit areas together with its policies and procedures, the internal controls currently in effect, as well as those that might otherwise be required or recommended.

We plan to begin our procedures on approximately September 1, 2017, and unless unforeseeable problems are encountered, the engagement should be completed by November 30, 2017.

#### Report

We will communicate the results of our risk assessment in a formal report. We will identify risks and related controls. We will also suggest ways in which the District might improve its risk management system regarding financial reporting and management controls including the internal controls currently in effect, as well as those that might otherwise be required or recommended. These reports are intended for internal use only and should not be used for any other purpose.

The purpose of these reports is to assist the Audit Committee in improving the process by which the District monitors and manages its risk. However, it is ultimately the District's responsibility to assess the adequacy of its risk management system and any of our suggestions.

T:\Office\50,000's\53420\Engagement\Engltr\2017\Engltr IA - RA 17 (Fiscal 18).doc

Attachment: Cullen and Danowski(2683:Appointment of Internal Auditor)

Fee

Our fee for the risk assessment and report thereon will be \$10,000, which is less than the fee quoted in our proposal dated May 5, 2015.

At the conclusion of the engagement, we will require a representation letter from management that, among other things, will confirm management's responsibility for the operations of the departments reviewed during this engagement in accordance with District policies and procedures.

# Testing and Assessment of Selected System(s)

The testing and assessment of selected systems is variable and dependent upon the results of the risk assessment that we will perform in the initial phase of our engagement. The results of the risk assessment will be discussed and reviewed with the Audit Committee so as to arrive at a consensus as to the higher-risk areas that should be subject to testing and further risk assessment procedures. We will determine the extent and timing of these procedures in consultation with the Audit Committee.

## <u>Report</u>

We will communicate the results of our internal audit (i.e., testing) in a formal report. As a result, we will suggest ways in which the District might improve its internal controls currently in effect, as well as those that might otherwise be required or recommended. These reports are intended for internal use only and should not be used for any other purpose.

## Fees

Estimated time for internal audits and fees will be refined after the preparation of a comprehensive risk analysis, and when the District's Audit Committee decides on the detailed nature and scope of the assignment. Other factors to be considered include the desired level of coverage of individual school buildings, functions, departments, level of assurance desired (i.e., nature and extent of tests performed), and other discretionary factors.

We will come to an agreement of an estimate with the Audit Committee prior to commencement of the work. Based upon its review of the risk assessment, the Audit Committee will be responsible for the areas to be included in the audit plan. The fee will be based upon the estimated time and the following hourly rate schedule (in effect through June 30, 2018):

Partner	\$ 210
Manager	170
Supervisor	155
Senior	140
Staff	120

Our fee estimate is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the engagement. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with you and arrive at a new fee estimate before we incur the additional costs. Our invoices will be rendered as work progresses based on hours of work completed and are payable on presentation. If for any reason we are unable to complete our engagement, we will not issue a report as a result of this engagement.

This agreement may be cancelled by the Board of Education at any time, for any reason. In the event of such cancellation, the Board shall be required to pay for all services provided prior to the date of cancellation.

Don Hoffmann, CPA, is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the report or authorizing another individual to sign it.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the Levittown Union Free School District and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Very truly yours,

Cullen & Danowski, LLP

For the Firm:

Don Hoffmann Partner

**RESPONSE:** 

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of the Levittown Union Free School District.

By:	
Dy.	

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title:

Date:

2.12.a

EXTERNAL AUDITING SERVICES RFP # LPS 15-002 BRFP # LPS 15-002 BAXIMUM PRICE 2014-15		II I	TOTAL ALL- INCLUSIVE INCLUSIVE MAXIMUM MAXIMUM PRICE 2015-16 PRICE 2016-17			TOTAL ALL- INCLUSIVE MAXIMUM PRICE 2017-18		TOTAL ALL- INCLUSIVE MAXIMUM RICE 2018-19		
R.S. Abrams	\$	47,800.00	\$	48,700.00	\$	49,700.00	\$	50,700.00	\$ 51,700.00	
Toski & Co	\$	34,500.00	\$	34,500.00	\$	34,500.00	\$	34,500.00	\$ 34,500.00	
Cullen & Danowski		N/A	\$	46,000.00	\$	46,800.00	\$	47,600.00	\$	Note: No actual proposal was submitted but a letter of interest with pricing submitted for external auditing.
Nawrocki Smith LLP	\$	47,000.00	\$	47,000.00	\$	47,500.00	\$	47,500.00	\$ 48,000.00	

INTERNAL AUDITING SERVICES RFP # LPS 15-003	VICES TOTAL ALL- INCLUSIVE MAXIMUM PRICE 2015-16		INCLUSIVE INCLUSIVE MAXIMUM MAXIMUM		ß	TOTAL ALL- INCLUSIVE MAXIMUM PRICE 2017-18		TOTAL ALL- INCLUSIVE MAXIMUM PRICE 2018-19		OTAL ALL- NCLUSIVE MAXIMUM RICE 2019-20	
Cerini & Associates	\$	33,000.00	\$	33,000.00	\$	33,500.00	\$	33,500.00	\$	33,500.00	
Cullen & Danowski	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,200.00	\$	10,400.00	\$	10,600.00	\$		Pricing for risk assessment only. With agreed upon procedures, total all- inclusive annual minimum is \$16,000.00 with a maximum of \$35,000.00
Nawrocki Smith LLP	\$	35,500.00	\$	33,000.00	\$	33,000.00	\$	35,000.00	\$	35,000.00	

2.12.a

Attachment: RS Abrams (2684 : Appointment of External Auditor)

# CONTRACT REQUEST FORM

Only the Board of Education is authorized to enter into contracts for the District. Please use this form when you need to get a vendor approved to perform services for the District. Please leave enough lead time in the process. The contract must go to the Board of Education <u>prior</u> to the services being performed. Additionally, a Purchase Order must be completed in Finance Manager (which can be done prior to contract approval). Once the Board of Education approves the contract, please include the date approved in the body of your Purchase Order (it streamlines the PO approval process and the audit of District payments). Thank You.

Vendor Name:	R,S. Abrams & Co. LLP				
Date(s) of Service:	July 2017-June 2018	YEAR	Ending	June 2018	Audit.
Description of Services External Auditor					
Rate for Services: \$50,700.00					
Annual Estimate Cost at time of approval: \$50,700.00					
Prior Year Rate for Services: \$49,700.00					
Administrator Requesting: William Pastore					
Is the contract signed by the other party:Yes No					
Is the contract dated by the other party:					
Are there any attachments?		Yes	N	0	
		Yes	N	0	
Budget Code (on purchase order): A13204000					
Purchase order					

# **Routing:**

- 1. Attorney review:
- 2. Department Administrator
- 3. Business Office Review
- 4. Board of Education Meeting date

William Partos

July 5, 2017

# Return to: Jill Steiger



Marianne E. Van Duyne, CPA Alexandria M. Battaglia, CPA

May 30, 2017

Board of Education President William J. Pastore, Assistant Superintendant of Business and Finance Levittown Union Free School District 150 Abbey Lane Levittown, New York 11756

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide Levittown Union Free School District (the "District") for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the fiduciary funds, including the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements, of the District as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), to supplement the District's basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to the District's RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance. The following RSI is required by generally accepted accounting principles and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

- 1. Management's Discussion and Analysis
- 2. Budgetary Comparison Schedules
- 3. Schedule of Funding Progress for Other Post-Employment Benefits
- 4. Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability
- 5. Schedule of District Contributions

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information other than RSI that accompanies the District's financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare

ISLANDIA: 3033 EXPRESS DRIVE NORTH, SUITE 100 • ISLANDIA, NY 11749 WHITE PLAINS: 50 MAIN STREET, SUITE 1000 • WHITE PLAINS, NY 10606 PHONE: (631) 234-4444 • FAX: (631) 234-4234

Packet Pg. 35

Levittown Union Free School District May 30, 2017 Page 2

the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and we will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole, in a report combined with our auditor's report on the financial statements, or in a separate written report accompanying our auditor's report on the financial statements:

- 1. Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.
- Schedule of Change from Adopted Budget to Final Budget General Fund and Section 1318 of Real Property Tax Law Limit Calculation
- 3. Schedule of Project Expenditures Capital Projects Fund
- 4. Net Investment in Capital Assets

We will also audit the financial statements of the Extraclassroom Activity Funds as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, which includes the statements of cash receipts and disbursements. The objective of this audit is the expression of an opinion as to whether the statements presents fairly, in all materials aspects, the cash receipts and disbursements of the Extraclassroom Activity Funds of the District, in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Audit Objectives**

The objective of our audit is the expression of opinions as to whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and to report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. The objective also includes reporting on—

- Internal control over financial reporting and compliance with the provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and award agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with Government Auditing Standards.
- Internal control over compliance related to major programs and an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance).

The Government Auditing Standards report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters will include a paragraph that states (1) that the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance, and (2) the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. The Uniform Guidance report

Packet Pg. 36

2.13.a

Levittown Union Free School District May 30, 2017 Page 3

on internal control over compliance will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Both reports will state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and the provisions of the Uniform Guidance, and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major program(s) in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. We will issue written reports upon completion of our Single Audit. Our reports will be addressed to the Board of Education of Levittown Union Free School District. We cannot provide assurance that unmodified opinions will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinions or add emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraphs. If our opinions are other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or issue reports, or may withdraw from this engagement.

#### Audit Procedures - General

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the government or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the government. Because the determination of abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting abuse.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements or noncompliance may exist and not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements or major programs. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, any fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets that comes to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental



Levittown Union Free School District May 30, 2017 Page 4

regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential, and of any material abuse that comes to our attention. We will include such matters in the reports required for a Single Audit. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about your responsibilities for the financial statements; schedule of expenditures of federal awards; federal award programs; compliance with laws, contracts, and grant agreements; and other responsibilities required by generally accepted auditing standards.

#### **Audit Procedures - Internal Controls**

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the District and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

As required by the Uniform Guidance, we will perform tests of controls over compliance to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with compliance requirements applicable to each major federal award program. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on those controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance.



#### Audit Procedures—Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the District's compliance with provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and agreements, including grant agreements. However, the objective of those procedures will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

The Uniform Guidance requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the auditee has complied with federal statutes, regulations and the terms and conditions of federal awards applicable to major programs. Our procedures will consist of tests of transactions and other applicable procedures described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of the District's major programs. The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on the District's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

#### **Management Responsibilities**

Management is responsible for (1) establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, including internal controls over federal awards, and for evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities, to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; (2) following laws and regulations; (3) ensuring that there is reasonable assurance that government programs are administered in compliance with compliance requirements; and (4) ensuring that management and financial information is reliable and properly reported. Management is also responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and all accompanying information in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles; and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations (including federal statutes) and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements (including award agreements). Your responsibilities also include identifying significant contractor relationships in which the contractor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information.

Management is also responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit, and (3) unrestricted access to persons within the District from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.



Attachment: RS Abrams (2684 : Appointment of External Auditor)

Levittown Union Free School District May 30, 2017 Page 6

You are also responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, (2) access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation, and other information as needed to perform an audit under the Uniform Guidance, (3) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit, and (4) unrestricted access to persons within the District from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the government complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. Management is also responsible for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, or abuse that we report. Additionally, as required by the Uniform Guidance, it is management's responsibility to evaluate and monitor noncompliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards; take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified, including noncompliance identified in audit findings; promptly follow up and take corrective action on reported audit findings and to prepare a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a separate corrective action plan. The summary schedule of prior audit findings should be available for our review on the first day of fieldwork.

You are responsible for identifying all federal awards received and understanding and complying with the compliance requirements and for the preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (including notes and noncash assistance received) in conformity with the Uniform Guidance. You agree to include our report on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards that includes or report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (2) you believe the schedule of expenditures of



2.13.a

Levittown Union Free School District May 30, 2017 Page 7

federal awards, including its form and content, is fairly stated in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

You are also responsible for the preparation of the other supplementary information, which we have been engaged to report on, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (3) that the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumption or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

You are responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying and providing report copies of previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions, for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities relating to the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, related notes, and any other nonaudit services we provide. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. Further, you agree to oversee the nonaudit services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of those services; and accept responsibility for them.



Levittown Union Free School District May 30, 2017 Page 8

#### Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

We understand that your employees will prepare all cash, accounts receivable, or other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

At the conclusion of the engagement, we will complete the appropriate sections of the Data Collection Form that summarizes our audit findings. It is management's responsibility to submit the reporting package (including financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings, auditors' reports, and corrective action plan) along with the Data Collection Form to the federal audit clearinghouse. We will coordinate with you the electronic submission and certification. If applicable, we will provide copies of our report for you to include with the reporting package must be submitted within the earlier of 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditors' reports or nine months after the end of the audit period.

We will provide copies of our reports to the District; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the financial statements. Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing privileged and confidential information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of RS Abrams & Co., LLP and constitutes confidential information. However, subject to applicable laws and regulations, audit documentation and appropriate individuals will be made available upon request and in a timely manner to the New York State Education Department or its designee, a federal agency providing direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of RS Abrams & Co., LLP personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of seven years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by the New York State Education Department or other oversight agencies. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

We expect to begin our audit in May 2018 and to issue our reports no later than October 15, 2018. Alexandria Battaglia, is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the reports or authorizing another individual to sign them. Our fee for these services will be based on the actual time spent at our standard, hourly rates. Our standard, hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit.

Attachment: RS Abrams (2684 : Appointment of External Auditor)

Levittown Union Free School District May 30, 2017 Page 9

Our invoices for these fees will be rendered as work progresses. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been complete upon written notification of termination, even if we have not completed our report(s). You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended through the date of termination.

Based on our preliminary estimates, the audit fee for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 will not exceed \$50,700. This fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel. If the District requests any additional engagements, we will bill the District at our standard billing rates.

You have requested that we provide you with a copy of our most recent external peer review report. Accordingly, our 2014 peer review report accompanies this letter. This report reflects a peer review rating of pass, which is the highest rating for a peer review.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the Levittown Union Free School District and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy, and return it to us.

Very truly yours,

w

R & abramat Co XXP R.S. Abrams & Co., LI Title: Date:

R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of Levittown Union Free School District.

Board of Education President:

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

Assistant Superintendent for Business & Finance

Date:



A History of Shaping Futures

#### System Review Report

Thomas W Donovan	CPA
Frank S Venezia	CPA
James E Amell	CPA
Carol A Hausamann	CPA
Daniel J Litz.	CPA
Karl F Newton	CPA
Kevin Pi O Leary	CPA
Emothy A Reynolds	CPA
Martin D Hull	CPA

Thomas J Ross CPA

Heather D Patten CPA

Kevin J McCoy CPA

To the Partners R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP and the Peer Review Committee of the NYSSCPA

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of R S. Abrams & Co., LLP (the firm) in effect for the year ended March 31, 2014. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. As part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures. The firm is responsible for designing a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control and the firm's compliance therewith based on our review. The nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System Review are described in the standards at <u>www aicpa,org/prsummary</u>.

As required by the standards, engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards* and audits of employee benefit plans.

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP in effect for the year ended March 31, 2014, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass, pass with deficiency(ies)* or *fail.* R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP has received a peer review rating of *pass.* 

Marvin and Company, P.C.

Latham, NY July 18, 2014

www.marvinepa.com

An Independent Member of the RDO Seidman Alliance

> 11 British American Blvd. Latham. New York 12110-1405 | P: 518-785-0134 | F: 518-785-0299 111 Events Ave. Queensbury: NY 12804 | P: 518-792-6595 | F: 518-792-6635

EXTERNAL AUDITING SERVICES RFP # LPS 15-002		TOTAL ALL- INCLUSIVE MAXIMUM PRICE 2014-15		NCLUSIVE INCLUSIVE MAXIMUM MAXIMUM		OTAL ALL- INCLUSIVE MAXIMUM RICE 2016-17	SIVE INCLUSIVE		TOTAL ALL- INCLUSIVE MAXIMUM PRICE 2018-19		
R.S. Abrams	\$	47,800.00	\$	48,700.00	\$ 49,700.00	\$	50,700.00	\$	51,700.00		
Toski & Co	\$	34,500.00	\$	34,500.00	\$ 34,500.00	\$	34,500.00	\$	34,500.00		
Cullen & Danowski		N/A	\$	46,000.00	\$ 46,800.00	\$	47,600.00	\$		Note: No actual proposal was submitted but a letter of interest with pricing submitted for external auditing.	
Nawrocki Smith LLP	\$	47,000.00	\$	47,000.00	\$ 47,500.00	\$	47,500.00	\$	48,000.00		

INTERNAL AUDITING SERVICES RFP # LPS 15-003	IN N	OTAL ALL- ICLUSIVE IAXIMUM CE 2015-16	IN N	DTAL ALL- NCLUSIVE MAXIMUM ICE 2016-17	I	OTAL ALL- NCLUSIVE MAXIMUM RICE 2017-18	1	OTAL ALL- NCLUSIVE MAXIMUM NCE 2018-19	I	OTAL ALL- NCLUSIVE MAXIMUM RICE 2019-20	
Cerini & Associates	\$	33,000.00	\$	33,000.00	\$	33,500.00	\$	33,500.00	\$	33,500.00	
Cullen & Danowski	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,200.00	\$	10,400.00	\$	10,600.00	\$		Pricing for risk assessment only. With agreed upon procedures, total all- inclusive annual minimum is \$16,000.00 with a maximum of \$35,000.00
Nawrocki Smith LLP	\$	35,500.00	\$	33,000.00	\$	33,000.00	\$	35,000.00	\$	35,000.00	

# **Levittown Public Schools**

# CONTRACT REQUEST FORM

Only the Board of Education is authorized to enter into contracts for the District. Please use this form when you need to get a vendor approved to perform services for the District. Please leave enough lead time in the process. The contract must go to the Board of Education <u>prior</u> to the services being performed. Additionally, a Purchase Order must be completed in Finance Manager (which can be done prior to contract approval). Once the Board of Education approves the contract, please include the date approved in the body of your Purchase Order (it streamlines the PO approval process and the audit of District payments). Thank You.

Vendor Name:	Nawrocki Smith		
Date(s) of Service:	July 2017-June 20	018	
Description of Service	es Claims A	uditor	
Rate for Services:	\$39,330.00		
Annual Estimate Cost	t at time of approv	al: \$39,330.00	
Prior Year Rate for Se	ervices: \$3	9,330.00	
Administrator Reques	sting: William Pas	ore	
Is the contract signed	by the other party		
		Yes	No
Is the contract dated b	by the other party:	Yes	No
Are there any attachm	ents?	105	NO
The more any acaem	ionts.	Yes	No
Budget Code (on pure	chase order): A	13204000	

Purchase order

#### **Routing:**

- 1. Attorney review:
- 2. Department Administrator
- 3. Business Office Review

William forton

4. Board of Education Meeting date

July 5, 2017

## Return to: Jill Steiger

Rev. 11/18/15



Lauren M. Agunzo John K. Hoffman Darin V. Iacobelli David M. Tellier

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

June 1, 2017

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Mr. William J. Pastore Levittown Union Free School District 150 Abbey Lane Levittown, NY 11756

Dear Mr. Pastore:

Enclosed please find two (2) engagement letters in regard to Levittown Union Free School District. After you have signed the letters, please forward one copy to Nawrocki Smith and retain one copy for your records.

If you should have any questions, please contact me at 631-756-9500, extension 229.

Very truly yours, NAWROCKI SMITH, LLP By: Pauren M. Agynzo, CPA Enclosure



Lauren M. Agunzo John K. Hoffman Darin V. Iacobelli David M. Tellier

2.14.a

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

June 1, 2017

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Board of Education Levittown Union Free School District 150 Abbey Lane Levittown, NY 11756

Dear Board of Education:

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the terms and conditions of our engagement and the nature and limitations of the services we will provide to the Levittown Union Free School District (the "District") for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018.

We will apply certain procedures to selected records and transactions of the District for the objective of completing the duties and responsibilities of the Claims Auditor as outlined in the supplement to this letter. The Administration of the District is ultimately responsible for the sufficiency of the procedures to be performed. We will perform this engagement following the standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

The procedures to be performed will not constitute an audit made in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and accordingly, we will not express an opinion on any of the items specified in the supplement.

Our engagement will not include a detailed examination of all transactions and cannot be relied on to disclose errors, irregularities, or illegal acts, including fraud or defalcations that may exist. However, we will inform you of any such matters that come to our attention.

We direct your attention to the fact that the Administration has the responsibility for the proper recording of the transactions in the accounting records and for preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

## NAWROCKI SMITH LLP

#### Page Two

Our annual fee for these services will be \$39,330.

This fee estimate is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the engagement. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with you and arrive at a new fee estimate before we incur the additional costs. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered on a monthly basis and are payable on presentation.

We will be pleased to discuss this letter with you at any time. If the foregoing is in accordance with your understanding, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of professional service.

Very truly yours, NAWROCKLSMITH LLP Lauren M. Agunzo, CPA/CFF RESPONSE

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of the School District.

Ву: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## NAWROCKI SMITH LLP

#### SUPPLEMENT TO ENGAGEMENT LETTER CLAIMS AUDITING SERVICES

(Agreed-Upon Procedures To Be Applied)

#### <u>Tasks:</u>

The tasks required for the approval of claims shall include:

- (1) Prove mathematical accuracy of all computations; this should include verification of extensions and additions and the recalculation of any discount
- (2) Determine that charges are not a duplication of items already paid
- (3) Comparison of voucher with purchase order
- (4) Determine that voucher is properly itemized and supported by proof of delivery
- (5) Ascertain that all required supporting documentation is attached
- (6) In the event that the district has authorized travel advances under Section 77-b of General Municipal Law, the auditor should review the written requests for advances for proper authorizations
- (7) Determine that the official who gave rise to the claim has indicated approval

We will provide monthly reports to the Board of Education in the form of sign-off regarding the check warrants. Additionally, we will provide periodic reports, as required, to inform the Board of Education of any issues of concern. We will be available, upon request, to meet with the Board of Education at anytime.

# 2.17.a

#### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Memorandum of Understanding of Terms of Employment ("Memorandum") dated as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of July, 2017, between the LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT and BONNIE PAMPINELLA, Purchasing Agent.

WHEREAS, as a managerial employee, Mrs. Pampinella is neither covered by a collective bargaining agreement nor entitled by law to negotiate with the District for her terms and conditions of employment, and the District does not wish to take any action that could be construed as creating any type of binding contract of employment between them; and

WHEREAS, the District also desires to provide Mrs. Pampinella with an outline of the terms and conditions of employment that it has established for her so as to avoid any misunderstanding or confusion about those benefits;

NOW THEREFORE, the District, having exercised its discretion to set Mrs. Pampinella's terms and conditions of employment, and having expressed its willingness to codify them pursuant to the caveats set forth above, establishes the terms and conditions of employment of Mrs. Pampinella in her position as Purchasing Agent as follows:

 <u>Effective Date</u>. This Memorandum will be effective from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

2. <u>Salary</u>. The minimum annual salary to be paid to Mrs. Pampinella from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, for her service as District Purchasing Agent, will be \$67,299, payable in the same manner as its other District administrative employees.

3. <u>Work Year/Hours/Holidays</u>. Mrs. Pampinella will work the hours necessary to complete her assigned tasks, with no maximum number of hours per week and a regular minimum work week of 35 hours, excluding a daily one hour lunch break. The work year will be 12 months

(July 1-June 30), including the same summer hours as worked by the clericals. Mrs. Pampinella will be entitled to the same holidays and recess days as those of the 12 month clerical workers represented by the CSEA. Mrs. Pampinella will be responsible for working during all other holiday and recess periods.

4. <u>Duties</u>. Mrs. Pampinella will be responsible for all the duties of the District Purchasing Agent as set forth in attached job description. In addition, she will assist the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance in the procurement and purchasing functions of the District and will perform other duties which may be lawfully assigned by the Superintendent of Schools and/or the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance.

5. <u>Vacation</u>. Mrs. Pampinella is entitled to 20 vacation days per year to be scheduled and utilized following the approval of the Superintendent. Vacation days are not cumulative and must be taken within each year of the Agreement or will be deemed forfeited.

6. <u>Sick Leave/Personal Leave</u>. Mrs. Pampinella is entitled to 12 days of paid personal sick leave and five paid personal days per year. Unused sick and personal days will accrue as sick days up to 180 days. There is no right to payment for unused sick or personal days. Mrs. Pampinella will provide a doctor's certificate for absence to the Superintendent upon the Superintendent's request. Personal leave days may be granted only for the following reasons:

- (a) Religious Holiday
- (b) Illness in the immediate family
- (c) Marriage self or immediate family
- (d) Necessary Court Appearance (other than jury duty)
- (e) Home title closing

(f) Moving

7. <u>Health Insurance</u>. The District will provide Mrs. Pampinella with health insurance coverage through NYSHIP. The District will pay 85% of the premium for individual coverage or 80% for dependent family coverage.

8. <u>Dental Insurance</u>. The District will provide Mrs. Pampinella with the same dental benefit that is provided to CSEA unit members pursuant to the terms of the then current District/CSEA collective negotiations agreement.

9. <u>Supplemental Benefits</u>. The District will provide Mrs. Pampinella with the same or similar Supplemental Benefits that are provided to CSEA unit members pursuant to the terms of the then current District/CSEA collective negotiations agreement.

10. <u>Travel</u>. Mrs. Pampinella will be reimbursed for all travel related to her job at the mileage rate set by the Board.

11. <u>Notices</u>. Any notice or other communication pursuant to the Memorandum will be given to the intended recipient in writing and will be effective: (i) immediately upon personal delivery or upon being sent by facsimile transmission; (ii) one day after being sent by Federal Express or other overnight mail; or (iii) three days after being mailed by first class certified mail, return receipt requested, postage paid, and, in the case of clause (ii) or (iii) of this Paragraph, sent or mailed, as the case may be, to the address for the recipient set forth below or such other address as either party may hereafter designate by written notice.

For Mrs. Pampinella: 15 Shoreham Road Massapequa, NY 11758

2.17.a

For the District: Board of Education Levittown Union Free School District 150 Abbey Lane Levittown, NY 11756 Fax No. 516-520-8332

12. <u>Entire Memorandum</u>: This Memorandum represents the totality of Mrs. Pampinella's terms and conditions of employment. There are no other agreements or understandings.

FOR THE LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

BY: Board of Education President li 6/27/17 Inpul Bonnie Pampinella

# **Levittown Public Schools**

# CONTRACT REQUEST FORM

Only the Board of Education is authorized to enter into contracts for the District. Please use this form when you need to get a vendor approved to perform services for the District. Please leave enough lead time in the process. The contract must go to the Board of Education <u>prior</u> to the services being performed. Additionally, a Purchase Order must be completed in Finance Manager (which can be done prior to contract approval). Once the Board of Education approves the contract, please include the date approved in the body of your Purchase Order (it streamlines the PO approval process and the audit of District payments). Thank You.

Vendor Name:	US OM	NI		
Date(s) of Service:	July 20	17-June 2018	6 L	
Description of Servio	ces	Service Agre	ement Provi	der Program
Rate for Services:	\$3,048.	00		
Annual Estimate Cos	st at time	of approval:	\$3,048.00	
Prior Year Rate for S	Services:	\$3,12	0.00	
Administrator Reque	esting: Wi	lliam Pastore		
Is the contract signed	d by the o	ther party:_		
			Yes	No
Is the contract dated	by the oth	her party:		
			Yes	No
Are there any attach	ments?		112	
			Yes	No
Budget Code (on put	rchase orc	ler): A131	04000	

Purchase order

## **Routing:**

- 1. Attorney review:
- 2. Department Administrator
- 3. Business Office Review
- 4. Board of Education Meeting date

aller parton

July 5, 2017

## Return to: Jill Steiger

Attachment: US OMNI (2692 : Appointment of Third Party Administrator for 403(b) and 457 Retirement Plan Providers)



Watertower Office Park 1099 Jay Street Bldg. F. 2nd Floor Rochester, NY 14611

# **Services Agreement Reinstatement**

### Name of Employer: Levittown Union Free School District

The Services Agreement for the fiscal year Jul 1, 2016 – Jun 30, 2017 entered into by your organization and The Omni Group ("OMNI"), is hereby reinstated and amended for the fiscal year Jul 1, 2017 - Jun 30, 2018 with the following fee schedule below:

Insurance, and Crime Policy provision is hereby modified to read:

- i. Provide and pay the full premiums for errors and omissions insurance coverage issued by a carrier authorized to provide such coverage in the State in which the services are to be performed, insuring against claims made, resulting or emanating from the Services that OMNI is providing the Employer pursuant to this agreement with a limit to \$5,000,000 per claim made, \$5,000,000 in aggregate.
- ii. OMNI shall also provide and pay the full premiums on a crime policy in the amount of \$10,000,000 by a carrier licensed to issue such policies in the State in which the services are to be performed, covering OMNI's financial and distribution accounts for employee theft, forgery or alteration, and fund transfer fraud. Upon request Employer shall be named as a Loss Payee under said policy.
- iii. OMNI shall also provide and pay full premiums on a Data Breach and Privacy Security Liability policy issued by a carrier authorized to provide such coverage in the State in which the services are to be performed, insuring against claims and/or breaches made with a limit of \$2,000,000 per each claim/breach made, and \$2,000,000 in aggregate.

#### FEE SCHEDULE FOR 2017-2018 YEAR

#### Billing Option: Preferred Provider Program (P3) - Limited

Description	No of Accounts	Rate	Ann	ual Amount
P3 Administrative Fee		\$ 1,500.00	\$	1,500.00
Non-P3 Service Provider 403(b)*	43	\$36.00		1,548.00
457(b) Accounts	5			Included

#### Total 2017-2018

\*Includes 403(b) ROTH Accounts if allowed

#### EMPLOYER:

By:	
<b>_</b> <i>j</i> .	

Title:	

Date:	

PLEASE RETURN A SIGNED COPY BY JULY 1, 2	2017

NY-107

Name:

By:

Date:

\$

Robert F. McLean, President

May 23, 2017

**OMNI FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.** 

3.048.00



Watertower Office Park 1099 Jay Street Bldg. F. 2nd Floor Rochester, NY 14611 2.22.a

## Services Agreement Reinstatement

#### Name of Employer: Levittown Union Free School District

The Services Agreement for the fiscal year Jul 1, 2016 – Jun 30, 2017 entered into by your organization and The Omni Group ("OMNI"), is hereby reinstated and amended for the fiscal year Jul 1, 2017 - Jun 30, 2018 with the following fee schedule below:

Insurance, and Crime Policy provision is hereby modified to read:

- i. Provide and pay the full premiums for errors and omissions insurance coverage issued by a carrier authorized to provide such coverage in the State in which the services are to be performed, insuring against claims made, resulting or emanating from the Services that OMNI is providing the Employer pursuant to this agreement with a limit to \$5,000,000 per claim made, \$5,000,000 in aggregate.
- ii. OMNI shall also provide and pay the full premiums on a crime policy in the amount of \$10,000,000 by a carrier licensed to issue such policies in the State in which the services are to be performed, covering OMNI's financial and distribution accounts for employee theft, forgery or alteration, and fund transfer fraud. Upon request Employer shall be named as a Loss Payee under said policy.
- iii. OMNI shall also provide and pay full premiums on a Data Breach and Privacy Security Liability policy issued by a carrier authorized to provide such coverage in the State in which the services are to be performed, insuring against claims and/or breaches made with a limit of \$2,000,000 per each claim/breach made, and \$2,000,000 in aggregate.

#### FEE SCHEDULE FOR 2017-2018 YEAR

#### Billing Option: Preferred Provider Program (P3) - Limited

Description	No of Accounts	Rate	Ann	ual Amount
P3 Administrative Fee		\$ 1,500.00	\$	1,500.00
Non-P3 Service Provider 403(b)*	43	\$36.00		1,548.00
457(b) Accounts	5			Included

#### Total 2017-2018

-	1.1			_
\$		2	040	0

\*Includes 403(b) ROTH Accounts if allowed

B	1:				

Title:			

100 000				
Date:				
Date.	All and a second s			

OMNI	FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.
Name:	Kabrit fill for #
By:	Robert F. McLean, President
Date:	May 23, 2017

----

PLEASE RETURN A	SIGNED COPY E	3Y JULY 1, 2017
-----------------	---------------	-----------------

NY-107

Phone: (585) 436-OMNI · FAX: (585) 436-3633 · Toll Free: (877) 544-OMNI · www.omni403b.com

## Parent Members of the Committee on Special Education

July 1, 2017

Tricia Wittman

Karen Buttner

Joe Trumpy

Dawn Santorufo

Tina O'Keefe

# Levittown Public Schools

# Code of Conduct



Attachment: Code of Conduct 2016-17 (Bd approved 7-6-16) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

# **Table of Contents**

I.	Introduction1
II.	Definitions2
III.	Student Rights and Responsibilities5
IV.	Essential Partners
V.	Student Dress Code9
VI.	Prohibited Student Conduct
VII.	Reporting Violations
VIII.	Disciplinary Penalties, Procedures, and Referrals14
IX.	Alternative Instruction
X.	Extra-Curricular and Athletic Participation25
XI.	Discipline of Students with Disabilities
XII.	Corporal Punishment
XIII.	Student Searches and Interrogations
XIV.	Visitors to the Schools41
XV.	Public Conduct on School Property42
XVI.	Dissemination and Review44
XVII.	Appendices45
	a. Student/Parent/School Contract for Extra-Curricular Participation

# Levittown Public Schools Code of Conduct

## I. Introduction

The Board of Education ("Board") is committed to providing a safe and orderly school environment where students may receive and district personnel may deliver quality educational services without disruption or interference. Responsible behavior by students, teachers, coaches, other district personnel, parents and other visitors is essential to achieving this goal.

The district has a long-standing set of expectations for conduct on school property and at school functions. These expectations are based on the principles of civility, mutual respect, citizenship, character, tolerance, honesty and integrity.

In accordance with the **Dignity for All Students Act**, School District policy and practice must ensure that no student is subject to discrimination or harassment, based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity or sex by school employees or students on school property, on a school bus, or at a school function.

The Board recognizes the need to clearly define these expectations for acceptable conduct on school property, to identify the possible consequences of unacceptable conduct, and to ensure that discipline when necessary is administered promptly and fairly. To this end, the Board adopts this code of conduct ("code").

Unless otherwise indicated, this code applies to all students, school personnel, parents and other visitors when on school property or attending a school function.

# **II. Definitions**

For purposes of this code, the following definitions apply.

"**Disruptive student**" means an elementary or secondary student under the age of 21 who is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom.

"Parent" means parent, guardian or person in parental relation to a student.

"**School property**" means in or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, parking lot or land contained within the real property boundary line of a public elementary or secondary school, or in or on a school bus, as defined in Vehicle and Traffic Law §142.

**"School Bus"** means every motor vehicle owned and operated for the transportation or pupils, children of pupils, teachers and other persons acting in a supervisory capacity, to or from school or school activities, or, privately owned and operated for compensation for the transportation of pupils, children of pupils, teachers and other persons acting in a supervisory capacity to or from school or school activities.

"School function" means any school-sponsored extra-curricular event or activity.

**"Disability"** means (a) a physical, mental or medical impairment resulting from anatomical, physiological, genetic or neurological conditions which prevents the exercise of a normal bodily function or is demonstrable by medically accepted clinical or laboratory diagnostic techniques, or (b) a record of such an impairment.

**"Employee"** means any person receiving compensation from a school district or employee of a contracted service provider or worker placed within the school under a public assistance employment program.

"Race" means a group of persons related by a common descent or heredity.

"Color" refers to the apparent pigmentation of the skin, especially an indication or possible indication of race.

"Weight" refers to a person's size.

"National Origin" means a person's country of birth or ancestor's country of birth.

**"Ethnic Group**" means a group of people who identify with each other through a common heritage including language, culture, and often a shared or common religion and or ideology that stresses ancestry.

Attachment: Code of Conduct 2016-17 (Bd approved 7-6-16) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

**"Religion"** means specific fundamental beliefs and practices generally agreed to by large numbers of the group of the group or a body of persons adhering to a particular set of beliefs and practices.

"Sex" means the biological and physiological characteristics that define men and women.

"Gender" means the socially constructed roles, behaviors, activities, and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for men and women.

Sexual orientation means the sex to which a person is sexually attracted.

"Violent student" means a student under the age of 21 who:

- 1. Commits an act of violence upon a school employee, or attempts to do so.
- 2. Commits, while on school property or at a school function, an act of violence upon another student or any other person lawfully on school property or at the school function, or attempts to do so.
- 3. Possesses, while on school property or at a school function, a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb, or other dangerous instrument capable of causing physical injury or death.
- 4. Displays, while on school property or at a school function, what appears to be a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb or other dangerous instrument capable of causing death or physical injury
- 5. Threatens, while on school property or at a school function, to use any instrument that appears capable of causing physical injury or death
- 6. Knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys the personal property of any school employee or any person lawfully on school property or at a school function.
- 7. Knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys school district property.

"Weapon" means a firearm as defined in 18 USC §921 for purposes of the Gun-Free Schools Act. It also means any other gun, BB gun, pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, machine gun, disguised gun, dagger, dirk, razor, stiletto, switchblade knife, gravity knife, brass knuckles, sling shot, metal knuckle knife, box cutter, cane sword, electronic dart gun, Shirken, Kung Fu star, electronic stun gun, pepper spray or other noxious spray, explosive or incendiary bomb, or other device, instrument, material or substance that can cause physical injury or death when used to cause physical injury or death.

**"Extra-Curricular"** and **"Interscholastic activities"** and **"Interscholastic athletics"** means school sponsored activities that are either off school property, extend to before or after the school day, or that occur on holidays or weekends or other times when school is not in session. These activities are not mandated by any curriculum, either as adopted by the Board of Education in Levittown or by any other controlling agency.

"Intimidation", "Harassment", "Menacing", and "Bullying" (IHMB) mean threatening, stalking or seeking to coerce or compel a person to do something; intentionally placing or attempting to place another person in fear of imminent physical injury; or engaging in verbal or physical conduct that threatens another with harm, including intimidation through the use of

epithets or slurs involving race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, religious practices, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability that substantially disrupts the educational process

"Cyberbullying" means the repeated use of information technology, including, but not limited to, e-mail, instant message, blogs, chat rooms, pagers, cell phones, and gaming systems, to deliberately harass, threaten or intimidate others.

"Sexting" means sending, receiving or forwarding sexually suggestive nude or nearly nude photos through text message or email.

## **III. Student Rights and Responsibilities**

- A. Student Rights The district is committed to safeguarding the rights given to all students under state and federal law. In addition, to promote a safe, healthy, orderly and civil school environment, all district students have the right to:
  - 1. Take part in all district activities on an equal basis regardless of race, color, weight, ethnic group, national origin, religion, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability.
  - 2. Present their version of the relevant events to school personnel authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty.
  - 3. Access school rules and, when necessary, receive an explanation of those rules from school personnel.
  - 4. Right to request an investigation regarding discrimination/bullying/harassment.
  - 5. Right to a safe learning environment.
  - 6. To be protected from intimidation, harassment, or discrimination based on actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, or religious practice, sec, gender/gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability, by employees or students on school property or at a school-sponsored event, function or activity.
- B. Student Responsibilities All district students have the responsibility to:
  - 1. Contribute to maintaining a safe and orderly school environment that is conducive to learning and to show respect to other persons and to property.
  - 2. Be familiar with and abide by all district policies, rules and regulations dealing with student conduct. Attend school every day unless they are legally excused and be in class, on time, and prepared to learn.
  - 3. Work to the best of their ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward their highest level of achievement possible.
  - 4. React to direction given by teachers, administrators and other school personnel in a respectful, positive manner.
  - 5. Work to develop mechanisms to control their anger.
  - 6. Ask questions when they do not understand.
  - 7. Seek help in solving problems that might lead to discipline.
  - 8. Dress appropriately for school and school functions.
  - 9. Accept responsibility for their actions.
  - 10. Conduct themselves as representatives of the district when participating in or attending school-sponsored extracurricular events and to hold themselves to the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, and sportsmanship.
  - 11. To respect one another and treat others fairly in accordance with the District Code of Conduct and the provisions of the Dignity Act. To conduct themselves in a manner that fosters an environment that is free from intimidation, harassment, or discrimination. To report and encourage others, to report any incidents of intimidation, harassment or discrimination.

# **IV. Essential Partners**

- A. Parents All parents are expected to:
  - 1. Recognize that the education of their child(ren) is a joint responsibility of the parents and the school community.
  - 2. Send their children to school ready to participate and learn.
  - 3. Ensure their children attend school regularly and on time.
  - 4. Ensure absences are excused.
  - 5. Insist their children be dressed and groomed in a manner consistent with the student dress code.
  - 6. Help their children understand that in a democratic society appropriate rules are required to maintain a safe, orderly environment.
  - 7. Know school rules and help their children understand them.
  - 8. Convey to their children a supportive attitude toward education and the district.
  - 9. Build good relationships with teachers, other parents and their children's friends.
  - 10. Help their children deal effectively with peer pressure.
  - 11. Inform school officials of changes in the home situation that may affect student conduct or performance.
  - 12. Provide a place for study and ensure homework assignments are completed.
  - 13. Teach their children respect and dignity for themselves, and other students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, which will strengthen the child's confidence and promote learning in accordance with the Dignity for All Students Act.
- B. Teachers & Coaches All district teachers & Coaches are expected to:
  - 1. Maintain a climate of mutual respect and dignity, for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, which will strengthen students' self-concept and promote confidence to learn.
  - 2. Confront issues of discrimination and harassment in any situation that threatens the emotional or physical health or safety of any student, school employee or any person who is lawfully on school property or at a school function.
  - 3. Address personal biases that may prevent equal treatment of all students in the school or classroom setting.
  - 4. Conduct themselves in a professional way, using socially acceptable language. Examples of unacceptable language is cursing or swearing or using vulgar or abusive language.
  - 5. Be prepared to teach and/or coach
  - 6. Demonstrate interest in teaching and/or coaching and a concern for student achievement, either in the classroom or on the athletic field.
  - 7. Know school policies and rules, and enforce them in a fair and consistent manner. Report incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or otherwise brought to a teacher's attention to a building administrator and/or Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) in a timely manner.
  - 8. Teachers will communicate to students and parents:
    - a. Course objectives and requirements

- b. Marking/grading procedures
- c. Assignment deadlines
- d. Expectations for students
- e. Classroom discipline plan.
- f. Communicate regularly with students, parents and other teachers concerning growth and achievement.
- 9. Coaches will communicate to students and parents:
  - a. Team objectives and requirements
  - b. Practice and game dates
  - c. Expectations of team members
  - d. Coaches will act, intervene and report bullying, harassment and or discrimination
- C. Guidance Counselors & Social Workers
  - 1. Maintain and encourage a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, with an understanding of appropriate appearance, language, and behavior in a school setting, which will strengthen students' self-image and promote confidence to learn.
  - 2. Assist students in coping with peer pressure and emerging personal, social and emotional problems.
  - 3. Initiate teacher/student/counselor conferences and parent/teacher/student counselor conferences, as necessary, as a way to resolve problems.
  - 4. Regularly review with students their educational progress and career plans.
  - 5. Provide information to assist students with career planning.
  - 6. Encourage students to benefit from the curriculum and extracurricular programs.

#### D. Principals

- 1. Promote a safe, orderly and stimulating school environment, supporting active teaching and learning.
- 2. Need to create an environment that values and teaches respect for all; an environment that is culturally sensitive and models positive behavioral interactions that clearly show that no tolerance exists for certain types of behaviors, including, but not limited to, bullying and harassment.
- 3. Ensure that students and staff have the opportunity to communicate regularly with the principal and approach the principal for redress of grievances.
- 4. Evaluate on a regular basis all instructional programs.
- 5. Support the development of and student participation in appropriate extracurricular activities.
- 6. Be responsible for enforcing the code of conduct and ensuring that all cases are resolved promptly and fairly.
- 7. Ensure that the issues of bullying and cyber bullying are addressed with students throughout the year.
- 8. Maintain and encourage a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, with an understanding of appropriate appearance, language, and behavior in a school setting, which will strengthen students' self-image and promote confidence to learn.

- 9. Follow up on any incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or otherwise brought to the Principal's attention in a timely manner in collaboration with the Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC).
- E. Superintendent
  - 1. Promote a safe, orderly and stimulating school environment, free from intimidation, discrimination and harassment, supporting active teaching and learning.
  - 2. Create an environment that values and teaches respect for all; an environment that is culturally sensitive and models positive behavioral interactions that clearly show that no tolerance exists for certain types of behaviors including, but not limited to, bullying and harassment.
  - 3. Review with district administrators the policies of the Board of Education and state and federal laws relating to school operations and management.
  - 4. Inform the Board about educational trends relating to student discipline.
  - 5. Work to create instructional programs that minimize problems of misconduct and are sensitive to student and teacher needs, as well as courses that teach students how to be responsible "digital citizens".
  - 6. Work with district administrators in enforcing the code of conduct and ensuring that all cases are resolved promptly and fairly.
- F. Board of Education
  - 1. Collaborate with student, teacher, administrator, and parent organizations, school safety personnel and other school personnel to develop a code of conduct that clearly defines expectations for the conduct of students, district personnel and visitors on school property and at school functions.
  - 2. Adopt and review at least annually the district's code of conduct to evaluate the code's effectiveness and the fairness and consistency of its implementation.
  - 3. Lead by example by conducting Board meetings in a professional, respectful, courteous manner.
  - 4. Appoint a Dignity Act Coordinator in each school building. The Dignity Act Coordinator will be thoroughly trained to handle human relations in the areas of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, and sex. The Dignity Act Coordinator will be accessible to students and other staff members for consultation and advice as needed on the Dignity Act.
- G. Expectation for Other School Staff
  - 1. Maintain and encourage a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, with an understanding or appropriate appearance, language, and behavior in a school setting, which will strengthen students' self-image and promote confidence to learn.

# V. Student Dress Code

The Board of Education requires students to attend school in appropriate dress that meets health and safety standards and does not interfere with the learning process. The Board also requires students to wear appropriate protective gear in certain classes (i.e., home and careers, technology, P.E.).

A student's dress, grooming, appearance and hygiene, including hairstyle, jewelry, make-up, and nails, shall:

- 1. Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.
- 2. Ensure that underwear and torso skin are completely covered with outer clothing.
- 3. Include footwear at all times. Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed.
- 4. Not include the wearing of hats and/or any headgear in school, except for medical or religious purposes.
- 5. Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, libelous, or that denigrate others.
- 6. Not glorify, promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities, including those related to gang paraphernalia or organizations promoting violence or hatred. Those garments that are sexually suggestive as well, are banned.

Each building principal shall be responsible for informing all students and their parents of the student dress code at the beginning of the school year and any revisions to the dress code made during the school year.

Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offensive item, and if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school or out-of-school suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further disciplinary actions.

The Superintendent of Schools and other designated administrative personnel shall have the authority to require a student to change his/her attire, should it be deemed inappropriate according to the above guidelines.

# VI. Prohibited Student Conduct

The Board of Education expects all students to conduct themselves in an appropriate and civil manner, with proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, district personnel and other members of the school community, and for the care of school facilities and equipment.

The best discipline is self-imposed, and students must learn to assume and accept responsibility for their own behavior, as well as the consequences of their misbehavior. District personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on the students' ability to grow in self-discipline. It is expected that District personnel make every effort to have the student learn from the disciplinary experience rather than just punish the student.

The Board recognizes the need to make its expectations for student conduct while on school property or engaged in a school function specific and clear. The rules of conduct listed below are intended to do that and focus on safety and respect for the rights and property of others. Students who will not accept responsibility for their own behavior and who violate these school rules will be required to accept the penalties for their conduct.

Students may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school, when they:

- A. Engage in conduct that is disorderly. Examples of disorderly conduct include:
  - 1. Running in hallways.
  - 2. Making unreasonable noise.
  - 3. Using language or gestures that are profane, lewd, vulgar or abusive.
  - 4. Obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
  - 5. Engaging in any willful act that disrupts the normal operation of the school community.
  - 6. Trespassing. Students are not permitted in any school building, other than the one they regularly attend, without permission from the administrator in charge of the building.
  - 7. Computer/electronic communications misuse, including any unauthorized use of computers, software, or internet/intranet account; accessing inappropriate websites; or any other violation of the district's acceptable use policy.
  - 8. Unauthorized use of cameras, video and audio recording devices.
  - 9. Unauthorized use of personal communication devices (including cell phones) during the school day, including features such as video and audio recording.
- B. Engage in conduct that is insubordinate. Examples of insubordinate conduct include:
  - 1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school employees in charge of students or otherwise demonstrating disrespect.
  - 2. Lateness for, missing or leaving school without permission.
  - 3. Skipping detention.
- C. Engage in conduct that is disruptive. Examples of disruptive conduct include:
  - 1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school personnel in charge of students.

Attachment: Code of Conduct 2016-17 (Bd approved 7-6-16) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

- D. Engage in conduct that is violent. Examples of violent conduct include:
  - 1. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, and scratching) upon a teacher, administrator or other school employee or attempting to do so;
  - 2. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, and scratching) upon another student or any other person lawfully on school property or attempting to do so;
  - 3. Engaging in harassing conduct, verbal threats, intimidation, or abuse that reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical well-being.
  - 4. Possessing a weapon, while on school district property. Examples of weapons include, but are not limited to: a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb, or other dangerous instrument capable of causing physical injury or death;
  - 5. Displaying, while on school district property, what appears to be a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb or other dangerous instrument capable of causing death or physical injury;
  - 6. Threatening, while on school district property to use any instrument that appears capable of causing physical injury or death;
  - 7. Knowingly and intentionally damaging or destroying the personal property of a student, teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
  - 8. Knowingly and intentionally damaging or destroying school district property.
  - E. Engage in any conduct on school district property or during a school sponsored activity that endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others. Examples of such conduct include:
    - 1. Lying to school personnel.
    - 2. Stealing the property of other students, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function.
    - 3. Defamation, which includes making false or unprivileged statements or representations about an individual or identifiable group of individuals that harm the reputation of the person or the identifiable group by demeaning them. This can include posting or publishing video, audio recordings or pictures (written material, cell phones, Internet, YouTube, etc.)
    - 4. Discrimination, which includes the use of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability as a basis for treating another in a negative manner.
    - 5. Bullying, which consists of inappropriate persistent behavior including threats or intimidation of others, treating others cruelly, terrorizing, coercing, or habitually insulting, humiliating and/or badgering others.
    - 6. Harassment, which includes a sufficiently severe action or a persistent, pervasive pattern of actions or statements directed at an identifiable individual or group which are intended to be or which a reasonable person would perceive as ridiculing or demeaning.
    - 7. Intimidation, which includes engaging in actions or statements that put an individual in fear of bodily harm.
    - 8. "Internet bullying" (also referred to as "cyberbullying") including the use of instant messaging, email, websites, chat rooms, text messaging, or by any other electronic

means., when such use interferes with the operation of the school; or infringes upon the general health, safety and welfare of students or employees.

- 9. Hazing, which includes any intentional or reckless act directed against another for the purpose of initiation into, affiliating with or maintaining membership in any school sponsored activity, organization, club or team.
- 10. Selling, using or possessing obscene material.
- 11. Using vulgar or abusive language, cursing or swearing.
- 12. Smoking a cigarette, cigar, pipe or using chewing or smokeless tobacco.
- 13. Possessing, consuming, selling, distributing or exchanging alcoholic beverages or illegal substances, or being under the influence of either. "Illegal substances" include, but are not limited to, inhalants, marijuana, synthetic cannabinoids, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, heroin, steroids, look-alike drugs, and any substances commonly referred to as "designer drugs."
- 14. Inappropriately using or sharing prescription and over-the-counter drugs.
- 15. Gambling.
- 16. Indecent exposure, that is, exposure to sight of the private parts of the body in a lewd or indecent manner.
- 17. Initiating a report warning of fire or other catastrophe without valid cause, misuse of 911, or discharging a fire extinguisher.
- F. Engage in misconduct while on a school bus. It is crucial for students to behave appropriately while riding on district buses to ensure their safety and that of other passengers and to avoid distracting the bus driver. Students are required to conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior. Excessive noise, pushing, shoving and fighting harassment, and discrimination will not be tolerated.
- G. Engage in any form of academic misconduct. Examples of academic misconduct include:
  - 1. Plagiarism.
  - 2. Cheating.
  - 3. Copying.
  - 4. Altering records.
  - 5. Assisting another student in any of the above actions.
- H. Engage in off-campus misconduct that endangers the health and safety of students or staff within the school or substantially disrupts or is likely to substantially disrupt the educational process. Examples of such misconduct include, but are not limited to:.
  - 1. Cyber bullying, which consists of the repeated use of information technology, including, but not limited to, e-mail, instant message, blogs, chat rooms, pagers, cell phones, and gaming systems, to deliberately harass, threaten or intimidate others.
  - 2. Sexting, which consists of sending, receiving or forwarding sexually suggestive nude or nearly nude photos through text message or email.
  - 3. Threatening or harassing students or school personnel over the phone or other electronic medium.
  - 4. Using message boards to convey threats, derogatory comments or post pornographic pictures of students or school personnel.

# **VII. Reporting Violations**

All students are expected to promptly report violations of the code of conduct to a teacher, guidance counselor, the building principal or his or her designee. Any student observing a student possessing a weapon, alcohol or illegal substance on school property or at a school function shall report this information, immediately to a teacher, the building principal, the principal's designee or the superintendent.

All district staff that is authorized to impose disciplinary sanctions is expected to do so in a prompt, fair and lawful manner. District staff that are not authorized to impose disciplinary sanctions are expected to promptly report violations of the code of conduct to their supervisor, who shall in turn impose an appropriate disciplinary sanction, if so authorized, or refer the matter to a staff member who is authorized to impose an appropriate sanction.

Any weapon, alcohol or illegal substance found shall be confiscated immediately, if possible, followed by notification to the parent of the student involved and the appropriate disciplinary sanction if warranted, which may include permanent suspension and referral for prosecution.

## VIII. Disciplinary Penalties, Procedures and Referrals

Discipline is most effective when it deals directly with the problem at the time and place it occurs, and in a way that students view as fair and impartial. School personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on the students' ability to grow in self-discipline.

Disciplinary action, when necessary, will be firm, fair and consistent so as to be the most effective in changing student behavior. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, school personnel authorized to impose disciplinary penalties will consider the following:

- 1. The student's age.
- 2. The nature of the offense and the circumstances which led to the offense.
- 3. The student's prior disciplinary record.
- 4. The effectiveness of other forms of discipline.
- 5. Information from parents, teachers and/or others, as appropriate
- 6. Other extenuating circumstances.

As a general rule, discipline will be progressive; this means that a student's first violation will usually merit a lighter penalty than subsequent violations.

If the conduct of a student is related to a disability or suspected disability, the student shall be referred to the Committee on Special Education and discipline, if warranted, shall be administered consistent with the separate requirements of this code of conduct for disciplining students with a disability or presumed to have a disability.

### A. Penalties

Students who are found to have violated the district's code of conduct may be subject to the following penalties, either alone or in combination. The school personnel identified after each penalty are authorized to impose that penalty, consistent with the student's right to due process.

- 1. Oral warning any member of the district staff
- 2. Written warning bus drivers, hall and lunch monitors, coaches, guidance counselors, teachers, principal, superintendent
- 3. Written notification to parent bus driver, hall and lunch monitors, coaches, guidance counselors, teachers, principal, superintendent
- 4. Detention teachers, principal, superintendent
- 5. Suspension from transportation director of transportation, principal, superintendent
- 6. Suspension from athletic participation coaches, principal, superintendent (See Separate section on Extra-Curricular and Athletic participation)
- 7. Suspension from social or extracurricular activities activity director, principal, superintendent (See Separate section on Extra-Curricular and Athletic participation)
- 8. Suspension of other privileges principal, superintendent
- 9. In-school suspension principal, superintendent
- 10. Removal from classroom by teacher teachers, principal
- 11. Short-term (five days or less) suspension from school principal, superintendent, Board of Education

Attachment: Code of Conduct 2016-17 (Bd approved 7-6-16) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

2.39.a

- Levittown Public Schools Code of Conduct
  - 12. Long-term (more than five days) suspension from school superintendent, Board of Education
  - 13. Permanent suspension from school superintendent, Board of Education.

#### **B.** Procedures

The amount of due process a student is entitled to receive before a penalty is imposed depends on the penalty being imposed. In all cases, regardless of the penalty imposed, the school personnel authorized to impose the penalty must inform the student of the alleged misconduct and must investigate, to the extent necessary, the facts surrounding the alleged misconduct. All students will have an opportunity to present their version of the facts to the school personnel imposing the disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty.

Students who are to be given penalties other than an oral warning, written warning or written notification to their parents are entitled to additional rights before the penalty is imposed. These additional rights are explained below.

- 1. Detention-Teachers, principals and the superintendent may use after school detention as a penalty for student misconduct in situations where removal from the classroom or suspension would be inappropriate. Detention will be imposed as a penalty only after the student's parent has been notified to confirm that there is no parental objection to the penalty and the student has appropriate transportation home following detention.
- 2. Suspension from transportation-If a student does not conduct himself/herself properly on a bus; the bus driver is expected to bring such misconduct to the building principal's attention. Students who become a serious disciplinary problem may have their riding privileges suspended by the building principal or the superintendent or their designees. In such cases, the student's parent will become responsible for seeing that his or her child gets to and from school safely. Should the suspension from transportation amount to a suspension from attendance; the district will make appropriate arrangements to provide for the student's education. A student subjected to a suspension from transportation is not entitled to a full hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. However, the student and the student's parent will be provided with a reasonable opportunity for an informal conference with the building principal or the principal's designee to discuss the conduct and the penalty involved.
- 3. Suspension from athletic participation, extracurricular activities and other privileges-See Separate section on Extra-Curricular and Athletic participation
- 4. In-school suspension-The Board recognizes the school must balance the need of students to attend school and the need for order in the classroom to establish an environment conducive to learning. As such, the Board authorizes building principals and the superintendent to place students who would otherwise be suspended from school as the result of a code of conduct violation in "in-school suspension." The in-school suspension teacher will be a certified teacher. A student subjected to an in-school suspension is not entitled to a full hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. However, the student and the

student's parent will be provided with a reasonable opportunity for an informal conference with the district official imposing the in-school suspension to discuss the conduct and the penalty involved.

- 5. If the student violation involved the use, sale or possession of tobacco, the student may be required to enroll in a smoking cessation program as set forth in Section X (J)(5) of this document (page 26).
- 6. Teacher disciplinary removal of disruptive students
  - a. A student's behavior can affect a teacher's ability to teach and can make it difficult for other students in the classroom to learn. In most instances the classroom teacher can control a student's behavior and maintain or restore control over the classroom by using good classroom management techniques. These techniques may include practices that involve the teacher directing a student to briefly leave the classroom to give the student an opportunity to regain his or her composure and self-control in an alternative setting. Such practices may include, but are not limited to:
    - i. short-term "time out" in an elementary classroom or in an administrator's office;
    - ii. sending a student to the principal's office for the remainder of the class time only; or
    - iii. sending a student to a guidance counselor or other district staff member for counseling. Time-honored classroom management techniques such as these do not constitute disciplinary removals for purposes of this code.
  - b. On occasion, a student's behavior may become disruptive. For purposes of this code of conduct, a disruptive student is a student who is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom. A substantial disruption of the educational process or substantial interference with a teacher's authority occurs when a student demonstrates a persistent unwillingness to comply with the teacher's instructions or repeatedly violates the teacher's classroom behavior rules.
  - c. At the request of a teacher, and with the approval of Administration, a disruptive student may be removed from class for up to two days, during which time the student will be placed in a supervised area at the principal's discretion. The removal will apply to the class of the removing teacher only.
  - d. If the disruptive student does not pose a danger or ongoing threat of disruption to the academic process, the teacher must provide the student with an explanation for why he or she is being removed and an opportunity to explain

his or her version of the relevant events before the student is removed. Only after the informal discussion may a teacher remove a student from class.

- e. If the student poses a danger or ongoing threat of disruption, the teacher may order the student to be removed immediately. The teacher must, however, explain to the student why he or she was removed from the classroom and give the student a chance to present his or her version of the relevant events within 24 hours.
- f. The teacher must complete a district-established disciplinary removal form or email notification and meet with the principal or his or her designee as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the school day, to explain the circumstances of the removal and to present the removal form or email. If the principal or designee is not available by the end of the same school day, the teacher must leave the form or email notification with the secretary and meet with the principal or designee prior to the beginning of classes on the next school day.
- g. Within 24-hours after the student's removal, the principal or another district administrator designated by the principal must notify the student's parents, in writing, that the student has been removed from class and why. The notice must also inform the parent that he or she has the right, upon request, to meet informally with the principal or the principal's designee to discuss the reasons for the removal.
- h. The written notice must be provided by personal delivery, express mail delivery, or some other means that is reasonably calculated to assure receipt of the notice within 24 hours of the student's removal at the last known address for the parents. Where possible, notice should also be provided by telephone if the school has been provided with a telephone number(s) for the purpose of contacting parents.
- i. The principal may require the teacher who ordered the removal to attend the informal conference.
- j. If at the informal meeting the student denies the charges, the principal or the principal's designee must explain why the student was removed and give the student and the student's parents a chance to present the student's version of the relevant events. The informal meeting must be held within 48 hours of the student's removal. The timing of the informal meeting may be extended by mutual agreement of the parent and principal.
- k. The principal or the principal's designee may overturn the removal of the student from class if the principal finds any one of the following:

- i. The charges against the student are not supported by substantial evidence.
- ii. The student's removal is otherwise in violation of law, including the district's code of conduct.
- iii. The conduct warrants suspension from school pursuant to Education Law §3214 and a suspension will be imposed.
- 1. The principal or his or her designee may overturn a removal at any point between receiving the referral form issued by the teacher and the close of business on the day following the 48-hour period for the informal conference, if a conference is requested. No student removed from the classroom by the classroom teacher will be permitted to return to the classroom until the principal makes a final determination, or the period of removal expires, whichever is less.
- m. Any disruptive student removed from the classroom by the classroom teacher shall be offered continued educational programming and activities until he or she is permitted to return to the classroom.
- n. Each teacher must keep a complete log (on a district-provided form) for all cases of removal of students from his or her class.
- o. The principal must keep a log of all removals of students from class.
- p. Removal of a student with a disability, under certain circumstances, may constitute a change in the student's placement. Accordingly, no teacher may remove a student with a disability from his or her class until he or she has verified with the principal or the chairperson of the Committee on Special Education that the removal will not violate the student's rights under state or federal law or regulation.
- 7. Suspension From School
  - a. Suspension from school is a severe penalty, which may be imposed only upon students who are insubordinate, disorderly, violent or disruptive, or whose conduct otherwise endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others.
  - b. The Board retains its authority to suspend students, but places primary responsibility for the suspension of students with the superintendent and the building principals.
  - c. Any staff member may recommend to the superintendent or the principal that a student be suspended. All staff members must immediately report and refer a violent student to the principal or the superintendent for a violation of the code of conduct. All recommendations and referrals shall be made in writing unless the conditions underlying the recommendation or referral warrant immediate

attention. In such cases a written report is to be prepared as soon as possible by the staff member recommending the suspension.

- d. The superintendent or principal, upon receiving a recommendation or referral for suspension or when processing a case for suspension, shall gather the facts relevant to the matter and record them for subsequent presentation, if necessary.
  - i. Short-term (5 days or less) suspension from school
    - 1. When the superintendent or principal (referred to as the "suspending authority") proposes to suspend a student charged with misconduct for five days or less pursuant to Education Law \$3214(3), the suspending authority must immediately notify the student orally. If the student denies the misconduct, the suspending authority must provide an explanation of the basis for the proposed suspension. The suspending authority must also notify the student's parents in writing that the student may be suspended from school. The written notice must be provided by personal delivery, express mail delivery, or some other means that is reasonably calculated to assure receipt of the notice within 24 hours of the decision to propose suspension at the last known address for the parents. Where possible, notice should also be provided by telephone if the school has been provided with a telephone number(s) for the purpose of contacting the parents.
    - 2. The notice shall provide a description of the charges against the student and the incident for which suspension is proposed and shall inform the parents of the right to request an immediate informal conference with the principal. Both the notice and informal conference shall be in the dominant language or mode of communication used by the parents. At the conference, the pupil and the person in parental relation to the pupil shall, be authorized to present the pupil's version of the event and to ask questions of the complaining witnesses.
    - 3. The notice and opportunity for an informal conference shall take place before the student is suspended unless the student's presence in school poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the academic process. If the student's presence does pose such a danger or threat of disruption, the notice and opportunity for an informal conference shall take place as soon after the suspension as is reasonably practicable.

Attachment: Code of Conduct 2016-17 (Bd approved 7-6-16) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

- 4. After the conference, the principal shall promptly advise the parents in writing of his or her decision. The principal shall advise the parents that if they are not satisfied with the decision and wish to pursue the matter, they must file a written appeal to the superintendent within five business days, unless they can show extraordinary circumstances precluding them from doing so. The superintendent shall issue a written decision regarding the appeal within 10 business days of receiving the appeal. If the parents are not satisfied with the superintendent's decision, they must file a written appeal to the Board of Education with the district clerk within 15 business days of the date of the superintendents' decision, unless they can show extraordinary circumstances precluding them from doing so. Only final decisions of the Board may be appealed to the Commissioner within 30 days of the decision.
- ii. Long-term (more than 5 days) suspension from school
  - 1. When the superintendent or building principal determines that a suspension for more than five days may be warranted, he or she shall give reasonable notice to the student and the student's parents of their right to a fair hearing. At the hearing the student shall have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to question witnesses against him or her and the right to present witnesses and other evidence on his or her behalf.
  - 2. The superintendent shall personally hear and determine the proceeding or may, in his or her discretion, designate a hearing officer to conduct the hearing. The hearing officer shall be authorized to administer oaths and to issue subpoenas in conjunction with the proceeding before him or her. A record of the hearing shall be maintained, but no stenographic transcript shall be required. A tape recording shall be deemed a satisfactory record. The hearing officer shall make findings of fact and recommendations as to the appropriate measure of discipline to the superintendent. The report of the hearing officer shall be advisory only, and the superintendent may accept all or any part thereof.
  - 3. An appeal of the decision of the superintendent may be made to the Board that will make its decision based solely upon the record before it. All appeals to the Board must be in writing and submitted to the district clerk within 15 business days of the date of the superintendent's decision, unless the parents can show that extraordinary circumstances precluded them from doing so. The Board may adopt in whole or in part the decision

Attachment: Code of Conduct 2016-17 (Bd approved 7-6-16) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

of the superintendent. Final decisions of the Board may be appealed to the Commissioner within 30 days of the decision.

- iii. Permanent suspension
  - 1. Permanent suspension is reserved for extraordinary circumstances such as where a student's conduct poses a life threatening danger to the safety and well-being of other students, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function.
- e. Minimum Periods of Suspension
  - i. Students who bring a weapon to school
    - 1. Any student, other than a student with a disability, found guilty of bringing a weapon onto school property will be subject to suspension from school for at least one calendar year. Before being suspended, the student will have an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. The superintendent has the authority to modify the one-year suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the superintendent may consider the following:
      - a. The student's age.
      - b. The student's grade in school.
      - c. The student's prior disciplinary record.
      - d. The superintendent's belief that other forms of discipline may be more effective.
      - e. Input from parents, teachers and/or others.
      - f. Other extenuating circumstances.
    - 2. A student with a disability may be suspended only in accordance with the requirements of state and federal law.
  - ii. Students who commit violent acts other than bringing a weapon to school
    - 1. Any student, other than a student with a disability, who is found to have committed a violent act, other than bringing a weapon onto school property, shall be subject to suspension from school for at least five days. If the proposed penalty is the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parents will be given the same notice and opportunity for an informal conference given to all students subject to a short-term suspension. If the proposed penalty exceeds the minimum

five-day suspension, the student and the student's parents will be given the same notice and opportunity for a hearing given to all students subject to a long-term suspension. The superintendent has the authority to modify the minimum five-day suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the superintendent may consider the same factors considered in modifying a one-year suspension for possessing a weapon.

- 2. Any student, other than a student with a disability, who repeatedly is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom, will be suspended from school for at least five days. For purposes of this code of conduct, "repeatedly is substantially disruptive" means engaging in conduct that results in the student being removed from the classroom by teacher(s) pursuant to Education Law §3214(3-a) and this code on four or more occasions during a semester, or three or more occasions during a trimester. If the proposed penalty is the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parent will be given the same notice and opportunity for an informal conference given to all students subject to a short-term suspension. If the proposed penalty exceeds the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parent will be given the same notice and opportunity for a hearing given to all students subject to a long-term suspension. The superintendent has the authority to modify the minimum five-day suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the superintendent may consider the same factors considered in modifying a one-year suspension for possessing a weapon.
- f. Referrals
  - i. Counseling
    - 1. The Guidance Office shall handle all referrals of students to counseling.
  - ii. PINS Petitions
    - 1. The district may file a PINS (person in need of supervision) petition in Family Court on any student under the age of 18 who demonstrates that he or she requires supervision and treatment by:

- a. Being habitually truant and not attending school as required by part one of Article 65 of the Education Law.
- b. Engaging in an ongoing or continual course of conduct that makes the student ungovernable or habitually disobedient and beyond the lawful control of the school.
- c. Knowingly and unlawfully possesses marijuana in violation of Penal Law § 221.05. A single violation of § 221.05 will be a sufficient basis for filing a PINS petition.
- iii. Juvenile Delinquents and Juvenile Offenders
  - 1. The superintendent is required to refer the following students to the County Attorney for a juvenile delinquency proceeding before the Family Court
  - 2. Any student under the age of 16 who is found to have brought a weapon to school; or
  - 3. Any student 14 or 15 years old who qualifies for juvenile offender status under the Criminal Procedure Law §1.20 (42)
  - 4. The superintendent is required to refer students aged 16 and older or any student 14 or 15 years old who qualifies for juvenile offender status to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

# **IX.** Alternative Instruction

When a teacher removes a student of any age from class, or a student of compulsory attendance age is suspended from school pursuant to Education Law §3214, the district will take immediate steps to provide alternative means instruction for the student.

24

# X. Extra-Curricular and Athletic Participation

### A. Misson Statement

The District recognizes the valuable contribution Extra-Curricular and interscholastic activities make to a student's growth and development. For many students, these activities not only provide learning activities in the social and cognitive domains but also often provide motivation for recalcitrant learners to come to school and actively participate in the academic day. To this end, the Levittown School District (hereinafter referred to as "the District") provides a variety of Extra-Curricular activities that complement the educational and athletic development of each student. Parents/guardians and the school community need to work together to provide these activities for our children. This code is not meant to usurp or restrict the responsibility of parents. The Levittown School District feels very strongly that parents must monitor their own children's behavior and impose their own discipline measures beyond those consequences outlined in this document.

This section applies to any and all Levittown School District students who wish to be involved in Extra-Curricular activities offered by Levittown Schools, including all clubs, organizations and athletics.

Extra-Curricular participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, to the team/club, to the student body, and to the community. When a participant accepts this privilege he/she must also live up to the code of conduct beyond that of the general student body, on and off school property. It is imperative that all students abide by the following:

- 1. Show pride and respect for their school and for their fellow students whom they represent, by being good citizens, good sports, and good students.
- 2. Be loyal to the school, its coaching/advisory staff and contribute to team/school spirit.
- 3. Condition properly so that they can safely and adequately meet the physical demands of a sport.
- 4. Follow training rules that are established by the school and the coach.
- 5. Be responsible for all equipment issued, take proper care of it and return it at the proper time.
- 6. Abide by and respect all decisions of officials.
- 7. Support all school activities to the best of their ability.

### **B.** Eligibility

Extra-Curricular activities are open to all students of the Levittown School District. No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be

discriminated against, under any educational program, or activity, or service, in this district, on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, creed or religion, marital status, age, or disability.

### C. Participation

- 1. In order to participate in extracurricular programs, students (Grades 7 12) must maintain academic standards as determined by the District.
- 2. In order to participate in Athletics, the student must attend an anti-hazing presentation at a time and place to be determined by the District's Athletic Director.
- 3. The District also recognizes the amount of time students have is finite and participation in Extra-Curricular and interscholastic activities may create situations where students are drawn away from their homework and studies by after school activities. Since both issues are important, the District will provide a program of report card monitoring and required extra help when students engaged in Extra-Curricular and/or interscholastic activities are found to be failing, or in jeopardy of failing in their studies. For specific information regarding this issue, refer to Levittown Public Schools Board of Education Regulation #5200, adopted on October 28, 1998 and Revised on February 17, 1999.
- 4. Except for those instances when a student is attending extra help sessions, attendance at all athletic practices and games is mandatory. Only the coach can excuse an athlete from either practice or games. It is the athlete's responsibility to notify the coach in the event it becomes necessary to miss a practice or a game. In the event of an unauthorized absence from or lateness to a game or practice, the athlete may be suspended from the team. Attending an extra help session is an excused absence.
- 5. During the participation in practices, meetings, events and games, all injuries must be reported immediately so that the coach/advisor can file the appropriate report. Students should be aware that parental consent must be available for emergency hospital treatment. It is understood that voluntary participation in all sports requires an acceptance of risk of possible injury. Students can help make the game safer by using techniques which are legal and proper and which will not cause injury. The coaching staff is made up of professionals certified by the State who will continually and repeatedly teach techniques that are fundamental to the sport.
- 6. Club advisors can mandate that a student must participate in a certain number of meetings/events in order to be counted among that club's membership, however students who attend extra help sessions will not have that counted against them, as long as they provide the advisor with proof of attendance at the aforementioned extra help sessions.
- 7. Students who fail physical education class cannot participate in athletic competition until a passing grade is attained.

### **D.** Transportation

When the school provides transportation, all students will travel to and from the scheduled event on school transportation, unless they are released to their parents or

legal guardian due to an emergency or unusual circumstance. The decision to release a student to the parents or legal guardians is at the discretion of the advisor or coach.

### E. Vacations/Absences From School

- 1. If a student misses scheduled events/activities/practices/games due to vacations with parents while school is in session, those absences will be considered unexcused.
- 2. In the event five consecutive days of school are missed, and a doctor's note stating the student is fit to participate in athletics is not presented, athletes must report to the school nurse and arrange for re-examination by the school physician before he or she may again join the team.
- 3. A student who has not been legally present in school may not participate in any Extra-Curricular activities, including proms, during that day.

### F. Equipment

- 1. The Board of Education supplies equipment for athletic programs in the district. All equipment issued must be maintained in good condition and returned at the completion of the season, without any alteration by athletes. If lost or damaged, equipment must be replaced or payment must be made to the school district. It is the responsibility of each athlete to safeguard his/her equipment against theft. An athlete may not participate on another team until all equipment is handed in or paid for.
- 2. The school district is not responsible for students' personal property at Extra-Curricular activities.

#### G. Student and Parent Contract

- 1. The privilege of participation carries the responsibility of adherence to the Code of Conduct. As representatives of Levittown Schools, participants are expected to display exemplary conduct at all times, whether or not engaged in a formal activity.
- 2. Parents, participants and spectators are prohibited from smoking at school-sponsored events and on school grounds, whether it is inside the school or outside on the playing fields.
- 3. The Code of Conduct establishes the standards expected for participants in all Extra-Curricular activities. Failure to conform to the Code of Conduct will result in appropriate disciplinary action. A student agreement, parental permission slip and interscholastic health information form (athletics only) must be presented prior to Extra-Curricular involvement.

#### H. Enforcement

The Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct is enforced during the school year, twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven days a week, while participant is enrolled in high school or middle school, as long as there is a nexus between the student's conduct and school.

27

activities and events occurring over school recesses and the summer break. Consequences for code violations that occur in the summer/off-season will be enforced at the beginning of the school year/season.

### I. Code of Conduct Violations

#### Violation of the Code of Conduct under this section will occur when students:

- 1. Conduct themselves in any way that would otherwise be a violation of the Levittown Schools Code of Conduct.
- 2. Are involved in threatening, hazing activities, and personal misconduct that involves police or court action whether during or outside school hours or sport seasons.
- 3. Are involved in bullying, cyber-bullying, discrimination or harassment in any form.
- 4. Attend a party or other gathering (unless accompanied at all times by the participant's parent/guardian) where alcohol or illegal drugs are available for consumption by the participant or any underage individual in attendance. A participant should leave a party or gathering immediately upon knowing of, or detecting by use of any of the participant's senses, the availability of alcohol or illegal drugs at the party or gathering. If a nexus is found to exist between school and the party or gathering, any student who decides to remain at the party or gathering may be questioned about his or her involvement and discipline measures may be enacted if a student has been found to be a participant or organizer during which illegal actions occur.
- 5. Consume, possess, use, purchase, sell, conceal, or transmit alcohol, any controlled substance, inhalant, paraphernalia, intoxicant, or any illegal drugs on school property or during school-sponsored events.
- 6. Use, possess or distribute tobacco products on school grounds or at school-sponsored events
- 7. Use, possess, or distribute firearms, dangerous weapon(s) or explosive devices on school grounds or at school-sponsored events.

#### J. Code Violation Consequences

In addition to suspension/detentions meted out by school administration, students may be subject to suspension from extracurricular activities, including but not limited to clubs and sports. Students who violate the Drug and Alcohol portion of this Code (offenses #4 and #5 listed above), and who wish to participate in any Extra-Curricular activity must, in addition to any other consequence provided herein, attend Substance Abuse counseling, to be arranged by the school district. Students who violate offense #6, listed above, may continue to participate in Extra-Curricular activities, provided they attend and continue to attend a smoking/tobacco cessation program and do so for a minimum of 10 weeks. Attendance in the program is subject to verification by school personnel.

#### K. Suspension

Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

Students enrolled in Extra-Curricular activities who are under suspension from school may not participate in practices, contests, productions, performances, meetings, field trips, etc., sponsored by the Extra-Curricular activity.

#### L. Appeal Panel

- 1. An administrator shall be appointed by the Principal to investigate suspected violations of the Code of Conduct under this section, and shall render a decision within two weeks.
- 2. A student/parent may appeal the decision of the Principal or the Principal's designee by requesting review by an Appeal Panel.
- 3. The principal will establish the Appeal Panel annually. It will include, but is not limited to:
  - □ An assistant principal/dean of students
  - **D** The building athletic director
  - □ A guidance counselor
  - $\Box \quad A \text{ coach}$
  - □ A co-curricular advisor
  - **□** The on-site drug and alcohol counselor.
- 4. The original administrator investigating the claim shall not be a voting member of the committee, but will make a full report as to his or her findings regarding this incident and may be present at all times.
- 5. A student charged with a violation of this Code will be given a written notice of violation. The student may appear before, and be heard by the Appeal Panel, with or without a representative.
- 6. The Panel may, in its discretion, conduct further investigation, including requesting the appearance before it, of the alleged violator and/or witnesses with information concerning the alleged violations.
- 7. Decisions rendered by the Appeal Panel will require a simple majority vote based on the evidence presented.
- 8. The student may appeal the decision by presenting a written request to the building principal within 2 days after receiving the notice of violation.
- 9. The Appeal Panel is not bound by formal rules of evidence of procedure in the conduct of its investigations and deliberations, and there is no right on the part of the participant to record the proceedings or to confront or cross-examine witnesses.
- 10. The Appeal Panel may withhold awards or honors pending its decision.
- 11. A participant may request review by the Assistant Superintendent for Administration of a decision by the Appeal Panel finding a Code violation. Such a request must be

in writing and given to the principal with 2 days of being notified of the Appeal Panel's decision. The participant shall have the right to appear before the Assistant Superintendent for Administration, with or without a representative. The Assistant Superintendent for Administration's decision in the matter is final. Pending the Assistant Superintendent's review and decision, the decision of the Appeal Panel shall remain in full force and effect.

## XI. Discipline of Students with Disabilities

The Board recognizes that it may be necessary to suspend, remove or otherwise discipline students with disabilities to address disruptive or problem behavior. The Board also recognizes that students with disabilities enjoy certain procedural protections whenever school authorities intend to impose discipline upon them. The Board is committed to ensuring that the procedures followed for suspending, removing or otherwise disciplining students with disabilities are consistent with the procedural safeguards required by applicable laws and regulations.

This code of conduct affords students with disabilities subject to disciplinary action no greater or lesser rights than those expressly afforded by applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

- A. Authorized Suspensions or Removals of Students with Disabilities
  - 1. For purposes of this section of the code of conduct, the following definitions apply
    - a. A "suspension" means a suspension pursuant to Education Law § 3214.
    - b. A "removal" means a removal for disciplinary reasons from the student's current educational placement other than a suspension and change in placement to an interim alternative educational setting (IAES) ordered by an impartial hearing officer because the student poses a risk of harm to himself or herself or others.
    - c. An "IAES" means a temporary educational placement for a period of up to 45 days, other than the student's current placement at the time the behavior precipitating the IAES placement occurred, that enables the student to continue to progress in the general curriculum, although in another setting, to continue to receive those services and modifications, including those described on the student's current individualized education program (IEP), that will enable the student to meet the goals set out in such IEP, and include services and modifications to address the behavior which precipitated the IAES placement that are designed to prevent the behavior from recurring. "Weapon" means the same as "dangerous weapon" under 18 U.S.C. § 930 (g) (w) which includes "a weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury, except ... [for] a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2 1/2 inches in length."
    - d. "Controlled substance" means a drug or other substance identified in certain provisions of the federal Controlled Substances Act specified in both federal and state law and regulations applicable to this policy.

Attachment: Code of Conduct 2016-17 (Bd approved 7-6-16) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

- e. "Illegal drugs" means a controlled substance except for those legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health-care professional or that is legally possessed or used under any other authority under the Controlled Substances Act or any other federal law.
- 2. School personnel may order the suspension or removal of a student with a disability from his or her current educational placement as follows:
  - a. The Board, the district (BOCES) superintendent of schools or a building principal may order the placement of a student with a disability into an IAES, another setting or suspension for a period not to exceed five consecutive school days and not to exceed the amount of time a non-disabled student would be subject to suspension for the same behavior, subject to the provisions of paragraph 4(d) of this Section.
  - b. The superintendent may order the placement of a student with a disability into an IAES, another setting or suspension for up to 10 consecutive school days, inclusive of any period in which the student has been suspended or removed under subparagraph (a) above for the same behavior, if the superintendent determines that the student has engaged in behavior that warrants a suspension and the suspension or removal does not exceed the amount of time non-disabled students would be subject to suspension for the same behavior.
  - c. The superintendent may order additional suspensions of not more than 10 consecutive school days in the same school year for separate incidents of misconduct, as long as those removals do not constitute a change of placement.
  - d. The superintendent may order the placement of a student with a disability in an IAES to be determined by the committee on special education (CSE), for the same amount of time that a student without a disability would be subject to discipline, but not more than 45 days, if the student (a) carries or possesses a weapon to school or to a school function, (b) knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at school or a school function, or (c) causes serious bodily injury to another student or staff member.
- 3. Subject to specified conditions required by both federal and state law and regulations, an impartial hearing officer may order the placement of a student with a disability in an IAES setting for up to 45 days at a time, if maintaining the student in his or her current educational placement poses a risk of harm to the student or others.
- 4. Change of Placement Rule
  - a. A disciplinary change in placement means a suspension or removal from a student's current educational placement that is either:

Attachment: Code of Conduct 2016-17 (Bd approved 7-6-16) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

- b. for more than 10 consecutive school days; or
- c. for a period of 10 consecutive school days or less if the student is subjected to a series of suspensions or removals that constitute a pattern because they cumulate to more than 10 school days in a school year and because of such factors as the length of each suspension or removal, the total amount of time the student is removed and the proximity of the suspensions or removals to one another.
- d. School personnel may not suspend or remove a student with disabilities if imposition of the suspension or removal would result in a disciplinary change in placement based on a pattern of suspension or removal.

However, the district may impose a suspension or removal, which would otherwise result in a disciplinary change in placement, if the Manifestation Team has determined that the behavior was <u>not</u> a manifestation of the student's disability, or if the student is placed in an IAES for behavior involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances or causing bodily injury to others.

- B. Special Rules Regarding the Suspension or Removal of Students with Disabilities
  - 1. The district's Committee on Special Education shall:
    - a. Conduct functional behavioral assessments to determine why a student engages in a particular behavior, and develop or review behavioral intervention plans whenever the district is first suspending or removing a student with a disability for more than 10 school days in a school year or imposing a suspension or removal that constitutes a disciplinary change in placement, including a change in placement to an IAES, for misconduct involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances.
    - b. If subsequently, a student with a disability who has a behavioral intervention plan and who has been suspended or removed from his or her current educational placement for more than 10 school days in a school year is subjected to a suspension or removal that does not constitute a disciplinary change in placement, the members of the CSE shall review the behavioral intervention plan and its implementation to determine if modifications are necessary.
    - c. If one or more members of the CSE believe that modifications are needed, the school district shall convene a meeting of the CSE to modify such plan and its implementation, to the extent the committee determines necessary.
  - 2. The parents of a student who is facing disciplinary action, but who has not been determined to be eligible for services under IDEA and Article 89 at the time of misconduct, shall have the right to invoke applicable procedural safeguards set forth

in federal and state laws and regulations if, in accordance with federal and state statutory and regulatory criteria, the school district is deemed to have had knowledge that their child was a student with a disability before the behavior precipitating disciplinary action occurred. If the district is deemed to have had such knowledge, the student will be considered a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes.

- a. The superintendent, building principal or other school official imposing a suspension or removal shall be responsible for determining whether the student is a student presumed to have a disability.
- b. A student will not be considered a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes if, upon receipt of information supporting a claim that the district had knowledge the student was a student with a disability, the district either:
  - i. conducted an individual evaluation and determined that the student is not a student with a disability, or
  - ii. determined that an evaluation was not necessary and provided notice to the parents of such determination, in the manner required by applicable law and regulations.
- c. If there is no basis for knowledge that the student is a student with a disability prior to taking disciplinary measures against the student, the student may be subjected to the same disciplinary measures as any other non-disabled student who engaged in comparable behaviors.
- 3. However, if a request for an individual evaluation is made while such non-disabled student is subjected to a disciplinary removal, an expedited evaluation shall be conducted and completed in the manner prescribed by applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Until the expedited evaluation is completed, the non-disabled student who is not a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes shall remain in the educational placement determined by the district, which can include suspension.
- 4. The district shall provide parents with notice of disciplinary removal no later than the date on which a decision is made to change the placement of a student with a disability to an IAES for either misconduct involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances or serious bodily injury because maintaining the student in his/her current educational setting poses a risk of harm to the student or others; or a decision is made to impose a suspension or removal that constitutes a disciplinary change in placement. The procedural safeguards notice prescribed by the Commissioner shall accompany the notice of disciplinary removal.

Attachment: Code of Conduct 2016-17 (Bd approved 7-6-16) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

- 5. The parents of a student with disabilities subject to a suspension of five consecutive school days or less shall be provided with the same opportunity for an informal conference available to parents of non-disabled students under the Education Law.
- 6. Superintendent hearings on disciplinary charges against students with disabilities subject to a suspension of more than five school days shall be bifurcated into a guilt phase and a penalty phase in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Commissioner's regulations incorporated into this code.
- 7. The removal of a student with disabilities other than a suspension or placement in an IAES shall be conducted in accordance with the due process procedures applicable to such removals of non-disabled students, except that school personnel may not impose such removal for more than 10 consecutive days or for a period that would result in a disciplinary change in placement, unless the Manifestation Team has determined that the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability.
- 8. During any period of suspension or removal, including placement in an IAES, students with disabilities shall be provided services as required by the Commissioner's regulations incorporated into this code.
- C. Expedited Due Process Hearings
  - 1. An expedited due process hearing shall be conducted in the manner specified by the Commissioner's regulations incorporated into this code, if:
    - a. The district requests such a hearing to obtain an order of an impartial hearing officer placing a student with a disability in an IAES where school personnel maintain that it is dangerous for the student to be in his or her current educational placement, or during the pendency of due process hearings where school personnel maintain that it is dangerous for the student to be in his or her current educational placement during such proceedings.
    - b. The parent requests such a hearing from a determination that the student's behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability, or relating to any decision regarding placement, including but not limited to any decision to place the student in an IAES.
      - i. During the pendency of an expedited due process hearing or appeal regarding the placement of a student in an IAES for behavior involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances, serious bodily injury, or on grounds of dangerousness, or regarding a determination that the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability for a student who has been placed in an IAES, the student shall remain in the IAES pending the decision of the impartial hearing officer or until expiration of the IAES placement, whichever occurs first, unless the parents and the district agree otherwise.

35

- ii. If school personnel propose to change the student's placement after expiration of an IAES placement, during the pendency of any proceeding to challenge the proposed change in placement, the student shall remain in the placement prior to removal to the IAES, except where the student is again placed in an IAES.
- 2. An expedited due process hearing shall be completed within 15 business days of receipt of the request for a hearing. Although the impartial hearing officer may grant specific extensions of such time period, he or she must mail a written decision to the district and the parents within five business days after the last hearing date, and in no event later than 45 calendar days after receipt of the request for a hearing, without exceptions or extensions.
- 3. Referral to law enforcement and judicial authorities
  - a. In accordance with the provisions of IDEA and its implementing regulations:
    - 1. The district may report a crime committed by a child with a disability to appropriate authorities, and such action will not constitute a change of the student's placement.
    - 2. The superintendent shall ensure that copies of the special education and disciplinary records of a student with disabilities are transmitted for consideration to the appropriate authorities to which a crime is reported.

# **XII.** Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is any act of physical force or punishment upon a student for the purpose of punishing that student. Corporal punishment of any student by any district employee is strictly forbidden.

However, in situations where alternative procedures and methods that do not involve the use of physical force cannot reasonably be used, reasonable physical force may be used to:

- 1. Protect oneself, another student, teacher or any person from physical injury.
- 2. Protect the property of the school or others.
- 3. Restrain or remove a student whose behavior interferes with the orderly exercise and performance of school district functions, powers and duties, if that student has refused to refrain from further disruptive acts.

The district will file all complaints about the use of corporal punishment with the Commissioner of Education in accordance with Commissioner's regulations.

Attachment: Code of Conduct 2016-17 (Bd approved 7-6-16) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

# XIII. Student Searches and Interrogations

The Board of Education is committed to ensuring an atmosphere on school property and at school functions that is safe and orderly. To achieve this kind of environment, any school official authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty on a student may question a student about an alleged violation of law or the district code of conduct. Students are not entitled to any sort of "Miranda" -type warning before being questioned by school officials, nor are school officials required to contact a student's parent before questioning the student. However, school officials will tell all students why they are being questioned.

In addition, the Board authorizes the superintendent, building principals, the school nurse and district security officials to conduct searches of students and their belongings if the authorized school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the search will result in evidence that the student violated the law or the district code of conduct.

An authorized school official may conduct a search of a student's belongings that is minimally intrusive, such as touching the outside of a book bag, without reasonable suspicion, so long as the school official has a legitimate reason for the very limited search.

The building principal (or, in the absence of, the principal's designee) may search a student or the student's belongings based upon information received from a reliable informant. Individuals, other than the district employees, will be considered reliable informants if they have previously supplied information that was accurate and verified, or they make an admission against their own interest, or they provide the same information that is received independently from other sources, or they appear to be credible and the information they are communicating relates to an immediate threat to safety. District employees will be considered reliable informants unless they are known to have previously supplied information that they knew was not accurate.

Before searching a student or the student's belongings, the authorized school official should attempt to get the student to admit that he or she possesses physical evidence that they violated the law or the district code, or get the student to voluntarily consent to the search. Searches will be limited to the extent necessary to locate the evidence sought. Strip searches of students are prohibited.

Whenever practicable, searches will be conducted in the privacy of administrative offices and students will be present when their possessions are being searched.

### A. Student Lockers, Desks and other School Storage Places

The rules in this code of conduct regarding searches of students and their belongings do not apply to student lockers, desks and other school storage places. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy with respect to these places and school officials retain complete control over them. This means that student lockers, desks and other school storage places may be subject to search at any time by school officials, without prior notice to students and without their consent.

#### **B.** Documentation of Searches

The authorized school official conducting the search shall be responsible for promptly recording the following information about each search:

- 1. Name, age and grade of student searched.
- 2. Reasons for the search.
- 3. Name of any informant(s).
- 4. Purpose of search (that is, what item(s) were being sought).
- 5. Type and scope of search.
- 6. Person conducting search and his or her title and position.
- 7. Witnesses, if any, to the search.
- 8. Time and location of search.
- 9. Results of search (that is, what items(s) were found).
- 10. Disposition of items found.
- 11. Time, manner and results of parental notification.

The building principal or the principal's designee shall be responsible for the custody, control and disposition of any illegal or dangerous item taken from a student. The principal or his or her designee shall clearly label each item taken from the student and retain control of the item(s), until the items is turned over to the police. The principal or his or her designee shall be responsible for personally delivering dangerous or illegal items to police authorities.

#### C. Police Involvement in Searches and Interrogations of Students

District officials are committed to cooperating with police officials and other law enforcement authorities to maintain a safe school environment. Police officials, however, have limited authority to interview or search students in schools or at school functions, or to use school facilities in connection with police work. Police officials may enter school property or a school function to question or search a student or to conduct a formal investigation involving students only if they have:

- 1. A search or an arrest warrant; or
- 2. Probable cause to believe a crime has been committed on school property or at a school function; or
- 3. Been invited by school officials.

Before police officials are permitted to question or search any student, the building principal or his or her designee shall first try to notify the student's parent to give the parent the opportunity to be present during the police questioning or search. If the student's parent cannot be contacted prior to the police questioning or search, the questioning or search shall not be conducted. The principal or designee will also be present during any police questioning or search of a student on school property or at a school function.

Students who are questioned by police officials on school property or at a school function will be afforded the same rights they have outside the school. This means:

- 1. They must be informed of their legal rights.
- 2. They may remain silent if they so desire.

3. They may request the presence of an attorney.

### D. Child Protective Services Investigations

Consistent with the district's commitment to keep students safe from harm and the obligation of school officials to report to child protective services when they have reasonable cause to suspect that a student has been abused or maltreated, the district will cooperate with local child protective services workers who wish to conduct interviews of students on school property relating to allegations of suspected child abuse, and/or neglect, or custody investigations.

All requests by child protective services to interview a student on school property shall be made directly to building principal or his or her designee. The principal or his or her designee shall set the time and place of the interview. The principal or designee shall decide if it is necessary and appropriate for a school official to be present during the interview, depending on the age of the student being interviewed and the nature of the allegations. If the nature of the allegations is such that it may be necessary for the student to remove any of his or her clothing in order for the child protective services worker to verify the allegations, the school nurse or other district medical personnel must be present during that portion of the interview. No student may be required to remove his or her clothing in front of a child protective services worker or school district official of the opposite sex.

A child protective services worker may not remove a student from school property without a court order, unless the worker reasonably believes that the student would be subject to immediate danger of abuse if not he or she were not removed from school before a court order can reasonably be obtained. If the worker believes the student would be subject to immediate danger of abuse, the worker may remove the student without a court order and without the parent's consent upon providing the District with a signed written statement to that effect.

### **XIV.** Visitors to the Schools

The Board encourages parents and other district citizens to visit the district's schools and classrooms to observe the work of students, teachers and other staff. Since schools are a place of work and learning, however, certain limits must be set, for such visits. The building principal or his or her designee is responsible for all persons in the building and on the grounds. For these reasons, the following rules apply to visitors to the schools:

- 1. Anyone who is not a regular staff member or student of the school will be considered a visitor.
- 2. All visitors to the school must report to the office of the principal upon arrival at the school. There they will be required to sign the visitor's register and will be issued a visitor's identification badge, which must be worn at all times while in the school or on school grounds. The visitor must return the identification badge to the principal's office before leaving the building.
- 3. Visitors attending school functions that are open to the public, such as parent-teacher organization meetings or public gatherings, are not required to register.
- 4. Parents or citizens who wish to observe a classroom while school is in session are required to arrange such visits in advance with the classroom teacher(s), so that class disruption is kept to a minimum.
- 5. Teachers are expected not to take class time to discuss individual matters with visitors.
- 6. Any unauthorized person on school property will be reported to the principal or his or her designee. Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave. The police may be called if the situation warrants.
- 7. All visitors are expected to follow the directions of district staff members during safety drills (fire, lockdown, etc.)
- 8. All visitors are expected to abide by the rules for public conduct on school property contained in this code of conduct.

# **XV. Public Conduct on School Property**

The district is committed to providing an orderly, respectful environment that is conducive to learning. To create and maintain this kind of an environment, it is necessary to regulate public conduct on school property and at school functions. For purposes of this section of the code, "public" shall mean all persons when on school property or attending a school function including students, teachers and district personnel.

The restrictions on public conduct on school property and at school functions contained in this code are not intended to limit freedom of speech or peaceful assembly. The district recognizes that free inquiry and free expression are indispensable to the objectives of the district. The purpose of this code is to maintain public order and prevent abuse of the rights of others.

All persons on school property or attending a school function shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner. In addition, all persons on school property or attending a school function are expected to be properly attired for the purpose they are on school property.

### A. Prohibited Conduct

No person, either alone or with others, shall:

- 1. Intentionally injure any person or threaten to do so.
- 2. Intentionally damage or destroy school district property or the personal property of a teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
- 3. Disrupt the orderly conduct of classes, school programs or other school activities.
- 4. Distribute or wear materials on school grounds or at school functions that are obscene, advocate illegal action, appear libelous, obstruct the rights of others, or are disruptive to the school program.
- 5. Intimidate, harass or discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
- 6. Enter any portion of the school premises without authorization or remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed.
- 7. Obstruct the free movement of any person in any place to which this code applies.
- 8. Violate the traffic laws, parking regulations or other restrictions on vehicles;
- 9. Possess, consume, sell, distribute or exchange alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, or be under the influence of either on school property or at a school function.
- 10. Consume, sell, distribute or exchange tobacco products on school property or at a school function.
- 11. Possess or use weapons in or on school property or at a school function, except in the case of law enforcement officers or except as specifically authorized by the school district.
- 12. Loiter on or about school property.
- 13. Gamble on school property or at school functions.

Attachment: Code of Conduct 2016-17 (Bd approved 7-6-16) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

2.39.a

- 14. Refuse to comply with any reasonable order of identifiable school district officials performing their duties.
- 15. Willfully incite others to commit any of the acts prohibited by this code.
- 16. Violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance or Board policy while on school property or while at a school function.

### **B.** Penalties

Persons who violate this code shall be subject to the following penalties:

- 1. Visitors Their authorization, if any, to remain on school grounds or at the school function shall be withdrawn and they shall be directed to leave the premises. If they refuse to leave, they shall be subject to ejection and possible criminal prosecution.
- 2. Students They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant, in accordance with the due process requirements.
- 3. Tenured faculty members They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance with Education Law §3020-a or any other legal rights that they may have.
- 4. Staff members in the classified service of the civil service entitled to the protection of Civil Service Law §75 They shall be subject to immediate ejection and to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance with Civil Service Law §75 or any other legal rights that they may have.
- 5. Staff members other than those described in subdivisions 4 and 5 They shall be subject to warning, reprimand, suspension or dismissal as the facts may warrant in accordance with any legal rights they may have.

### C. Enforcement

The building principal or his or her designee shall be responsible for enforcing the conduct required by this code.

When the building principal or his or her designee sees an individual engaged in prohibited conduct, which in his or her judgment does not pose any immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or his or her designee shall tell the individual that the conduct is prohibited and attempt to persuade the individual to stop. The principal or his or her designee shall also warn the individual of the consequences for failing to stop. If the person refuses to stop engaging in the prohibited conduct, or if the person's conduct poses an immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or his or her designee shall have the individual removed immediately from school property or the school function. If necessary, local law enforcement authorities will be contacted to assist in removing the person.

The district shall initiate disciplinary action against any student or staff member, as appropriate, with the "Penalties" section above. In addition, the district reserves its right to pursue a civil or criminal legal action against any person violating the code.

## XVI. Dissemination and Review

### A. Dissemination of Code of Conduct

The Board will work to ensure that the community is aware of this code of conduct by:

- 1. Providing copies of a summary of the code to all students, at a general school assembly held at the beginning of each school year.
- 2. Making copies of the code available to all parents at the beginning of the school year.
- 3. Mailing a summary of the code of conduct written in plain language to all parents of district students before the beginning of the school year and making this summary available later upon request.
- 4. Providing all current teachers and other staff members with a copy of the code and a copy of any amendments to the code as soon as practicable after adoption.
- 5. Providing all new employees with a copy of the current code of conduct when they are first hired.
- 6. Making copies of the code available for review by students, parents and other community members.

The Board will sponsor an in-service education program for all district staff members to ensure the effective implementation of the code of conduct. The superintendent may solicit the recommendations of the district staff, particularly teachers and administrators, regarding in service programs pertaining to the management and discipline of students.

The Board of Education will review this code of conduct every year and update it as necessary. In conducting the review, the Board will consider how effective the code's provisions have been and whether the code has been applied fairly and consistently.

The Board may appoint an advisory committee to assist in reviewing the code and the district's response to code of conduct violations. The committee will be made up of representatives of student, teacher, administrator, and parent organizations, school safety personnel and other school personnel.

Before adopting any revisions to the code, the Board will hold at least one public hearing at which school personnel, parents, students and any other interested party may participate.

The District shall post the complete Code of Conduct (with all amendments and annual updates) on the District's website. The District shall file a copy of its Code of Conduct and any amendments with the Commissioner, in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner, no later than thirty (30) days after their respective adoption.

The code of conduct and any amendments to it will be filed with the Commissioner no later than 30 days of adoption.

# Levittown School District Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct

Student/Parent/School Contract

### PARENT AND STUDENT MUST SIGN BELOW

I have read and understand the Levittown School District Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct and this form. I accept my responsibilities to them.

Signature of Student

Date

I have read and understand the Levittown School District Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct and this form. I accept my responsibilities to them. I request and give my permission for \_\_\_\_\_\_ to participate in any and all Extra-Curricular activities.

Signature of Parent

Date

A student/athlete may not participate in try-outs, practice or contests until this signed permission form is on file with the school. Please sign above, detach from the Code of Conduct, and return this form to the coach/club advisor.

45

### LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Code of Conduct Summary - September 2016

This summary of the school district Code of Conduct has been developed as required by the New York State SAVE Act and will be distributed to students and parents at the beginning of the school year. The entire code is available at the Levittown District Website (www.Levittownschools.com). This Code has been adopted by the Board of Education and submitted to the New York State Education Department as required by law. The Code applies to all students, school personnel, parents, and other visitors when on school property (including school buses and vehicles) or attending school functions and extracurricular activities. The Code contains the following provisions:

- Appropriate conduct, dress and language when on school property, including school functions and extracurricular activities a well as appropriate range of disciplinary procedures that may be imposed for violations of the Code.
- Acceptable civil and respectful treatment of teachers, administrators, other school personnel, students, and visitors on school
- Well as appropriate range of disciplinary procedures that may be imposed for volutions of the Code.
   Acceptable civil and respectful treatment of teachers, administrators, other school personnel, students, and visitors on school property or at school functions and extracurricular activities as well as roles of teachers, coaches, administrators, other school personnel, the Board of Education and parents.
   Standards and procedures to assure the security and safety of students and school personnel.
   Provisions for the removal from the classroom, school property (including school functions and extracurricular activities of physical force, vandalize school property, or violate another student's civil rights, or threaten violence.
   Provisions for the removal of students from the classroom, including plans to ensure continued educational programming and activities for such students.
   Procedures by which violations are reported, determined, discipline measures imposed, and such measures carried out.
   Procedures by which students may be suspended or removed from participation in extracurricular activities, including sports.
   Procedures by which students may be disciplined in school for events that take place out of school when a connection to school exists.
   Procedures for notifying local law enforcement agencies of Code violations which constitute a crime.
   Provisions for notifying persons in parental relation to the student of Code violations by the student.
   Provisions and procedures by which a complaint in criminal court, a juvenile delinquency petition or person in need o supervision petition as defined in Article Three and Seven of the Family Court Act will be filed.
   Circumstances under and procedures by which referral to appropriate human services agencies will be made.
   A minimum suspension period, for students who repeatedly are substantially disruptive of

I have read and understand the complete version of the Levittown School District Code of Conduct from the district

Student Name (please print):

website :

School

Date

Student Signature Date Parent/Guardian Signature Please return this tear-off to your child's classroom teacher (elementary) or 1<sup>st</sup> period teacher (secondary) no later than September 23, 2016. Thank you.

# Levittown Public Schools

# Code of Conduct



### **Table of Contents**

I.	Introduction1
II.	Definitions2
III.	Student Rights and Responsibilities
IV.	Essential Partners
V.	Student Dress Code9
VI.	Prohibited Student Conduct
VII.	Reporting Violations
VIII.	Disciplinary Penalties, Procedures, and Referrals14
IX.	Alternative Instruction
X.	Extra-Curricular and Athletic Participation25
XI.	Discipline of Students with Disabilities
XII.	Corporal Punishment
XIII.	Student Searches and Interrogations
XIV.	Visitors to the Schools41
XV.	Public Conduct on School Property42
XVI.	Dissemination and Review
XVII.	Appendices

a. Student/Parent/School Contract for Extra-Curricular Participation

b. Code of Conduct Summary

Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

# Levittown Public Schools Code of Conduct

# I. Introduction

The Board of Education ("Board") is committed to providing a safe and orderly school environment where students may receive and district personnel may deliver quality educational services without disruption or interference. Responsible behavior by students, teachers, coaches, other district personnel, parents and other visitors is essential to achieving this goal.

The district has a long-standing set of expectations for conduct on school property and at school functions. These expectations are based on the principles of civility, mutual respect, citizenship, character, tolerance, honesty and integrity.

In accordance with the **Dignity for All Students Act**, School District policy and practice must ensure that no student is subject to discrimination or harassment, based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity or sex by school employees or students on school property, on a school bus, or at a school function.

The Board recognizes the need to clearly define these expectations for acceptable conduct on school property, to identify the possible consequences of unacceptable conduct, and to ensure that discipline when necessary is administered promptly and fairly. To this end, the Board adopts this code of conduct ("code").

Unless otherwise indicated, this code applies to all students, school personnel, parents and other visitors when on school property or attending a school function.

Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

## **II. Definitions**

For purposes of this code, the following definitions apply.

"**Disruptive student**" means an elementary or secondary student under the age of 21 who is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom.

"Parent" means parent, guardian or person in parental relation to a student.

"**School property**" means in or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, parking lot or land contained within the real property boundary line of a public elementary or secondary school, or in or on a school bus, as defined in Vehicle and Traffic Law §142.

**"School Bus"** means every motor vehicle owned and operated for the transportation or pupils, children of pupils, teachers and other persons acting in a supervisory capacity, to or from school or school activities, or, privately owned and operated for compensation for the transportation of pupils, children of pupils, teachers and other persons acting in a supervisory capacity to or from school or school activities.

"School function" means any school-sponsored extra-curricular event or activity.

**"Disability"** means (a) a physical, mental or medical impairment resulting from anatomical, physiological, genetic or neurological conditions which prevents the exercise of a normal bodily function or is demonstrable by medically accepted clinical or laboratory diagnostic techniques, or (b) a record of such an impairment.

**"Employee"** means any person receiving compensation from a school district or employee of a contracted service provider or worker placed within the school under a public assistance employment program.

"Race" means a group of persons related by a common descent or heredity.

"Color" refers to the apparent pigmentation of the skin, especially an indication or possible indication of race.

"Weight" refers to a person's size.

"National Origin" means a person's country of birth or ancestor's country of birth.

**"Ethnic Group**" means a group of people who identify with each other through a common heritage including language, culture, and often a shared or common religion and or ideology that stresses ancestry.

#### Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

**"Religion"** means specific fundamental beliefs and practices generally agreed to by large numbers of the group of the group or a body of persons adhering to a particular set of beliefs and practices.

"Sex" means the biological and physiological characteristics that define men and women.

"Gender" means the socially constructed roles, behaviors, activities, and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for men and women.

Sexual orientation means the sex to which a person is sexually attracted.

"Violent student" means a student under the age of 21 who:

- 1. Commits an act of violence upon a school employee, or attempts to do so.
- 2. Commits, while on school property or at a school function, an act of violence upon another student or any other person lawfully on school property or at the school function, or attempts to do so.
- 3. Possesses, while on school property or at a school function, a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb, or other dangerous instrument capable of causing physical injury or death.
- 4. Displays, while on school property or at a school function, what appears to be a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb or other dangerous instrument capable of causing death or physical injury
- 5. Threatens, while on school property or at a school function, to use any instrument that appears capable of causing physical injury or death
- 6. Knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys the personal property of any school employee or any person lawfully on school property or at a school function.
- 7. Knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys school district property.

"Weapon" means a firearm as defined in 18 USC §921 for purposes of the Gun-Free Schools Act. It also means any other gun, BB gun, pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, machine gun, disguised gun, dagger, dirk, razor, stiletto, switchblade knife, gravity knife, brass knuckles, sling shot, metal knuckle knife, box cutter, cane sword, electronic dart gun, Shirken, Kung Fu star, electronic stun gun, pepper spray or other noxious spray, explosive or incendiary bomb, or other device, instrument, material or substance that can cause physical injury or death when used to cause physical injury or death.

"Extra-Curricular" and "Interscholastic activities" and "Interscholastic athletics" means school sponsored activities that are either off school property, extend to before or after the school day, or that occur on holidays or weekends or other times when school is not in session. These activities are not mandated by any curriculum, either as adopted by the Board of Education in Levittown or by any other controlling agency.

"Intimidation", "Harassment", "Menacing", and "Bullying" (IHMB) mean threatening, stalking or seeking to coerce or compel a person to do something; intentionally placing or attempting to place another person in fear of imminent physical injury; or engaging in verbal or physical conduct that threatens another with harm, including intimidation through the use of

epithets or slurs involving race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, religious practices, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability that substantially disrupts the educational process

"Cyberbullying" means the repeated use of information technology, including, but not limited to, e-mail, instant message, blogs, chat rooms, pagers, cell phones, and gaming systems, to deliberately harass, threaten or intimidate others.

"Sexting" means sending, receiving or forwarding sexually suggestive nude or nearly nude photos through text message or email.

Reviewed Revised – July 201<u>7</u>6

I

4

Attachment: Changes - Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

## **III.** Student Rights and Responsibilities

- A. Student Rights The district is committed to safeguarding the rights given to all students under state and federal law. In addition, to promote a safe, healthy, orderly and civil school environment, all district students have the right to:
  - 1. Take part in all district activities on an equal basis regardless of race, color, weight, ethnic group, national origin, religion, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability.
  - 2. Present their version of the relevant events to school personnel authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty.
  - Access school rules and, when necessary, receive an explanation of those rules from school personnel.
  - 4. Right to request an investigation regarding discrimination/bullying/harassment.
  - 5. Right to a safe learning environment.
  - 6. To be protected from intimidation, harassment, or discrimination based on actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, or religious practice, sec, gender/gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability, by employees or students on school property or at a school-sponsored event, function or activity.
- B. Student Responsibilities All district students have the responsibility to:
  - 1. Contribute to maintaining a safe and orderly school environment that is conducive to learning and to show respect to other persons and to property.
  - 2. Be familiar with and abide by all district policies, rules and regulations dealing with student conduct. Attend school every day unless they are legally excused and be in class, on time, and prepared to learn.
  - 3. Work to the best of their ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward their highest level of achievement possible.
  - 4. React to direction given by teachers, administrators and other school personnel in a respectful, positive manner.
  - 5. Work to develop mechanisms to control their anger.
  - 6. Ask questions when they do not understand.
  - 7. Seek help in solving problems that might lead to discipline.
  - 8. Dress appropriately for school and school functions.
  - 9. Accept responsibility for their actions.
  - 10. Conduct themselves as representatives of the district when participating in or attending school-sponsored extracurricular events and to hold themselves to the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, and sportsmanship.
  - 11. To respect one another and treat others fairly in accordance with the District Code of Conduct and the provisions of the Dignity Act. To conduct themselves in a manner that fosters an environment that is free from intimidation, harassment, or discrimination. To report and encourage others, to report any incidents of intimidation, harassment or discrimination.

Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

# **IV. Essential Partners**

- A. Parents All parents are expected to:
  - 1. Recognize that the education of their child(ren) is a joint responsibility of the parents and the school community.
  - 2. Send their children to school ready to participate and learn.
  - 3. Ensure their children attend school regularly and on time.
  - 4. Ensure absences are excused.
  - 5. Insist their children be dressed and groomed in a manner consistent with the student dress code.
  - 6. Help their children understand that in a democratic society appropriate rules are required to maintain a safe, orderly environment.
  - 7. Know school rules and help their children understand them.
  - 8. Convey to their children a supportive attitude toward education and the district.
  - 9. Build good relationships with teachers, other parents and their children's friends.
  - 10. Help their children deal effectively with peer pressure.
  - 11. Inform school officials of changes in the home situation that may affect student conduct or performance.
  - 12. Provide a place for study and ensure homework assignments are completed.
  - 13. Teach their children respect and dignity for themselves, and other students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, which will strengthen the child's confidence and promote learning in accordance with the Dignity for All Students Act.
- B. Teachers & Coaches All district teachers & Coaches are expected to:
  - 1. Maintain a climate of mutual respect and dignity, for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, which will strengthen students' self-concept and promote confidence to learn.
  - 2. Confront issues of discrimination and harassment in any situation that threatens the emotional or physical health or safety of any student, school employee or any person who is lawfully on school property or at a school function.
  - 3. Address personal biases that may prevent equal treatment of all students in the school or classroom setting.
  - 4. Conduct themselves in a professional way, using socially acceptable language. Examples of unacceptable language is cursing or swearing or using vulgar or abusive language.
  - 5. Be prepared to teach and/or coach
  - 6. Demonstrate interest in teaching and/or coaching and a concern for student achievement, either in the classroom or on the athletic field.
  - 7. Know school policies and rules, and enforce them in a fair and consistent manner. Report incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or otherwise brought to a teacher's attention to a building administrator and/or Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) in a timely manner.
  - 8. Teachers will communicate to students and parents:
    - a. Course objectives and requirements

#### Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

- b. Marking/grading procedures
- c. Assignment deadlines
- d. Expectations for students
- e. Classroom discipline plan.
- f. Communicate regularly with students, parents and other teachers concerning growth and achievement.
- 9. Coaches will communicate to students and parents:
  - a. Team objectives and requirements
  - b. Practice and game dates
  - c. Expectations of team members
- d. Coaches will act, intervene and report bullying, harassment and or discrimination
- C. Guidance Counselors & Social Workers
  - 1. Maintain and encourage a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, with an understanding of appropriate appearance, language, and behavior in a school setting, which will strengthen students' self-image and promote confidence to learn.
  - 2. Assist students in coping with peer pressure and emerging personal, social and emotional problems.
  - 3. Initiate teacher/student/counselor conferences and parent/teacher/student counselor conferences, as necessary, as a way to resolve problems.
  - 4. Regularly review with students their educational progress and career plans.
  - 5. Provide information to assist students with career planning.
  - 6. Encourage students to benefit from the curriculum and extracurricular programs.
- D. Principals
  - 1. Promote a safe, orderly and stimulating school environment, supporting active teaching and learning.
  - 2. Need to create an environment that values and teaches respect for all; an environment that is culturally sensitive and models positive behavioral interactions that clearly show that no tolerance exists for certain types of behaviors, including, but not limited to, bullying and harassment.
  - 3. Ensure that students and staff have the opportunity to communicate regularly with the principal and approach the principal for redress of grievances.
  - 4. Evaluate on a regular basis all instructional programs.
  - 5. Support the development of and student participation in appropriate extracurricular activities.
  - 6. Be responsible for enforcing the code of conduct and ensuring that all cases are resolved promptly and fairly.
  - 7. Ensure that the issues of bullying and cyber bullying are addressed with students throughout the year.
  - 8. Maintain and encourage a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, with an understanding of appropriate appearance, language, and behavior in a school setting, which will strengthen students' self-image and promote confidence to learn.

## Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

- 9. Follow up on any incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or otherwise brought to the Principal's attention in a timely manner in collaboration with the Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC).
- E. Superintendent
  - 1. Promote a safe, orderly and stimulating school environment, free from intimidation, discrimination and harassment, supporting active teaching and learning.
  - 2. Create an environment that values and teaches respect for all; an environment that is culturally sensitive and models positive behavioral interactions that clearly show that no tolerance exists for certain types of behaviors including, but not limited to, bullying and harassment.
  - 3. Review with district administrators the policies of the Board of Education and state and federal laws relating to school operations and management.
  - 4. Inform the Board about educational trends relating to student discipline.
  - 5. Work to create instructional programs that minimize problems of misconduct and are sensitive to student and teacher needs, as well as courses that teach students how to be responsible "digital citizens".
  - 6. Work with district administrators in enforcing the code of conduct and ensuring that all cases are resolved promptly and fairly.
- F. Board of Education
  - 1. Collaborate with student, teacher, administrator, and parent organizations, school safety personnel and other school personnel to develop a code of conduct that clearly defines expectations for the conduct of students, district personnel and visitors on school property and at school functions.
  - 2. Adopt and review at least annually the district's code of conduct to evaluate the code's effectiveness and the fairness and consistency of its implementation.
  - 3. Lead by example by conducting Board meetings in a professional, respectful, courteous manner.
  - 4. Appoint a Dignity Act Coordinator in each school building. The Dignity Act Coordinator will be thoroughly trained to handle human relations in the areas of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, and sex. The Dignity Act Coordinator will be accessible to students and other staff members for consultation and advice as needed on the Dignity Act.
- G. Expectation for Other School Staff
  - 1. Maintain and encourage a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, with an understanding or appropriate appearance, language, and behavior in a school setting, which will strengthen students' self-image and promote confidence to learn.

Attachment: Changes - Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

# V. Student Dress Code

The Board of Education requires students to attend school in appropriate dress that meets health and safety standards and does not interfere with the learning process. The Board also requires students to wear appropriate protective gear in certain classes (i.e., home and careers, technology, P.E.).

A student's dress, grooming, appearance and hygiene, including hairstyle, jewelry, make-up, and nails, shall:

- 1. Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.
- 2. Ensure that underwear and torso skin are completely covered with outer clothing.
- 3. Include footwear at all times. Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed.
- 4. Not include the wearing of hats and/or any headgear in school, except for medical or religious purposes.
- 5. Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, libelous, or that denigrate others.
- 6. Not glorify, promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities, including those related to gang paraphernalia or organizations promoting violence or hatred. Those garments that are sexually suggestive as well, are banned.

Each building principal shall be responsible for informing all students and their parents of the student dress code at the beginning of the school year and any revisions to the dress code made during the school year.

Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offensive item, and if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school or out-of-school suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further disciplinary actions.

The Superintendent of Schools and other designated administrative personnel shall have the authority to require a student to change his/her attire, should it be deemed inappropriate according to the above guidelines.

Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

# VI. Prohibited Student Conduct

The Board of Education expects all students to conduct themselves in an appropriate and civil manner, with proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, district personnel and other members of the school community, and for the care of school facilities and equipment.

The best discipline is self-imposed, and students must learn to assume and accept responsibility for their own behavior, as well as the consequences of their misbehavior. District personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on the students' ability to grow in self-discipline. It is expected that District personnel make every effort to have the student learn from the disciplinary experience rather than just punish the student.

The Board recognizes the need to make its expectations for student conduct while on school property or engaged in a school function specific and clear. The rules of conduct listed below are intended to do that and focus on safety and respect for the rights and property of others. Students who will not accept responsibility for their own behavior and who violate these school rules will be required to accept the penalties for their conduct.

Students may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school, when they:

- A. Engage in conduct that is disorderly. Examples of disorderly conduct include:
  - 1. Running in hallways.
  - 2. Making unreasonable noise.
  - 3. Using language or gestures that are profane, lewd, vulgar or abusive.
  - 4. Obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
  - 5. Engaging in any willful act that disrupts the normal operation of the school community.
  - 6. Trespassing. Students are not permitted in any school building, other than the one they regularly attend, without permission from the administrator in charge of the building.
  - 7. Computer/electronic communications misuse, including any unauthorized use of computers, software, or internet/intranet account; accessing inappropriate websites; or any other violation of the district's acceptable use policy.
  - 8. Unauthorized use of cameras, video and audio recording devices.
  - 9. Unauthorized use of personal communication devices (including cell phones) during the school day, including features such as video and audio recording.
- B. Engage in conduct that is insubordinate. Examples of insubordinate conduct include:
  - 1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school employees in charge of students or otherwise demonstrating disrespect.
  - 2. Lateness for, missing or leaving school without permission.
  - 3. Skipping detention.
- C. Engage in conduct that is disruptive. Examples of disruptive conduct include:
  - 1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school personnel in charge of students.

#### Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

- D. Engage in conduct that is violent. Examples of violent conduct include:
  - 1. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, and scratching) upon a teacher, administrator or other school employee or attempting to do so;
  - 2. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, and scratching) upon another student or any other person lawfully on school property or attempting to do so;
  - 3. Engaging in harassing conduct, verbal threats, intimidation, or abuse that reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical well-being.
  - 4. Possessing a weapon, while on school district property. Examples of weapons include, but are not limited to: a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb, or other dangerous instrument capable of causing physical injury or death;
  - 5. Displaying, while on school district property, what appears to be a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb or other dangerous instrument capable of causing death or physical injury;
  - 6. Threatening, while on school district property to use any instrument that appears capable of causing physical injury or death;
  - 7. Knowingly and intentionally damaging or destroying the personal property of a student, teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
  - 8. Knowingly and intentionally damaging or destroying school district property.
- E. Engage in any conduct on school district property or during a school sponsored activity that endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others. Examples of such conduct include:
  - 1. Lying to school personnel.
  - 2. Stealing the property of other students, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function.
  - 3. Defamation, which includes making false or unprivileged statements or representations about an individual or identifiable group of individuals that harm the reputation of the person or the identifiable group by demeaning them. This can include posting or publishing video, audio recordings or pictures (written material, cell phones, Internet, YouTube, etc.)
  - 4. Discrimination, which includes the use of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability as a basis for treating another in a negative manner.
  - 5. Bullying, which consists of inappropriate persistent behavior including threats or intimidation of others, treating others cruelly, terrorizing, coercing, or habitually insulting, humiliating and/or badgering others.
  - 6. Harassment, which includes a sufficiently severe action or a persistent, pervasive pattern of actions or statements directed at an identifiable individual or group which are intended to be or which a reasonable person would perceive as ridiculing or demeaning.
  - 7. Intimidation, which includes engaging in actions or statements that put an individual in fear of bodily harm.
  - 8. "Internet bullying" (also referred to as "cyberbullying") including the use of instant messaging, email, websites, chat rooms, text messaging, or by any other electronic

## Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

means., when such use interferes with the operation of the school; or infringes upon the general health, safety and welfare of students or employees.

- 9. Hazing, which includes any intentional or reckless act directed against another for the purpose of initiation into, affiliating with or maintaining membership in any school sponsored activity, organization, club or team.
- 10. Selling, using or possessing obscene material.
- 11. Using vulgar or abusive language, cursing or swearing.
- 12. Smoking a cigarette, cigar, pipe<u>, electronic cigarette, vape device</u>, or using chewing or smokeless tobacco.
- 13. Possessing, consuming, selling, distributing or exchanging alcoholic beverages or illegal substances, or being under the influence of either. "Illegal substances" include, but are not limited to, inhalants, marijuana, synthetic cannabinoids, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, heroin, steroids, look-alike drugs, and any substances commonly referred to as "designer drugs."
- 14. Inappropriately using or sharing prescription and over-the-counter drugs.
- 15. Gambling.
- 16. Indecent exposure, that is, exposure to sight of the private parts of the body in a lewd or indecent manner.
- 17. Initiating a report warning of fire or other catastrophe without valid cause, misuse of 911, or discharging a fire extinguisher.
- F. Engage in misconduct while on a school bus. It is crucial for students to behave appropriately while riding on district buses to ensure their safety and that of other passengers and to avoid distracting the bus driver. Students are required to conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior. Excessive noise, pushing, shoving and fighting harassment, and discrimination will not be tolerated.
- G. Engage in any form of academic misconduct. Examples of academic misconduct include:
  - 1. Plagiarism.
  - 2. Cheating.
  - 3. Copying.
  - 4. Altering records.
  - 5. Assisting another student in any of the above actions.
- H. Engage in off-campus misconduct that endangers the health and safety of students or staff within the school or substantially disrupts or is likely to substantially disrupt the educational process. Examples of such misconduct include, but are not limited to:.
  - 1. Cyber bullying, which consists of the repeated use of information technology, including, but not limited to, e-mail, instant message, blogs, chat rooms, pagers, cell phones, and gaming systems, to deliberately harass, threaten or intimidate others.
  - 2. Sexting, which consists of sending, receiving or forwarding sexually suggestive nude or nearly nude photos through text message or email.
  - 3. Threatening or harassing students or school personnel over the phone or other electronic medium.
  - 4. Using message boards to convey threats, derogatory comments or post pornographic pictures of students or school personnel.

# **VII. Reporting Violations**

All students are expected to promptly report violations of the code of conduct to a teacher, guidance counselor, the building principal or his or her designee. Any student observing a student possessing a weapon, alcohol or illegal substance on school property or at a school function shall report this information, immediately to a teacher, the building principal, the principal's designee or the superintendent.

All district staff that is authorized to impose disciplinary sanctions is expected to do so in a prompt, fair and lawful manner. District staff that are not authorized to impose disciplinary sanctions are expected to promptly report violations of the code of conduct to their supervisor, who shall in turn impose an appropriate disciplinary sanction, if so authorized, or refer the matter to a staff member who is authorized to impose an appropriate sanction.

Any weapon, alcohol or illegal substance found shall be confiscated immediately, if possible, followed by notification to the parent of the student involved and the appropriate disciplinary sanction if warranted, which may include permanent suspension and referral for prosecution.

Attachment: Changes - Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

# **VIII. Disciplinary Penalties, Procedures and Referrals**

Discipline is most effective when it deals directly with the problem at the time and place it occurs, and in a way that students view as fair and impartial. School personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on the students' ability to grow in self-discipline.

Disciplinary action, when necessary, will be firm, fair and consistent so as to be the most effective in changing student behavior. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, school personnel authorized to impose disciplinary penalties will consider the following:

- 1. The student's age.
- 2. The nature of the offense and the circumstances which led to the offense.
- 3. The student's prior disciplinary record.
- 4. The effectiveness of other forms of discipline.
- 5. Information from parents, teachers and/or others, as appropriate
- 6. Other extenuating circumstances.

As a general rule, discipline will be progressive; this means that a student's first violation will usually merit a lighter penalty than subsequent violations.

If the conduct of a student is related to a disability or suspected disability, the student shall be referred to the Committee on Special Education and discipline, if warranted, shall be administered consistent with the separate requirements of this code of conduct for disciplining students with a disability or presumed to have a disability.

# A. Penalties

Students who are found to have violated the district's code of conduct may be subject to the following penalties, either alone or in combination. The school personnel identified after each penalty are authorized to impose that penalty, consistent with the student's right to due process.

- 1. Oral warning any member of the district staff
- 2. Written warning bus drivers, hall and lunch monitors, coaches, guidance counselors, teachers, principal, superintendent
- 3. Written notification to parent bus driver, hall and lunch monitors, coaches, guidance counselors, teachers, principal, superintendent
- 4. Detention teachers, principal, superintendent
- 5. Suspension from transportation director of transportation, principal, superintendent
- 6. Suspension from athletic participation coaches, principal, superintendent (See Separate section on Extra-Curricular and Athletic participation)
- 7. Suspension from social or extracurricular activities activity director, principal, superintendent (See Separate section on Extra-Curricular and Athletic participation)
- 8. Suspension of other privileges principal, superintendent
- 9. In-school suspension principal, superintendent
- 10. Removal from classroom by teacher teachers, principal
- 11. Short-term (five days or less) suspension from school principal, superintendent, Board of Education

#### Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

- 12. Long-term (more than five days) suspension from school superintendent, Board of Education
- 13. Permanent suspension from school superintendent, Board of Education.

## **B.** Procedures

The amount of due process a student is entitled to receive before a penalty is imposed depends on the penalty being imposed. In all cases, regardless of the penalty imposed, the school personnel authorized to impose the penalty must inform the student of the alleged misconduct and must investigate, to the extent necessary, the facts surrounding the alleged misconduct. All students will have an opportunity to present their version of the facts to the school personnel imposing the disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty.

Students who are to be given penalties other than an oral warning, written warning or written notification to their parents are entitled to additional rights before the penalty is imposed. These additional rights are explained below.

- 1. Detention-Teachers, principals and the superintendent may use after school detention as a penalty for student misconduct in situations where removal from the classroom or suspension would be inappropriate. Detention will be imposed as a penalty only after the student's parent has been notified to confirm that there is no parental objection to the penalty and the student has appropriate transportation home following detention.
- 2. Suspension from transportation-If a student does not conduct himself/herself properly on a bus; the bus driver is expected to bring such misconduct to the building principal's attention. Students who become a serious disciplinary problem may have their riding privileges suspended by the building principal or the superintendent or their designees. In such cases, the student's parent will become responsible for seeing that his or her child gets to and from school safely. Should the suspension from transportation amount to a suspension from attendance; the district will make appropriate arrangements to provide for the student's education. A student subjected to a suspension from transportation is not entitled to a full hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. However, the student and the student's parent will be provided with a reasonable opportunity for an informal conference with the building principal or the principal's designee to discuss the conduct and the penalty involved.
- 3. Suspension from athletic participation, extracurricular activities and other privileges-See Separate section on Extra-Curricular and Athletic participation
- 4. In-school suspension-The Board recognizes the school must balance the need of students to attend school and the need for order in the classroom to establish an environment conducive to learning. As such, the Board authorizes building principals and the superintendent to place students who would otherwise be suspended from school as the result of a code of conduct violation in "in-school suspension." The in-school suspension teacher will be a certified teacher. A student subjected to an in-school suspension is not entitled to a full hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. However, the student and the

student's parent will be provided with a reasonable opportunity for an informal conference with the district official imposing the in-school suspension to discuss the conduct and the penalty involved.

- 5. If the student violation involved the use, sale or possession of tobacco, the student may be required to enroll in a smoking cessation program as set forth in Section X (J)(5) of this document (page 26).
- 6. Teacher disciplinary removal of disruptive students
  - a. A student's behavior can affect a teacher's ability to teach and can make it difficult for other students in the classroom to learn. In most instances the classroom teacher can control a student's behavior and maintain or restore control over the classroom by using good classroom management techniques. These techniques may include practices that involve the teacher directing a student to briefly leave the classroom to give the student an opportunity to regain his or her composure and self-control in an alternative setting. Such practices may include, but are not limited to:
    - i. short-term "time out" in an elementary classroom or in an administrator's office;
    - ii. sending a student to the principal's office for the remainder of the class time only; or
    - sending a student to a guidance counselor or other district staff member for counseling. Time-honored classroom management techniques such as these do not constitute disciplinary removals for purposes of this code.
  - b. On occasion, a student's behavior may become disruptive. For purposes of this code of conduct, a disruptive student is a student who is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom. A substantial disruption of the educational process or substantial interference with a teacher's authority occurs when a student demonstrates a persistent unwillingness to comply with the teacher's instructions or repeatedly violates the teacher's classroom behavior rules.
  - c. At the request of a teacher, and with the approval of Administration, a disruptive student may be removed from class for up to two days, during which time the student will be placed in a supervised area at the principal's discretion. The removal will apply to the class of the removing teacher only.
  - d. If the disruptive student does not pose a danger or ongoing threat of disruption to the academic process, the teacher must provide the student with an explanation for why he or she is being removed and an opportunity to explain

his or her version of the relevant events before the student is removed. Only after the informal discussion may a teacher remove a student from class.

- e. If the student poses a danger or ongoing threat of disruption, the teacher may order the student to be removed immediately. The teacher must, however, explain to the student why he or she was removed from the classroom and give the student a chance to present his or her version of the relevant events within 24 hours.
- f. The teacher must complete a district-established disciplinary removal form or email notification and meet with the principal or his or her designee as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the school day, to explain the circumstances of the removal and to present the removal form or email. If the principal or designee is not available by the end of the same school day, the teacher must leave the form or email notification with the secretary and meet with the principal or designee prior to the beginning of classes on the next school day.
- g. Within 24-hours after the student's removal, the principal or another district administrator designated by the principal must notify the student's parents, in writing, that the student has been removed from class and why. The notice must also inform the parent that he or she has the right, upon request, to meet informally with the principal or the principal's designee to discuss the reasons for the removal.
- h. The written notice must be provided by personal delivery, express mail delivery, or some other means that is reasonably calculated to assure receipt of the notice within 24 hours of the student's removal at the last known address for the parents. Where possible, notice should also be provided by telephone if the school has been provided with a telephone number(s) for the purpose of contacting parents.
- i. The principal may require the teacher who ordered the removal to attend the informal conference.
- j. If at the informal meeting the student denies the charges, the principal or the principal's designee must explain why the student was removed and give the student and the student's parents a chance to present the student's version of the relevant events. The informal meeting must be held within 48 hours of the student's removal. The timing of the informal meeting may be extended by mutual agreement of the parent and principal.
- k. The principal or the principal's designee may overturn the removal of the student from class if the principal finds any one of the following:

#### Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

- i. The charges against the student are not supported by substantial evidence.
- ii. The student's removal is otherwise in violation of law, including the district's code of conduct.
- iii. The conduct warrants suspension from school pursuant to Education Law §3214 and a suspension will be imposed.
- 1. The principal or his or her designee may overturn a removal at any point between receiving the referral form issued by the teacher and the close of business on the day following the 48-hour period for the informal conference, if a conference is requested. No student removed from the classroom by the classroom teacher will be permitted to return to the classroom until the principal makes a final determination, or the period of removal expires, whichever is less.
- m. Any disruptive student removed from the classroom by the classroom teacher shall be offered continued educational programming and activities until he or she is permitted to return to the classroom.
- n. Each teacher must keep a complete log (on a district-provided form) for all cases of removal of students from his or her class.
- o. The principal must keep a log of all removals of students from class.
- p. Removal of a student with a disability, under certain circumstances, may constitute a change in the student's placement. Accordingly, no teacher may remove a student with a disability from his or her class until he or she has verified with the principal or the chairperson of the Committee on Special Education that the removal will not violate the student's rights under state or federal law or regulation.
- 7. Suspension From School
  - a. Suspension from school is a severe penalty, which may be imposed only upon students who are insubordinate, disorderly, violent or disruptive, or whose conduct otherwise endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others.
  - b. The Board retains its authority to suspend students, but places primary responsibility for the suspension of students with the superintendent and the building principals.
  - c. Any staff member may recommend to the superintendent or the principal that a student be suspended. All staff members must immediately report and refer a violent student to the principal or the superintendent for a violation of the code of conduct. All recommendations and referrals shall be made in writing unless the conditions underlying the recommendation or referral warrant immediate

<del>Reviewed <u>Revised</u> – July 201<u>7</u>6</del>

attention. In such cases a written report is to be prepared as soon as possible by the staff member recommending the suspension.

- d. The superintendent or principal, upon receiving a recommendation or referral for suspension or when processing a case for suspension, shall gather the facts relevant to the matter and record them for subsequent presentation, if necessary.
  - i. Short-term (5 days or less) suspension from school
    - 1. When the superintendent or principal (referred to as the "suspending authority") proposes to suspend a student charged with misconduct for five days or less pursuant to Education Law §3214(3), the suspending authority must immediately notify the student orally. If the student denies the misconduct, the suspending authority must provide an explanation of the basis for the proposed suspension. The suspending authority must also notify the student's parents in writing that the student may be suspended from school. The written notice must be provided by personal delivery, express mail delivery, or some other means that is reasonably calculated to assure receipt of the notice within 24 hours of the decision to propose suspension at the last known address for the parents. Where possible, notice should also be provided by telephone if the school has been provided with a telephone number(s) for the purpose of contacting the parents.
    - 2. The notice shall provide a description of the charges against the student and the incident for which suspension is proposed and shall inform the parents of the right to request an immediate informal conference with the principal. Both the notice and informal conference shall be in the dominant language or mode of communication used by the parents. At the conference, the pupil and the person in parental relation to the pupil shall, be authorized to present the pupil's version of the event and to ask questions of the complaining witnesses.
    - 3. The notice and opportunity for an informal conference shall take place before the student is suspended unless the student's presence in school poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the academic process. If the student's presence does pose such a danger or threat of disruption, the notice and opportunity for an informal conference shall take place as soon after the suspension as is reasonably practicable.

4. After the conference, the principal shall promptly advise the parents in writing of his or her decision. The principal shall advise the parents that if they are not satisfied with the decision and wish to pursue the matter, they must file a written appeal to the superintendent within five business days, unless they can show extraordinary circumstances precluding them from doing so. The superintendent shall issue a written decision regarding the appeal within 10 business days of receiving the appeal. If the parents are not satisfied with the superintendent's decision, they must file a written appeal to the Board of Education with the district clerk within 15 business days of the date of the superintendents' decision, unless they can show extraordinary circumstances precluding them from doing so. Only final decisions of the Board may be appealed to the Commissioner within 30 days of the decision.

#### ii. Long-term (more than 5 days) suspension from school

- 1. When the superintendent or building principal determines that a suspension for more than five days may be warranted, he or she shall give reasonable notice to the student and the student's parents of their right to a fair hearing. At the hearing the student shall have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to question witnesses against him or her and the right to present witnesses and other evidence on his or her behalf.
- 2. The superintendent shall personally hear and determine the proceeding or may, in his or her discretion, designate a hearing officer to conduct the hearing. The hearing officer shall be authorized to administer oaths and to issue subpoenas in conjunction with the proceeding before him or her. A record of the hearing shall be maintained, but no stenographic transcript shall be required. A tape recording shall be deemed a satisfactory record. The hearing officer shall make findings of fact and recommendations as to the appropriate measure of discipline to the superintendent. The report of the hearing officer shall be advisory only, and the superintendent may accept all or any part thereof.
- 3. An appeal of the decision of the superintendent may be made to the Board that will make its decision based solely upon the record before it. All appeals to the Board must be in writing and submitted to the district clerk within 15 business days of the date of the superintendent's decision, unless the parents can show that extraordinary circumstances precluded them from doing so. The Board may adopt in whole or in part the decision

Reviewed Revised – July 201<u>7</u>6

of the superintendent. Final decisions of the Board may be appealed to the Commissioner within 30 days of the decision.

- iii. Permanent suspension
  - 1. Permanent suspension is reserved for extraordinary circumstances such as where a student's conduct poses a life threatening danger to the safety and well-being of other students, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function.

#### e. Minimum Periods of Suspension

- i. Students who bring a weapon to school
  - 1. Any student, other than a student with a disability, found guilty of bringing a weapon onto school property will be subject to suspension from school for at least one calendar year. Before being suspended, the student will have an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. The superintendent has the authority to modify the one-year suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the superintendent may consider the following:
    - a. The student's age.
    - b. The student's grade in school.
    - c. The student's prior disciplinary record.
    - d. The superintendent's belief that other forms of discipline may be more effective.
    - e. Input from parents, teachers and/or others.
    - f. Other extenuating circumstances.
  - 2. A student with a disability may be suspended only in accordance with the requirements of state and federal law.
- ii. Students who commit violent acts other than bringing a weapon to school
  - Any student, other than a student with a disability, who is found to have committed a violent act, other than bringing a weapon onto school property, shall be subject to suspension from school for at least five days. If the proposed penalty is the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parents will be given the same notice and opportunity for an informal conference given to all students subject to a short-term suspension. If the proposed penalty exceeds the minimum

five-day suspension, the student and the student's parents will be given the same notice and opportunity for a hearing given to all students subject to a long-term suspension. The superintendent has the authority to modify the minimum five-day suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the superintendent may consider the same factors considered in modifying a one-year suspension for possessing a weapon.

2. Any student, other than a student with a disability, who repeatedly is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom, will be suspended from school for at least five days. For purposes of this code of conduct, "repeatedly is substantially disruptive" means engaging in conduct that results in the student being removed from the classroom by teacher(s) pursuant to Education Law §3214(3-a) and this code on four or more occasions during a semester, or three or more occasions during a trimester. If the proposed penalty is the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parent will be given the same notice and opportunity for an informal conference given to all students subject to a short-term suspension. If the proposed penalty exceeds the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parent will be given the same notice and opportunity for a hearing given to all students subject to a long-term suspension. The superintendent has the authority to modify the minimum five-day suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the superintendent may consider the same factors considered in modifying a one-year suspension for possessing a weapon.

#### f. Referrals

- i. Counseling
  - 1. The Guidance Office shall handle all referrals of students to counseling.
- ii. PINS Petitions
  - 1. The district may file a PINS (person in need of supervision) petition in Family Court on any student under the age of 18 who demonstrates that he or she requires supervision and treatment by:

Reviewed Revised – July 201<u>7</u>6

- a. Being habitually truant and not attending school as required by part one of Article 65 of the Education Law.
- b. Engaging in an ongoing or continual course of conduct that makes the student ungovernable or habitually disobedient and beyond the lawful control of the school.
- c. Knowingly and unlawfully possesses marijuana in violation of Penal Law § 221.05. A single violation of § 221.05 will be a sufficient basis for filing a PINS petition.
- iii. Juvenile Delinquents and Juvenile Offenders
  - 1. The superintendent is required to refer the following students to the County Attorney for a juvenile delinquency proceeding before the Family Court
  - 2. Any student under the age of 16 who is found to have brought a weapon to school; or
  - 3. Any student 14 or 15 years old who qualifies for juvenile offender status under the Criminal Procedure Law §1.20 (42)
  - 4. The superintendent is required to refer students aged 16 and older or any student 14 or 15 years old who qualifies for juvenile offender status to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

23

<del>Reviewed <u>Revised</u> – July 201<u>7</u>6</del>

# **IX.** Alternative Instruction

When a teacher removes a student of any age from class, or a student of compulsory attendance age is suspended from school pursuant to Education Law §3214, the district will take immediate steps to provide alternative means instruction for the student.

Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

# X. Extra-Curricular and Athletic Participation

#### A. Misson Statement

The District recognizes the valuable contribution Extra-Curricular and interscholastic activities make to a student's growth and development. For many students, these activities not only provide learning activities in the social and cognitive domains but also often provide motivation for recalcitrant learners to come to school and actively participate in the academic day. To this end, the Levittown School District (hereinafter referred to as "the District") provides a variety of Extra-Curricular activities that complement the educational and athletic development of each student. Parents/guardians and the school community need to work together to provide these activities for our children. This code is not meant to usurp or restrict the responsibility of parents. The Levittown School District feels very strongly that parents must monitor their own children's behavior and impose their own discipline measures beyond those consequences outlined in this document.

This section applies to any and all Levittown School District students who wish to be involved in Extra-Curricular activities offered by Levittown Schools, including all clubs, organizations and athletics.

Extra-Curricular participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, to the team/club, to the student body, and to the community. When a participant accepts this privilege he/she must also live up to the code of conduct beyond that of the general student body, on and off school property. It is imperative that all students abide by the following:

- 1. Show pride and respect for their school and for their fellow students whom they represent, by being good citizens, good sports, and good students.
- 2. Be loyal to the school, its coaching/advisory staff and contribute to team/school spirit.
- 3. Condition properly so that they can safely and adequately meet the physical demands of a sport.
- 4. Follow training rules that are established by the school and the coach.
- 5. Be responsible for all equipment issued, take proper care of it and return it at the proper time.
- 6. Abide by and respect all decisions of officials.
- 7. Support all school activities to the best of their ability.

# **B.** Eligibility

Extra-Curricular activities are open to all students of the Levittown School District. No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be

discriminated against, under any educational program, or activity, or service, in this district, on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, creed or religion, marital status, age, or disability.

## C. Participation

- 1. In order to participate in extracurricular programs, students (Grades 7 12) must maintain academic standards as determined by the District.
- 2. In order to participate in Athletics, the student must attend an anti-hazing presentation at a time and place to be determined by the District's Athletic Director.
- 3. The District also recognizes the amount of time students have is finite and participation in Extra-Curricular and interscholastic activities may create situations where students are drawn away from their homework and studies by after school activities. Since both issues are important, the District will provide a program of report card monitoring and required extra help when students engaged in Extra-Curricular and/or interscholastic activities are found to be failing, or in jeopardy of failing in their studies. For specific information regarding this issue, refer to Levittown Public Schools Board of Education Regulation #5200, adopted on October 28, 1998 and Revised on February 17, 1999.
- 4. Except for those instances when a student is attending extra help sessions, attendance at all athletic practices and games is mandatory. Only the coach can excuse an athlete from either practice or games. It is the athlete's responsibility to notify the coach in the event it becomes necessary to miss a practice or a game. In the event of an unauthorized absence from or lateness to a game or practice, the athlete may be suspended from the team. Attending an extra help session is an excused absence.
- 5. During the participation in practices, meetings, events and games, all injuries must be reported immediately so that the coach/advisor can file the appropriate report. Students should be aware that parental consent must be available for emergency hospital treatment. It is understood that voluntary participation in all sports requires an acceptance of risk of possible injury. Students can help make the game safer by using techniques which are legal and proper and which will not cause injury. The coaching staff is made up of professionals certified by the State who will continually and repeatedly teach techniques that are fundamental to the sport.
- 6. Club advisors can mandate that a student must participate in a certain number of meetings/events in order to be counted among that club's membership, however students who attend extra help sessions will not have that counted against them, as long as they provide the advisor with proof of attendance at the aforementioned extra help sessions.
- 7. Students who fail physical education class cannot participate in athletic competition until a passing grade is attained.

#### **D.** Transportation

When the school provides transportation, all students will travel to and from the scheduled event on school transportation, unless they are released to their parents or

#### Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

legal guardian due to an emergency or unusual circumstance. The decision to release a student to the parents or legal guardians is at the discretion of the advisor or coach.

#### E. Vacations/Absences From School

- 1. If a student misses scheduled events/activities/practices/games due to vacations with parents while school is in session, those absences will be considered unexcused.
- 2. In the event five consecutive days of school are missed, and a doctor's note stating the student is fit to participate in athletics is not presented, athletes must report to the school nurse and arrange for re-examination by the school physician before he or she may again join the team.
- 3. A student who has not been legally present in school may not participate in any Extra-Curricular activities, including proms, during that day.

#### F. Equipment

- 1. The Board of Education supplies equipment for athletic programs in the district. All equipment issued must be maintained in good condition and returned at the completion of the season, without any alteration by athletes. If lost or damaged, equipment must be replaced or payment must be made to the school district. It is the responsibility of each athlete to safeguard his/her equipment against theft. An athlete may not participate on another team until all equipment is handed in or paid for.
- 2. The school district is not responsible for students' personal property at Extra-Curricular activities.

#### G. Student and Parent Contract

- 1. The privilege of participation carries the responsibility of adherence to the Code of Conduct. As representatives of Levittown Schools, participants are expected to display exemplary conduct at all times, whether or not engaged in a formal activity.
- 2. Parents, participants and spectators are prohibited from smoking at school-sponsored events and on school grounds, whether it is inside the school or outside on the playing fields.
- 3. The Code of Conduct establishes the standards expected for participants in all Extra-Curricular activities. Failure to conform to the Code of Conduct will result in appropriate disciplinary action. A student agreement, parental permission slip and interscholastic health information form (athletics only) must be presented prior to Extra-Curricular involvement.

#### H. Enforcement

The Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct is enforced during the school year, twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven days a week, while participant is enrolled in high school or middle school, **as long as there is a nexus between the student's conduct and school**. The Code is also in effect and enforced during school-supervised Extra-Curricular *Reviewed Revised – July 20176* 27

Packet Pg. 135

#### Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

activities and events occurring over school recesses and the summer break. Consequences for code violations that occur in the summer/off-season will be enforced at the beginning of the school year/season.

#### I. Code of Conduct Violations

#### Violation of the Code of Conduct under this section will occur when students:

- 1. Conduct themselves in any way that would otherwise be a violation of the Levittown Schools Code of Conduct.
- 2. Are involved in threatening, hazing activities, and personal misconduct that involves police or court action whether during or outside school hours or sport seasons.
- 3. Are involved in bullying, cyber-bullying, discrimination or harassment in any form.
- 4. Attend a party or other gathering (unless accompanied at all times by the participant's parent/guardian) where alcohol or illegal drugs are available for consumption by the participant or any underage individual in attendance. A participant should leave a party or gathering immediately upon knowing of, or detecting by use of any of the participant's senses, the availability of alcohol or illegal drugs at the party or gathering. If a nexus is found to exist between school and the party or gathering, any student who decides to remain at the party or gathering may be questioned about his or her involvement and discipline measures may be enacted if a student has been found to be a participant or organizer during which illegal actions occur.
- 5. Consume, possess, use, purchase, sell, conceal, or transmit alcohol, any controlled substance, inhalant, paraphernalia, intoxicant, or any illegal drugs on school property or during school-sponsored events.
- 6. Use, possess or distribute tobacco products on school grounds or at school-sponsored events
- 7. Use, possess, or distribute firearms, dangerous weapon(s) or explosive devices on school grounds or at school-sponsored events.

#### J. Code Violation Consequences

In addition to suspension/detentions meted out by school administration, students may be subject to suspension from extracurricular activities, including but not limited to clubs and sports. Students who violate the Drug and Alcohol portion of this Code (offenses #4 and #5 listed above), and who wish to participate in any Extra-Curricular activity must, in addition to any other consequence provided herein, attend Substance Abuse counseling, to be arranged by the school district. Students who violate offense #6, listed above, may continue to participate in Extra-Curricular activities, provided they attend and continue to attend a smoking/tobacco cessation program and do so for a minimum of 10 weeks. Attendance in the program is subject to verification by school personnel.

Reviewed Revised – July 201<u>7</u>6

Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

#### K. Suspension

Students enrolled in Extra-Curricular activities who are under suspension from school may not participate in practices, contests, productions, performances, meetings, field trips, etc., sponsored by the Extra-Curricular activity.

#### L. Appeal Panel

- 1. An administrator shall be appointed by the Principal to investigate suspected violations of the Code of Conduct under this section, and shall render a decision within two weeks.
- 2. A student/parent may appeal the decision of the Principal or the Principal's designee by requesting review by an Appeal Panel.
- 3. The principal will establish the Appeal Panel annually. It will include, but is not limited to:
  - An assistant principal/dean of students
  - □ The building athletic director
  - □ A guidance counselor
  - $\Box$  A coach
  - A co-curricular advisor
  - □ The on-site drug and alcohol counselor.
- 4. The original administrator investigating the claim shall not be a voting member of the committee, but will make a full report as to his or her findings regarding this incident and may be present at all times.
- 5. A student charged with a violation of this Code will be given a written notice of violation. The student may appear before, and be heard by the Appeal Panel, with or without a representative.
- 6. The Panel may, in its discretion, conduct further investigation, including requesting the appearance before it, of the alleged violator and/or witnesses with information concerning the alleged violations.
- 7. Decisions rendered by the Appeal Panel will require a simple majority vote based on the evidence presented.
- 8. The student may appeal the decision by presenting a written request to the building principal within 2 days after receiving the notice of violation.
- 9. The Appeal Panel is not bound by formal rules of evidence of procedure in the conduct of its investigations and deliberations, and there is no right on the part of the participant to record the proceedings or to confront or cross-examine witnesses.
- 10. The Appeal Panel may withhold awards or honors pending its decision.
- 11. A participant may request review by the Assistant Superintendent for Administration of a decision by the Appeal Panel finding a Code violation. Such a request must be

Reviewed Revised – July 201<u>7</u>6

in writing and given to the principal with 2 days of being notified of the Appeal Panel's decision. The participant shall have the right to appear before the Assistant Superintendent for Administration, with or without a representative. The Assistant Superintendent for Administration's decision in the matter is final. Pending the Assistant Superintendent's review and decision, the decision of the Appeal Panel shall remain in full force and effect.

# XI. Discipline of Students with Disabilities

The Board recognizes that it may be necessary to suspend, remove or otherwise discipline students with disabilities to address disruptive or problem behavior. The Board also recognizes that students with disabilities enjoy certain procedural protections whenever school authorities intend to impose discipline upon them. The Board is committed to ensuring that the procedures followed for suspending, removing or otherwise disciplining students with disabilities are consistent with the procedural safeguards required by applicable laws and regulations.

This code of conduct affords students with disabilities subject to disciplinary action no greater or lesser rights than those expressly afforded by applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

A. Authorized Suspensions or Removals of Students with Disabilities

- 1. For purposes of this section of the code of conduct, the following definitions apply
  - a. A "suspension" means a suspension pursuant to Education Law § 3214.
  - b. A "removal" means a removal for disciplinary reasons from the student's current educational placement other than a suspension and change in placement to an interim alternative educational setting (IAES) ordered by an impartial hearing officer because the student poses a risk of harm to himself or herself or others.
  - c. An "IAES" means a temporary educational placement for a period of up to 45 days, other than the student's current placement at the time the behavior precipitating the IAES placement occurred, that enables the student to continue to progress in the general curriculum, although in another setting, to continue to receive those services and modifications, including those described on the student's current individualized education program (IEP), that will enable the student to meet the goals set out in such IEP, and include services and modifications to address the behavior which precipitated the IAES placement that are designed to prevent the behavior from recurring. "Weapon" means the same as "dangerous weapon" under 18 U.S.C. § 930 (g) (w) which includes "a weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury, except ... [for] a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2 1/2 inches in length."
  - d. "Controlled substance" means a drug or other substance identified in certain provisions of the federal Controlled Substances Act specified in both federal and state law and regulations applicable to this policy.

- e. "Illegal drugs" means a controlled substance except for those legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health-care professional or that is legally possessed or used under any other authority under the Controlled Substances Act or any other federal law.
- 2. School personnel may order the suspension or removal of a student with a disability from his or her current educational placement as follows:
  - a. The Board, the district (BOCES) superintendent of schools or a building principal may order the placement of a student with a disability into an IAES, another setting or suspension for a period not to exceed five consecutive school days and not to exceed the amount of time a non-disabled student would be subject to suspension for the same behavior, subject to the provisions of paragraph 4(d) of this Section.
  - b. The superintendent may order the placement of a student with a disability into an IAES, another setting or suspension for up to 10 consecutive school days, inclusive of any period in which the student has been suspended or removed under subparagraph (a) above for the same behavior, if the superintendent determines that the student has engaged in behavior that warrants a suspension and the suspension or removal does not exceed the amount of time non-disabled students would be subject to suspension for the same behavior.
  - c. The superintendent may order additional suspensions of not more than 10 consecutive school days in the same school year for separate incidents of misconduct, as long as those removals do not constitute a change of placement.
  - d. The superintendent may order the placement of a student with a disability in an IAES to be determined by the committee on special education (CSE), for the same amount of time that a student without a disability would be subject to discipline, but not more than 45 days, if the student (a) carries or possesses a weapon to school or to a school function, (b) knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at school or a school function, or (c) causes serious bodily injury to another student or staff member.
- 3. Subject to specified conditions required by both federal and state law and regulations, an impartial hearing officer may order the placement of a student with a disability in an IAES setting for up to 45 days at a time, if maintaining the student in his or her current educational placement poses a risk of harm to the student or others.
- 4. Change of Placement Rule
  - a. A disciplinary change in placement means a suspension or removal from a student's current educational placement that is either:

- b. for more than 10 consecutive school days; or
- c. for a period of 10 consecutive school days or less if the student is subjected to a series of suspensions or removals that constitute a pattern because they cumulate to more than 10 school days in a school year and because of such factors as the length of each suspension or removal, the total amount of time the student is removed and the proximity of the suspensions or removals to one another.
- d. School personnel may not suspend or remove a student with disabilities if imposition of the suspension or removal would result in a disciplinary change in placement based on a pattern of suspension or removal.

However, the district may impose a suspension or removal, which would otherwise result in a disciplinary change in placement, if the Manifestation Team has determined that the behavior was <u>not</u> a manifestation of the student's disability, or if the student is placed in an IAES for behavior involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances or causing bodily injury to others.

- B. Special Rules Regarding the Suspension or Removal of Students with Disabilities
  - 1. The district's Committee on Special Education shall:
    - a. Conduct functional behavioral assessments to determine why a student engages in a particular behavior, and develop or review behavioral intervention plans whenever the district is first suspending or removing a student with a disability for more than 10 school days in a school year or imposing a suspension or removal that constitutes a disciplinary change in placement, including a change in placement to an IAES, for misconduct involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances.
    - b. If subsequently, a student with a disability who has a behavioral intervention plan and who has been suspended or removed from his or her current educational placement for more than 10 school days in a school year is subjected to a suspension or removal that does not constitute a disciplinary change in placement, the members of the CSE shall review the behavioral intervention plan and its implementation to determine if modifications are necessary.
    - c. If one or more members of the CSE believe that modifications are needed, the school district shall convene a meeting of the CSE to modify such plan and its implementation, to the extent the committee determines necessary.
  - 2. The parents of a student who is facing disciplinary action, but who has not been determined to be eligible for services under IDEA and Article 89 at the time of misconduct, shall have the right to invoke applicable procedural safeguards set forth

Reviewed Revised – July 201<u>7</u>6

Attachment: Changes - Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

Attachment: Changes - Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

in federal and state laws and regulations if, in accordance with federal and state statutory and regulatory criteria, the school district is deemed to have had knowledge that their child was a student with a disability before the behavior precipitating disciplinary action occurred. If the district is deemed to have had such knowledge, the student will be considered a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes.

- a. The superintendent, building principal or other school official imposing a suspension or removal shall be responsible for determining whether the student is a student presumed to have a disability.
- b. A student will not be considered a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes if, upon receipt of information supporting a claim that the district had knowledge the student was a student with a disability, the district either:
  - i. conducted an individual evaluation and determined that the student is not a student with a disability, or
  - ii. determined that an evaluation was not necessary and provided notice to the parents of such determination, in the manner required by applicable law and regulations.
- c. If there is no basis for knowledge that the student is a student with a disability prior to taking disciplinary measures against the student, the student may be subjected to the same disciplinary measures as any other non-disabled student who engaged in comparable behaviors.
- 3. However, if a request for an individual evaluation is made while such non-disabled student is subjected to a disciplinary removal, an expedited evaluation shall be conducted and completed in the manner prescribed by applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Until the expedited evaluation is completed, the non-disabled student who is not a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes shall remain in the educational placement determined by the district, which can include suspension.
- 4. The district shall provide parents with notice of disciplinary removal no later than the date on which a decision is made to change the placement of a student with a disability to an IAES for either misconduct involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances or serious bodily injury because maintaining the student in his/her current educational setting poses a risk of harm to the student or others; or a decision is made to impose a suspension or removal that constitutes a disciplinary change in placement. The procedural safeguards notice prescribed by the Commissioner shall accompany the notice of disciplinary removal.

- 5. The parents of a student with disabilities subject to a suspension of five consecutive school days or less shall be provided with the same opportunity for an informal conference available to parents of non-disabled students under the Education Law.
- 6. Superintendent hearings on disciplinary charges against students with disabilities subject to a suspension of more than five school days shall be bifurcated into a guilt phase and a penalty phase in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Commissioner's regulations incorporated into this code.
- 7. The removal of a student with disabilities other than a suspension or placement in an IAES shall be conducted in accordance with the due process procedures applicable to such removals of non-disabled students, except that school personnel may not impose such removal for more than 10 consecutive days or for a period that would result in a disciplinary change in placement, unless the Manifestation Team has determined that the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability.
- During any period of suspension or removal, including placement in an IAES, students with disabilities shall be provided services as required by the Commissioner's regulations incorporated into this code.
- C. Expedited Due Process Hearings
  - 1. An expedited due process hearing shall be conducted in the manner specified by the Commissioner's regulations incorporated into this code, if:
    - a. The district requests such a hearing to obtain an order of an impartial hearing officer placing a student with a disability in an IAES where school personnel maintain that it is dangerous for the student to be in his or her current educational placement, or during the pendency of due process hearings where school personnel maintain that it is dangerous for the student to be in his or her current educational placement during such proceedings.
    - b. The parent requests such a hearing from a determination that the student's behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability, or relating to any decision regarding placement, including but not limited to any decision to place the student in an IAES.
      - i. During the pendency of an expedited due process hearing or appeal regarding the placement of a student in an IAES for behavior involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances, serious bodily injury, or on grounds of dangerousness, or regarding a determination that the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability for a student who has been placed in an IAES, the student shall remain in the IAES pending the decision of the impartial hearing officer or until expiration of the IAES placement, whichever occurs first, unless the parents and the district agree otherwise.

Reviewed Revised – July 201<u>7</u>6

- ii. If school personnel propose to change the student's placement after expiration of an IAES placement, during the pendency of any proceeding to challenge the proposed change in placement, the student shall remain in the placement prior to removal to the IAES, except where the student is again placed in an IAES.
- 2. An expedited due process hearing shall be completed within 15 business days of receipt of the request for a hearing. Although the impartial hearing officer may grant specific extensions of such time period, he or she must mail a written decision to the district and the parents within five business days after the last hearing date, and in no event later than 45 calendar days after receipt of the request for a hearing, without exceptions or extensions.
- 3. Referral to law enforcement and judicial authorities
  - a. In accordance with the provisions of IDEA and its implementing regulations:
    - 1. The district may report a crime committed by a child with a disability to appropriate authorities, and such action will not constitute a change of the student's placement.
    - 2. The superintendent shall ensure that copies of the special education and disciplinary records of a student with disabilities are transmitted for consideration to the appropriate authorities to which a crime is reported.

I

### **XII.** Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is any act of physical force or punishment upon a student for the purpose of punishing that student. Corporal punishment of any student by any district employee is strictly forbidden.

However, in situations where alternative procedures and methods that do not involve the use of physical force cannot reasonably be used, reasonable physical force may be used to:

- 1. Protect oneself, another student, teacher or any person from physical injury.
- 2. Protect the property of the school or others.
- 3. Restrain or remove a student whose behavior interferes with the orderly exercise and performance of school district functions, powers and duties, if that student has refused to refrain from further disruptive acts.

The district will file all complaints about the use of corporal punishment with the Commissioner of Education in accordance with Commissioner's regulations.

### XIII. Student Searches and Interrogations

The Board of Education is committed to ensuring an atmosphere on school property and at school functions that is safe and orderly. To achieve this kind of environment, any school official authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty on a student may question a student about an alleged violation of law or the district code of conduct. Students are not entitled to any sort of "Miranda" -type warning before being questioned by school officials, nor are school officials required to contact a student's parent before questioning the student. However, school officials will tell all students why they are being questioned.

In addition, the Board authorizes the superintendent, building principals, the school nurse and district security officials to conduct searches of students and their belongings if the authorized school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the search will result in evidence that the student violated the law or the district code of conduct.

An authorized school official may conduct a search of a student's belongings that is minimally intrusive, such as touching the outside of a book bag, without reasonable suspicion, so long as the school official has a legitimate reason for the very limited search.

The building principal (or, in the absence of, the principal's designee) may search a student or the student's belongings based upon information received from a reliable informant. Individuals, other than the district employees, will be considered reliable informants if they have previously supplied information that was accurate and verified, or they make an admission against their own interest, or they provide the same information that is received independently from other sources, or they appear to be credible and the information they are communicating relates to an immediate threat to safety. District employees will be considered reliable informants unless they are known to have previously supplied information that they knew was not accurate.

Before searching a student or the student's belongings, the authorized school official should attempt to get the student to admit that he or she possesses physical evidence that they violated the law or the district code, or get the student to voluntarily consent to the search. Searches will be limited to the extent necessary to locate the evidence sought. Strip searches of students are prohibited.

Whenever practicable, searches will be conducted in the privacy of administrative offices and students will be present when their possessions are being searched.

### A. Cars/Vehicles

All vehicles entering school grounds shall be subject to search to ensure the safety and security of students, staff, and visitors. Students who are issued a parking permit are subject to all applicable District rules and regulations and are subject to search by authorized school officials and District Campus Patrol Security Officers if there is a reasonable suspicion that the search would turn up evidence that the student broke the law or school rules. Formatted: Font: Times New Roman Formatted: Heading 5, Left

Formatted: Font: 12 pt

Formatted

### A.B. Student Lockers, Desks and other School Storage Places

The rules in this code of conduct regarding searches of students and their belongings do not apply to student lockers, desks and other school storage places. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy with respect to these places and school officials retain complete control over them. This means that student lockers, desks and other school storage places may be subject to search at any time by school officials, without prior notice to students and without their consent.

### **B.C.** Documentation of Searches

The authorized school official conducting the search shall be responsible for promptly recording the following information about each search:

- 1. Name, age and grade of student searched.
- 2. Reasons for the search.
- 3. Name of any informant(s).
- 4. Purpose of search (that is, what item(s) were being sought).
- 5. Type and scope of search.
- 6. Person conducting search and his or her title and position.
- 7. Witnesses, if any, to the search.
- 8. Time and location of search.
- 9. Results of search (that is, what items(s) were found).
- 10. Disposition of items found.
- 11. Time, manner and results of parental notification.

The building principal or the principal's designee shall be responsible for the custody, control and disposition of any illegal or dangerous item taken from a student. The principal or his or her designee shall clearly label each item taken from the student and retain control of the item(s), until the items is turned over to the police. The principal or his or her designee shall be responsible for personally delivering dangerous or illegal items to police authorities.

### C.D. Police Involvement in Searches and Interrogations of Students

District officials are committed to cooperating with police officials and other law enforcement authorities to maintain a safe school environment. Police officials, however, have limited authority to interview or search students in schools or at school functions, or to use school facilities in connection with police work. Police officials may enter school property or a school function to question or search a student or to conduct a formal investigation involving students only if they have:

- 1. A search or an arrest warrant; or
- 2. Probable cause to believe a crime has been committed on school property or at a school function; or
- 3. Been invited by school officials.

Before police officials are permitted to question or search any student, the building principal or his or her designee shall first try to notify the student's parent to give the parent the opportunity

to be present during the police questioning or search. If the student's parent cannot be contacted prior to the police questioning or search, the questioning or search shall not be conducted. The principal or designee will also be present during any police questioning or search of a student on school property or at a school function.

Students who are questioned by police officials on school property or at a school function will be afforded the same rights they have outside the school. This means:

- 1. They must be informed of their legal rights.
- 2. They may remain silent if they so desire.
- 3. They may request the presence of an attorney.

### **D-E.** Child Protective Services Investigations

Consistent with the district's commitment to keep students safe from harm and the obligation of school officials to report to child protective services when they have reasonable cause to suspect that a student has been abused or maltreated, the district will cooperate with local child protective services workers who wish to conduct interviews of students on school property relating to allegations of suspected child abuse, and/or neglect, or custody investigations.

All requests by child protective services to interview a student on school property shall be made directly to building principal or his or her designee. The principal or his or her designee shall set the time and place of the interview. The principal or designee shall decide if it is necessary and appropriate for a school official to be present during the interview, depending on the age of the student being interviewed and the nature of the allegations. If the nature of the allegations is such that it may be necessary for the student to remove any of his or her clothing in order for the child protective services worker to verify the allegations, the school nurse or other district medical personnel must be present during that portion of the interview. No student may be required to remove his or her clothing in front of a child protective services worker or school district official of the opposite sex.

A child protective services worker may not remove a student from school property without a court order, unless the worker reasonably believes that the student would be subject to immediate danger of abuse if not he or she were not removed from school before a court order can reasonably be obtained. If the worker believes the student would be subject to immediate danger of abuse, the worker may remove the student without a court order and without the parent's consent upon providing the District with a signed written statement to that effect.

### XIV. Visitors to the Schools

The Board encourages parents and other district citizens to visit the district's schools and classrooms to observe the work of students, teachers and other staff. Since schools are a place of work and learning, however, certain limits must be set, for such visits. The building principal or his or her designee is responsible for all persons in the building and on the grounds. For these reasons, the following rules apply to visitors to the schools:

- 1. Anyone who is not a regular staff member or student of the school will be considered a visitor.
- 2. All visitors to the school must report to the office of the principal upon arrival at the school. There they will be required to sign the visitor's register and will be issued a visitor's identification badge, which must be worn at all times while in the school or on school grounds. The visitor must return the identification badge to the principal's office before leaving the building.
- 3. Visitors attending school functions that are open to the public, such as parent-teacher organization meetings or public gatherings, are not required to register.
- 4. Parents or citizens who wish to observe a classroom while school is in session are required to arrange such visits in advance with the classroom teacher(s), so that class disruption is kept to a minimum.
- 5. Teachers are expected not to take class time to discuss individual matters with visitors.
- 6. Any unauthorized person on school property will be reported to the principal or his or her designee. Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave. The police may be called if the situation warrants.
- 7. All visitors are expected to follow the directions of district staff members during safety drills (fire, lockdown, etc.)
- 8. All visitors are expected to abide by the rules for public conduct on school property contained in this code of conduct.

2.39.b

### XV. Public Conduct on School Property

The district is committed to providing an orderly, respectful environment that is conducive to learning. To create and maintain this kind of an environment, it is necessary to regulate public conduct on school property and at school functions. For purposes of this section of the code, "public" shall mean all persons when on school property or attending a school function including students, teachers and district personnel.

The restrictions on public conduct on school property and at school functions contained in this code are not intended to limit freedom of speech or peaceful assembly. The district recognizes that free inquiry and free expression are indispensable to the objectives of the district. The purpose of this code is to maintain public order and prevent abuse of the rights of others.

All persons on school property or attending a school function shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner. In addition, all persons on school property or attending a school function are expected to be properly attired for the purpose they are on school property.

### A. Prohibited Conduct

No person, either alone or with others, shall:

- 1. Intentionally injure any person or threaten to do so.
- 2. Intentionally damage or destroy school district property or the personal property of a teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
- 3. Disrupt the orderly conduct of classes, school programs or other school activities.
- 4. Distribute or wear materials on school grounds or at school functions that are obscene, advocate illegal action, appear libelous, obstruct the rights of others, or are disruptive to the school program.
- 5. Intimidate, harass or discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
- 6. Enter any portion of the school premises without authorization or remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed.
- 7. Obstruct the free movement of any person in any place to which this code applies.
- 8. Violate the traffic laws, parking regulations or other restrictions on vehicles;
- 9. Possess, consume, sell, distribute or exchange alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, or be under the influence of either on school property or at a school function.
- 10. Consume, sell, distribute or exchange tobacco products on school property or at a school function.
- 11. Possess or use weapons in or on school property or at a school function, except in the case of law enforcement officers or except as specifically authorized by the school district.
- 12. Loiter on or about school property.
- 13. Gamble on school property or at school functions.

Reviewed Revised – July 20176

2.39.b

### Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

- 14. Refuse to comply with any reasonable order of identifiable school district officials performing their duties.
- 15. Willfully incite others to commit any of the acts prohibited by this code.
- 16. Violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance or Board policy while on school property or while at a school function.

### **B.** Penalties

Persons who violate this code shall be subject to the following penalties:

- 1. Visitors Their authorization, if any, to remain on school grounds or at the school function shall be withdrawn and they shall be directed to leave the premises. If they refuse to leave, they shall be subject to ejection and possible criminal prosecution.
- 2. Students They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant, in accordance with the due process requirements.
- 3. Tenured faculty members They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance with Education Law §3020-a or any other legal rights that they may have.
- 4. Staff members in the classified service of the civil service entitled to the protection of Civil Service Law §75 - They shall be subject to immediate ejection and to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance with Civil Service Law §75 or any other legal rights that they may have.
- 5. Staff members other than those described in subdivisions 4 and 5 They shall be subject to warning, reprimand, suspension or dismissal as the facts may warrant in accordance with any legal rights they may have.

### C. Enforcement

The building principal or his or her designee shall be responsible for enforcing the conduct required by this code.

When the building principal or his or her designee sees an individual engaged in prohibited conduct, which in his or her judgment does not pose any immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or his or her designee shall tell the individual that the conduct is prohibited and attempt to persuade the individual to stop. The principal or his or her designee shall also warn the individual of the consequences for failing to stop. If the person refuses to stop engaging in the prohibited conduct, or if the person's conduct poses an immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or his or her designee shall have the individual removed immediately from school property or the school function. If necessary, local law enforcement authorities will be contacted to assist in removing the person.

The district shall initiate disciplinary action against any student or staff member, as appropriate, with the "Penalties" section above. In addition, the district reserves its right to pursue a civil or criminal legal action against any person violating the code.

Reviewed Revised – July 20176

2.39.b

Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

### **XVI.** Dissemination and Review

### A. Dissemination of Code of Conduct

The Board will work to ensure that the community is aware of this code of conduct by:

- 1. Providing copies of a summary of the code to all students, at a general school assembly held at the beginning of each school year.
- 2. Making copies of the code available to all parents at the beginning of the school year.
- 3. Mailing a summary of the code of conduct written in plain language to all parents of district students before the beginning of the school year and making this summary available later upon request.
- 4. Providing all current teachers and other staff members with a copy of the code and a copy of any amendments to the code as soon as practicable after adoption.
- 5. Providing all new employees with a copy of the current code of conduct when they are first hired.
- 6. Making copies of the code available for review by students, parents and other community members.

The Board will sponsor an in-service education program for all district staff members to ensure the effective implementation of the code of conduct. The superintendent may solicit the recommendations of the district staff, particularly teachers and administrators, regarding in service programs pertaining to the management and discipline of students.

The Board of Education will review this code of conduct every year and update it as necessary. In conducting the review, the Board will consider how effective the code's provisions have been and whether the code has been applied fairly and consistently.

The Board may appoint an advisory committee to assist in reviewing the code and the district's response to code of conduct violations. The committee will be made up of representatives of student, teacher, administrator, and parent organizations, school safety personnel and other school personnel.

Before adopting any revisions to the code, the Board will hold at least one public hearing at which school personnel, parents, students and any other interested party may participate.

The District shall post the complete Code of Conduct (with all amendments and annual updates) on the District's website. The District shall file a copy of its Code of Conduct and any amendments with the Commissioner, in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner, no later than thirty (30) days after their respective adoption.

The code of conduct and any amendments to it will be filed with the Commissioner no later than 30 days of adoption.

<del>Reviewed <u>Revised</u> – July 201<u>7</u>6</del>

2.39.b

Levittown Public Schools - Code of Conduct

Levittown School District Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct

Student/Parent/School Contract

### PARENT AND STUDENT MUST SIGN BELOW

I have read and understand the Levittown School District Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct and this form. I accept my responsibilities to them.

Signature of Student

Date

I have read and understand the Levittown School District Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct and this form. I accept my responsibilities to them. I request and give my permission for \_\_\_\_\_\_ to participate in any and all Extra-Curricular activities.

Signature of Parent

Date

A student/athlete may not participate in try-outs, practice or contests until this signed permission form is on file with the school. Please sign above, detach from the Code of Conduct, and return this form to the coach/club advisor.

### LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Code of Conduct Summary - September 20176

This summary of the school district Code of Conduct has been developed as required by the New York State SAVE Act and will be distributed to students and parents at the beginning of the school year. The entire code is available at the Levittown District Website (www.Levittownschools.com). This Code has been adopted by the Board of Education and submitted to the New York State Education Department as required by law. The Code applies to all students, school personnel, parents, and other visitors when on school property (including school buses and vehicles) or attending school functions and extracurricular activities. The Code contains the following provisions:

- Appropriate conduct, dress and language when on school property, including school functions and extracurricular activities as well as appropriate range of disciplinary procedures that may be imposed for violations of the Code.
- Acceptable civil and respectful treatment of teachers, administrators, other school personnel, students, and visitors on school property or at school functions and extracurricular activities as well as roles of teachers, coaches, administrators, other school personnel, the Board of Education and parents.
- Standards and procedures to assure the security and safety of students and school personnel.
- Provisions for the removal from the classroom, school property (including school functions and extracurricular activities) detention, suspension of students or other persons who violate the Code or who possess or use illegal substances or weapons, use of physical force, vandalize school property, or violate another student's civil rights, or threaten violence.
- Provisions for the removal of students from the classroom, including plans to ensure continued educational programming and activities for such students.
- · Procedures by which violations are reported, determined, discipline measures imposed, and such measures carried out.
- Procedures by which students may be suspended or removed from participation in extracurricular activities, including sports.
- Procedures by which students may be disciplined in school for events that take place out of school when a connection to school exists.
- Provisions that ensure that enforcement of the Code is in compliance with state and federal laws relating to students with disabilities.
- Procedures for notifying local law enforcement agencies of Code violations which constitute a crime.
- Provisions for notifying persons in parental relation to the student of Code violations by the student.
- Provisions and procedures by which a complaint in criminal court, a juvenile delinquency petition or person in need of supervision petition as defined in Article Three and Seven of the Family Court Act will be filed.
- Circumstances under and procedures by which referral to appropriate human services agencies will be made.
- A minimum suspension period, for students who repeatedly are substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interfere with the teacher's authority over the classroom will be suspended from school for at least five days. The suspending authority may reduce such period on a case-by-case basis to be consistent with any other state or federal laws.
- Provisions by which students may be searched.
   <u>Please review the Code of Conduct on the district website and then sign and return the portion below:</u>

 Student Signature
 Date
 Parent/Guardian Signature
 Date

 Please return this tear-off to your child's classroom teacher (elementary) or 1st period teacher (secondary) no later than September 203, 20176
 Thank you.

2.39.b

## Levittown Public Schools

# Code of Conduct



## **Table of Contents**

I.	Introduction1
II.	Definitions2
III.	Student Rights and Responsibilities5
IV.	Essential Partners
V.	Student Dress Code9
VI.	Prohibited Student Conduct10
VII.	Reporting Violations
VIII.	Disciplinary Penalties, Procedures, and Referrals14
IX.	Alternative Instruction
X.	Extra-Curricular and Athletic Participation25
XI.	Discipline of Students with Disabilities
XII.	Corporal Punishment
XIII.	Student Searches and Interrogations
XIV.	Visitors to the Schools41
XV.	Public Conduct on School Property42
XVI.	Dissemination and Review44
XVII.	Appendices45
	<ul><li>a. Student/Parent/School Contract for Extra-Curricular Participation</li><li>b. Code of Conduct Summary</li></ul>

### I. Introduction

The Board of Education ("Board") is committed to providing a safe and orderly school environment where students may receive and district personnel may deliver quality educational services without disruption or interference. Responsible behavior by students, teachers, coaches, other district personnel, parents and other visitors is essential to achieving this goal.

The district has a long-standing set of expectations for conduct on school property and at school functions. These expectations are based on the principles of civility, mutual respect, citizenship, character, tolerance, honesty and integrity.

In accordance with the **Dignity for All Students Act**, School District policy and practice must ensure that no student is subject to discrimination or harassment, based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity or sex by school employees or students on school property, on a school bus, or at a school function.

The Board recognizes the need to clearly define these expectations for acceptable conduct on school property, to identify the possible consequences of unacceptable conduct, and to ensure that discipline when necessary is administered promptly and fairly. To this end, the Board adopts this code of conduct ("code").

Unless otherwise indicated, this code applies to all students, school personnel, parents and other visitors when on school property or attending a school function.

1

## **II. Definitions**

For purposes of this code, the following definitions apply.

"**Disruptive student**" means an elementary or secondary student under the age of 21 who is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom.

"Parent" means parent, guardian or person in parental relation to a student.

"**School property**" means in or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, parking lot or land contained within the real property boundary line of a public elementary or secondary school, or in or on a school bus, as defined in Vehicle and Traffic Law §142.

"School Bus" means every motor vehicle owned and operated for the transportation or pupils, children of pupils, teachers and other persons acting in a supervisory capacity, to or from school or school activities, or, privately owned and operated for compensation for the transportation of pupils, children of pupils, teachers and other persons acting in a supervisory capacity to or from school or school activities.

"School function" means any school-sponsored extra-curricular event or activity.

**"Disability"** means (a) a physical, mental or medical impairment resulting from anatomical, physiological, genetic or neurological conditions which prevents the exercise of a normal bodily function or is demonstrable by medically accepted clinical or laboratory diagnostic techniques, or (b) a record of such an impairment.

"Employee" means any person receiving compensation from a school district or employee of a contracted service provider or worker placed within the school under a public assistance employment program.

"Race" means a group of persons related by a common descent or heredity.

"Color" refers to the apparent pigmentation of the skin, especially an indication or possible indication of race.

"Weight" refers to a person's size.

"National Origin" means a person's country of birth or ancestor's country of birth.

"Ethnic Group" means a group of people who identify with each other through a common heritage including language, culture, and often a shared or common religion and or ideology that stresses ancestry.

**"Religion"** means specific fundamental beliefs and practices generally agreed to by large numbers of the group of the group or a body of persons adhering to a particular set of beliefs and practices.

"Sex" means the biological and physiological characteristics that define men and women.

"Gender" means the socially constructed roles, behaviors, activities, and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for men and women.

Sexual orientation means the sex to which a person is sexually attracted.

"Violent student" means a student under the age of 21 who:

- 1. Commits an act of violence upon a school employee, or attempts to do so.
- 2. Commits, while on school property or at a school function, an act of violence upon another student or any other person lawfully on school property or at the school function, or attempts to do so.
- 3. Possesses, while on school property or at a school function, a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb, or other dangerous instrument capable of causing physical injury or death.
- 4. Displays, while on school property or at a school function, what appears to be a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb or other dangerous instrument capable of causing death or physical injury
- 5. Threatens, while on school property or at a school function, to use any instrument that appears capable of causing physical injury or death
- 6. Knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys the personal property of any school employee or any person lawfully on school property or at a school function.
- 7. Knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys school district property.

"Weapon" means a firearm as defined in 18 USC §921 for purposes of the Gun-Free Schools Act. It also means any other gun, BB gun, pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, machine gun, disguised gun, dagger, dirk, razor, stiletto, switchblade knife, gravity knife, brass knuckles, sling shot, metal knuckle knife, box cutter, cane sword, electronic dart gun, Shirken, Kung Fu star, electronic stun gun, pepper spray or other noxious spray, explosive or incendiary bomb, or other device, instrument, material or substance that can cause physical injury or death when used to cause physical injury or death.

"Extra-Curricular" and "Interscholastic activities" and "Interscholastic athletics" means school sponsored activities that are either off school property, extend to before or after the school day, or that occur on holidays or weekends or other times when school is not in session. These activities are not mandated by any curriculum, either as adopted by the Board of Education in Levittown or by any other controlling agency.

"Intimidation", "Harassment", "Menacing", and "Bullying" (IHMB) mean threatening, stalking or seeking to coerce or compel a person to do something; intentionally placing or attempting to place another person in fear of imminent physical injury; or engaging in verbal or physical conduct that threatens another with harm, including intimidation through the use of

epithets or slurs involving race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, religious practices, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability that substantially disrupts the educational process

"Cyberbullying" means the repeated use of information technology, including, but not limited to, e-mail, instant message, blogs, chat rooms, pagers, cell phones, and gaming systems, to deliberately harass, threaten or intimidate others.

"Sexting" means sending, receiving or forwarding sexually suggestive nude or nearly nude photos through text message or email.

## III. Student Rights and Responsibilities

- A. Student Rights The district is committed to safeguarding the rights given to all students under state and federal law. In addition, to promote a safe, healthy, orderly and civil school environment, all district students have the right to:
  - 1. Take part in all district activities on an equal basis regardless of race, color, weight, ethnic group, national origin, religion, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability.
  - 2. Present their version of the relevant events to school personnel authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty.
  - 3. Access school rules and, when necessary, receive an explanation of those rules from school personnel.
  - 4. Right to request an investigation regarding discrimination/bullying/harassment.
  - 5. Right to a safe learning environment.
  - 6. To be protected from intimidation, harassment, or discrimination based on actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, or religious practice, sec, gender/gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability, by employees or students on school property or at a school-sponsored event, function or activity.
- B. Student Responsibilities All district students have the responsibility to:
  - 1. Contribute to maintaining a safe and orderly school environment that is conducive to learning and to show respect to other persons and to property.
  - 2. Be familiar with and abide by all district policies, rules and regulations dealing with student conduct. Attend school every day unless they are legally excused and be in class, on time, and prepared to learn.
  - 3. Work to the best of their ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward their highest level of achievement possible.
  - 4. React to direction given by teachers, administrators and other school personnel in a respectful, positive manner.
  - 5. Work to develop mechanisms to control their anger.
  - 6. Ask questions when they do not understand.
  - 7. Seek help in solving problems that might lead to discipline.
  - 8. Dress appropriately for school and school functions.
  - 9. Accept responsibility for their actions.
  - 10. Conduct themselves as representatives of the district when participating in or attending school-sponsored extracurricular events and to hold themselves to the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, and sportsmanship.
  - 11. To respect one another and treat others fairly in accordance with the District Code of Conduct and the provisions of the Dignity Act. To conduct themselves in a manner that fosters an environment that is free from intimidation, harassment, or discrimination. To report and encourage others, to report any incidents of intimidation, harassment or discrimination.

2.39.c

## **IV. Essential Partners**

A. Parents - All parents are expected to:

- 1. Recognize that the education of their child(ren) is a joint responsibility of the parents and the school community.
- 2. Send their children to school ready to participate and learn.
- 3. Ensure their children attend school regularly and on time.
- 4. Ensure absences are excused.
- 5. Insist their children be dressed and groomed in a manner consistent with the student dress code.
- 6. Help their children understand that in a democratic society appropriate rules are required to maintain a safe, orderly environment.
- 7. Know school rules and help their children understand them.
- 8. Convey to their children a supportive attitude toward education and the district.
- 9. Build good relationships with teachers, other parents and their children's friends.
- 10. Help their children deal effectively with peer pressure.
- 11. Inform school officials of changes in the home situation that may affect student conduct or performance.
- 12. Provide a place for study and ensure homework assignments are completed.
- 13. Teach their children respect and dignity for themselves, and other students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, which will strengthen the child's confidence and promote learning in accordance with the Dignity for All Students Act.
- B. Teachers & Coaches All district teachers & Coaches are expected to:
  - 1. Maintain a climate of mutual respect and dignity, for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, which will strengthen students' self-concept and promote confidence to learn.
  - 2. Confront issues of discrimination and harassment in any situation that threatens the emotional or physical health or safety of any student, school employee or any person who is lawfully on school property or at a school function.
  - 3. Address personal biases that may prevent equal treatment of all students in the school or classroom setting.
  - 4. Conduct themselves in a professional way, using socially acceptable language. Examples of unacceptable language is cursing or swearing or using vulgar or abusive language.
  - 5. Be prepared to teach and/or coach
  - 6. Demonstrate interest in teaching and/or coaching and a concern for student achievement, either in the classroom or on the athletic field.
  - 7. Know school policies and rules, and enforce them in a fair and consistent manner. Report incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or otherwise brought to a teacher's attention to a building administrator and/or Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) in a timely manner.
  - 8. Teachers will communicate to students and parents:
    - a. Course objectives and requirements

2.39.c

- b. Marking/grading procedures
- c. Assignment deadlines
- d. Expectations for students
- e. Classroom discipline plan.
- f. Communicate regularly with students, parents and other teachers concerning growth and achievement.
- 9. Coaches will communicate to students and parents:
  - a. Team objectives and requirements
  - b. Practice and game dates
  - c. Expectations of team members
  - d. Coaches will act, intervene and report bullying, harassment and or discrimination
- C. Guidance Counselors & Social Workers
  - 1. Maintain and encourage a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, with an understanding of appropriate appearance, language, and behavior in a school setting, which will strengthen students' self-image and promote confidence to learn.
  - 2. Assist students in coping with peer pressure and emerging personal, social and emotional problems.
  - 3. Initiate teacher/student/counselor conferences and parent/teacher/student counselor conferences, as necessary, as a way to resolve problems.
  - 4. Regularly review with students their educational progress and career plans.
  - 5. Provide information to assist students with career planning.
  - 6. Encourage students to benefit from the curriculum and extracurricular programs.

## D. Principals

- 1. Promote a safe, orderly and stimulating school environment, supporting active teaching and learning.
- 2. Need to create an environment that values and teaches respect for all; an environment that is culturally sensitive and models positive behavioral interactions that clearly show that no tolerance exists for certain types of behaviors, including, but not limited to, bullying and harassment.
- 3. Ensure that students and staff have the opportunity to communicate regularly with the principal and approach the principal for redress of grievances.
- 4. Evaluate on a regular basis all instructional programs.
- 5. Support the development of and student participation in appropriate extracurricular activities.
- 6. Be responsible for enforcing the code of conduct and ensuring that all cases are resolved promptly and fairly.
- 7. Ensure that the issues of bullying and cyber bullying are addressed with students throughout the year.
- 8. Maintain and encourage a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, with an understanding of appropriate appearance, language, and behavior in a school setting, which will strengthen students' self-image and promote confidence to learn.

- 9. Follow up on any incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or otherwise brought to the Principal's attention in a timely manner in collaboration with the Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC).
- E. Superintendent
  - 1. Promote a safe, orderly and stimulating school environment, free from intimidation, discrimination and harassment, supporting active teaching and learning.
  - 2. Create an environment that values and teaches respect for all; an environment that is culturally sensitive and models positive behavioral interactions that clearly show that no tolerance exists for certain types of behaviors including, but not limited to, bullying and harassment.
  - 3. Review with district administrators the policies of the Board of Education and state and federal laws relating to school operations and management.
  - 4. Inform the Board about educational trends relating to student discipline.
  - 5. Work to create instructional programs that minimize problems of misconduct and are sensitive to student and teacher needs, as well as courses that teach students how to be responsible "digital citizens".
  - 6. Work with district administrators in enforcing the code of conduct and ensuring that all cases are resolved promptly and fairly.
- F. Board of Education
  - 1. Collaborate with student, teacher, administrator, and parent organizations, school safety personnel and other school personnel to develop a code of conduct that clearly defines expectations for the conduct of students, district personnel and visitors on school property and at school functions.
  - 2. Adopt and review at least annually the district's code of conduct to evaluate the code's effectiveness and the fairness and consistency of its implementation.
  - 3. Lead by example by conducting Board meetings in a professional, respectful, courteous manner.
  - 4. Appoint a Dignity Act Coordinator in each school building. The Dignity Act Coordinator will be thoroughly trained to handle human relations in the areas of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, and sex. The Dignity Act Coordinator will be accessible to students and other staff members for consultation and advice as needed on the Dignity Act.
- G. Expectation for Other School Staff
  - 1. Maintain and encourage a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, with an understanding or appropriate appearance, language, and behavior in a school setting, which will strengthen students' self-image and promote confidence to learn.

## V. Student Dress Code

The Board of Education requires students to attend school in appropriate dress that meets health and safety standards and does not interfere with the learning process. The Board also requires students to wear appropriate protective gear in certain classes (i.e., home and careers, technology, P.E.).

A student's dress, grooming, appearance and hygiene, including hairstyle, jewelry, make-up, and nails, shall:

- 1. Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.
- 2. Ensure that underwear and torso skin are completely covered with outer clothing.
- 3. Include footwear at all times. Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed.
- 4. Not include the wearing of hats and/or any headgear in school, except for medical or religious purposes.
- 5. Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, libelous, or that denigrate others.
- 6. Not glorify, promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities, including those related to gang paraphernalia or organizations promoting violence or hatred. Those garments that are sexually suggestive as well, are banned.

Each building principal shall be responsible for informing all students and their parents of the student dress code at the beginning of the school year and any revisions to the dress code made during the school year.

Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offensive item, and if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school or out-of-school suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further disciplinary actions.

The Superintendent of Schools and other designated administrative personnel shall have the authority to require a student to change his/her attire, should it be deemed inappropriate according to the above guidelines.

## VI. Prohibited Student Conduct

The Board of Education expects all students to conduct themselves in an appropriate and civil manner, with proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, district personnel and other members of the school community, and for the care of school facilities and equipment.

The best discipline is self-imposed, and students must learn to assume and accept responsibility for their own behavior, as well as the consequences of their misbehavior. District personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on the students' ability to grow in self-discipline. It is expected that District personnel make every effort to have the student learn from the disciplinary experience rather than just punish the student.

The Board recognizes the need to make its expectations for student conduct while on school property or engaged in a school function specific and clear. The rules of conduct listed below are intended to do that and focus on safety and respect for the rights and property of others. Students who will not accept responsibility for their own behavior and who violate these school rules will be required to accept the penalties for their conduct.

Students may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school, when they:

- A. Engage in conduct that is disorderly. Examples of disorderly conduct include:
  - 1. Running in hallways.
  - 2. Making unreasonable noise.
  - 3. Using language or gestures that are profane, lewd, vulgar or abusive.
  - 4. Obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
  - 5. Engaging in any willful act that disrupts the normal operation of the school community.
  - 6. Trespassing. Students are not permitted in any school building, other than the one they regularly attend, without permission from the administrator in charge of the building.
  - 7. Computer/electronic communications misuse, including any unauthorized use of computers, software, or internet/intranet account; accessing inappropriate websites; or any other violation of the district's acceptable use policy.
  - 8. Unauthorized use of cameras, video and audio recording devices.
  - 9. Unauthorized use of personal communication devices (including cell phones) during the school day, including features such as video and audio recording.
- B. Engage in conduct that is insubordinate. Examples of insubordinate conduct include:
  - 1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school employees in charge of students or otherwise demonstrating disrespect.
  - 2. Lateness for, missing or leaving school without permission.
  - 3. Skipping detention.
- C. Engage in conduct that is disruptive. Examples of disruptive conduct include:
  - 1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school personnel in charge of students.

Attachment: Accepted Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

10

Attachment: Accepted Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

- D. Engage in conduct that is violent. Examples of violent conduct include:
  - 1. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, and scratching) upon a teacher, administrator or other school employee or attempting to do so;
  - 2. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, and scratching) upon another student or any other person lawfully on school property or attempting to do so;
  - 3. Engaging in harassing conduct, verbal threats, intimidation, or abuse that reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical well-being.
  - 4. Possessing a weapon, while on school district property. Examples of weapons include, but are not limited to: a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb, or other dangerous instrument capable of causing physical injury or death;
  - 5. Displaying, while on school district property, what appears to be a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb or other dangerous instrument capable of causing death or physical injury;
  - 6. Threatening, while on school district property to use any instrument that appears capable of causing physical injury or death;
  - 7. Knowingly and intentionally damaging or destroying the personal property of a student, teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
  - 8. Knowingly and intentionally damaging or destroying school district property.
  - E. Engage in any conduct on school district property or during a school sponsored activity that endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others. Examples of such conduct include:
    - 1. Lying to school personnel.
    - 2. Stealing the property of other students, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function.
    - 3. Defamation, which includes making false or unprivileged statements or representations about an individual or identifiable group of individuals that harm the reputation of the person or the identifiable group by demeaning them. This can include posting or publishing video, audio recordings or pictures (written material, cell phones, Internet, YouTube, etc.)
    - 4. Discrimination, which includes the use of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability as a basis for treating another in a negative manner.
    - 5. Bullying, which consists of inappropriate persistent behavior including threats or intimidation of others, treating others cruelly, terrorizing, coercing, or habitually insulting, humiliating and/or badgering others.
    - 6. Harassment, which includes a sufficiently severe action or a persistent, pervasive pattern of actions or statements directed at an identifiable individual or group which are intended to be or which a reasonable person would perceive as ridiculing or demeaning.
    - 7. Intimidation, which includes engaging in actions or statements that put an individual in fear of bodily harm.
    - 8. "Internet bullying" (also referred to as "cyberbullying") including the use of instant messaging, email, websites, chat rooms, text messaging, or by any other electronic

means., when such use interferes with the operation of the school; or infringes upon the general health, safety and welfare of students or employees.

- 9. Hazing, which includes any intentional or reckless act directed against another for the purpose of initiation into, affiliating with or maintaining membership in any school sponsored activity, organization, club or team.
- 10. Selling, using or possessing obscene material.
- 11. Using vulgar or abusive language, cursing or swearing.
- 12. Smoking a cigarette, cigar, pipe, electronic cigarette, vape device, or using chewing or smokeless tobacco.
- 13. Possessing, consuming, selling, distributing or exchanging alcoholic beverages or illegal substances, or being under the influence of either. "Illegal substances" include, but are not limited to, inhalants, marijuana, synthetic cannabinoids, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, heroin, steroids, look-alike drugs, and any substances commonly referred to as "designer drugs."
- 14. Inappropriately using or sharing prescription and over-the-counter drugs.
- 15. Gambling.
- 16. Indecent exposure, that is, exposure to sight of the private parts of the body in a lewd or indecent manner.
- 17. Initiating a report warning of fire or other catastrophe without valid cause, misuse of 911, or discharging a fire extinguisher.
- F. Engage in misconduct while on a school bus. It is crucial for students to behave appropriately while riding on district buses to ensure their safety and that of other passengers and to avoid distracting the bus driver. Students are required to conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior. Excessive noise, pushing, shoving and fighting harassment, and discrimination will not be tolerated.
- G. Engage in any form of academic misconduct. Examples of academic misconduct include:
  - 1. Plagiarism.
  - 2. Cheating.
  - 3. Copying.
  - 4. Altering records.
  - 5. Assisting another student in any of the above actions.
- H. Engage in off-campus misconduct that endangers the health and safety of students or staff within the school or substantially disrupts or is likely to substantially disrupt the educational process. Examples of such misconduct include, but are not limited to:.
  - 1. Cyber bullying, which consists of the repeated use of information technology, including, but not limited to, e-mail, instant message, blogs, chat rooms, pagers, cell phones, and gaming systems, to deliberately harass, threaten or intimidate others.
  - 2. Sexting, which consists of sending, receiving or forwarding sexually suggestive nude or nearly nude photos through text message or email.
  - 3. Threatening or harassing students or school personnel over the phone or other electronic medium.
  - 4. Using message boards to convey threats, derogatory comments or post pornographic pictures of students or school personnel.

## **VII. Reporting Violations**

All students are expected to promptly report violations of the code of conduct to a teacher, guidance counselor, the building principal or his or her designee. Any student observing a student possessing a weapon, alcohol or illegal substance on school property or at a school function shall report this information, immediately to a teacher, the building principal, the principal's designee or the superintendent.

All district staff that is authorized to impose disciplinary sanctions is expected to do so in a prompt, fair and lawful manner. District staff that are not authorized to impose disciplinary sanctions are expected to promptly report violations of the code of conduct to their supervisor, who shall in turn impose an appropriate disciplinary sanction, if so authorized, or refer the matter to a staff member who is authorized to impose an appropriate sanction.

Any weapon, alcohol or illegal substance found shall be confiscated immediately, if possible, followed by notification to the parent of the student involved and the appropriate disciplinary sanction if warranted, which may include permanent suspension and referral for prosecution.

## VIII. Disciplinary Penalties, Procedures and Referrals

Discipline is most effective when it deals directly with the problem at the time and place it occurs, and in a way that students view as fair and impartial. School personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on the students' ability to grow in self-discipline.

Disciplinary action, when necessary, will be firm, fair and consistent so as to be the most effective in changing student behavior. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, school personnel authorized to impose disciplinary penalties will consider the following:

- 1. The student's age.
- 2. The nature of the offense and the circumstances which led to the offense.
- 3. The student's prior disciplinary record.
- 4. The effectiveness of other forms of discipline.
- 5. Information from parents, teachers and/or others, as appropriate
- 6. Other extenuating circumstances.

As a general rule, discipline will be progressive; this means that a student's first violation will usually merit a lighter penalty than subsequent violations.

If the conduct of a student is related to a disability or suspected disability, the student shall be referred to the Committee on Special Education and discipline, if warranted, shall be administered consistent with the separate requirements of this code of conduct for disciplining students with a disability or presumed to have a disability.

### A. Penalties

Students who are found to have violated the district's code of conduct may be subject to the following penalties, either alone or in combination. The school personnel identified after each penalty are authorized to impose that penalty, consistent with the student's right to due process.

- 1. Oral warning any member of the district staff
- 2. Written warning bus drivers, hall and lunch monitors, coaches, guidance counselors, teachers, principal, superintendent
- 3. Written notification to parent bus driver, hall and lunch monitors, coaches, guidance counselors, teachers, principal, superintendent
- 4. Detention teachers, principal, superintendent
- 5. Suspension from transportation director of transportation, principal, superintendent
- 6. Suspension from athletic participation coaches, principal, superintendent (See Separate section on Extra-Curricular and Athletic participation)
- 7. Suspension from social or extracurricular activities activity director, principal, superintendent (See Separate section on Extra-Curricular and Athletic participation)
- 8. Suspension of other privileges principal, superintendent
- 9. In-school suspension principal, superintendent
- 10. Removal from classroom by teacher teachers, principal
- 11. Short-term (five days or less) suspension from school principal, superintendent, Board of Education

Attachment: Accepted Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

- 12. Long-term (more than five days) suspension from school superintendent, Board of Education
- 13. Permanent suspension from school superintendent, Board of Education.

### **B.** Procedures

The amount of due process a student is entitled to receive before a penalty is imposed depends on the penalty being imposed. In all cases, regardless of the penalty imposed, the school personnel authorized to impose the penalty must inform the student of the alleged misconduct and must investigate, to the extent necessary, the facts surrounding the alleged misconduct. All students will have an opportunity to present their version of the facts to the school personnel imposing the disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty.

Students who are to be given penalties other than an oral warning, written warning or written notification to their parents are entitled to additional rights before the penalty is imposed. These additional rights are explained below.

- 1. Detention-Teachers, principals and the superintendent may use after school detention as a penalty for student misconduct in situations where removal from the classroom or suspension would be inappropriate. Detention will be imposed as a penalty only after the student's parent has been notified to confirm that there is no parental objection to the penalty and the student has appropriate transportation home following detention.
- 2. Suspension from transportation-If a student does not conduct himself/herself properly on a bus; the bus driver is expected to bring such misconduct to the building principal's attention. Students who become a serious disciplinary problem may have their riding privileges suspended by the building principal or the superintendent or their designees. In such cases, the student's parent will become responsible for seeing that his or her child gets to and from school safely. Should the suspension from transportation amount to a suspension from attendance; the district will make appropriate arrangements to provide for the student's education. A student subjected to a suspension from transportation is not entitled to a full hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. However, the student and the student's parent will be provided with a reasonable opportunity for an informal conference with the building principal or the principal's designee to discuss the conduct and the penalty involved.
- 3. Suspension from athletic participation, extracurricular activities and other privileges-See Separate section on Extra-Curricular and Athletic participation
- 4. In-school suspension-The Board recognizes the school must balance the need of students to attend school and the need for order in the classroom to establish an environment conducive to learning. As such, the Board authorizes building principals and the superintendent to place students who would otherwise be suspended from school as the result of a code of conduct violation in "in-school suspension." The in-school suspension teacher will be a certified teacher. A student subjected to an in-school suspension is not entitled to a full hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. However, the student and the

student's parent will be provided with a reasonable opportunity for an informal conference with the district official imposing the in-school suspension to discuss the conduct and the penalty involved.

- 5. If the student violation involved the use, sale or possession of tobacco, the student may be required to enroll in a smoking cessation program as set forth in Section X (J)(5) of this document (page 26).
- 6. Teacher disciplinary removal of disruptive students
  - a. A student's behavior can affect a teacher's ability to teach and can make it difficult for other students in the classroom to learn. In most instances the classroom teacher can control a student's behavior and maintain or restore control over the classroom by using good classroom management techniques. These techniques may include practices that involve the teacher directing a student to briefly leave the classroom to give the student an opportunity to regain his or her composure and self-control in an alternative setting. Such practices may include, but are not limited to:
    - i. short-term "time out" in an elementary classroom or in an administrator's office;
    - ii. sending a student to the principal's office for the remainder of the class time only; or
    - iii. sending a student to a guidance counselor or other district staff member for counseling. Time-honored classroom management techniques such as these do not constitute disciplinary removals for purposes of this code.
  - b. On occasion, a student's behavior may become disruptive. For purposes of this code of conduct, a disruptive student is a student who is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom. A substantial disruption of the educational process or substantial interference with a teacher's authority occurs when a student demonstrates a persistent unwillingness to comply with the teacher's instructions or repeatedly violates the teacher's classroom behavior rules.
  - c. At the request of a teacher, and with the approval of Administration, a disruptive student may be removed from class for up to two days, during which time the student will be placed in a supervised area at the principal's discretion. The removal will apply to the class of the removing teacher only.
  - d. If the disruptive student does not pose a danger or ongoing threat of disruption to the academic process, the teacher must provide the student with an explanation for why he or she is being removed and an opportunity to explain

his or her version of the relevant events before the student is removed. Only after the informal discussion may a teacher remove a student from class.

- e. If the student poses a danger or ongoing threat of disruption, the teacher may order the student to be removed immediately. The teacher must, however, explain to the student why he or she was removed from the classroom and give the student a chance to present his or her version of the relevant events within 24 hours.
- f. The teacher must complete a district-established disciplinary removal form or email notification and meet with the principal or his or her designee as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the school day, to explain the circumstances of the removal and to present the removal form or email. If the principal or designee is not available by the end of the same school day, the teacher must leave the form or email notification with the secretary and meet with the principal or designee prior to the beginning of classes on the next school day.
- g. Within 24-hours after the student's removal, the principal or another district administrator designated by the principal must notify the student's parents, in writing, that the student has been removed from class and why. The notice must also inform the parent that he or she has the right, upon request, to meet informally with the principal or the principal's designee to discuss the reasons for the removal.
- h. The written notice must be provided by personal delivery, express mail delivery, or some other means that is reasonably calculated to assure receipt of the notice within 24 hours of the student's removal at the last known address for the parents. Where possible, notice should also be provided by telephone if the school has been provided with a telephone number(s) for the purpose of contacting parents.
- i. The principal may require the teacher who ordered the removal to attend the informal conference.
- j. If at the informal meeting the student denies the charges, the principal or the principal's designee must explain why the student was removed and give the student and the student's parents a chance to present the student's version of the relevant events. The informal meeting must be held within 48 hours of the student's removal. The timing of the informal meeting may be extended by mutual agreement of the parent and principal.
- k. The principal or the principal's designee may overturn the removal of the student from class if the principal finds any one of the following:

2.39.c

- i. The charges against the student are not supported by substantial evidence.
- ii. The student's removal is otherwise in violation of law, including the district's code of conduct.
- iii. The conduct warrants suspension from school pursuant to Education Law §3214 and a suspension will be imposed.
- 1. The principal or his or her designee may overturn a removal at any point between receiving the referral form issued by the teacher and the close of business on the day following the 48-hour period for the informal conference, if a conference is requested. No student removed from the classroom by the classroom teacher will be permitted to return to the classroom until the principal makes a final determination, or the period of removal expires, whichever is less.
- m. Any disruptive student removed from the classroom by the classroom teacher shall be offered continued educational programming and activities until he or she is permitted to return to the classroom.
- n. Each teacher must keep a complete log (on a district-provided form) for all cases of removal of students from his or her class.
- o. The principal must keep a log of all removals of students from class.
- p. Removal of a student with a disability, under certain circumstances, may constitute a change in the student's placement. Accordingly, no teacher may remove a student with a disability from his or her class until he or she has verified with the principal or the chairperson of the Committee on Special Education that the removal will not violate the student's rights under state or federal law or regulation.
- 7. Suspension From School
  - a. Suspension from school is a severe penalty, which may be imposed only upon students who are insubordinate, disorderly, violent or disruptive, or whose conduct otherwise endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others.
  - b. The Board retains its authority to suspend students, but places primary responsibility for the suspension of students with the superintendent and the building principals.
  - c. Any staff member may recommend to the superintendent or the principal that a student be suspended. All staff members must immediately report and refer a violent student to the principal or the superintendent for a violation of the code of conduct. All recommendations and referrals shall be made in writing unless the conditions underlying the recommendation or referral warrant immediate

attention. In such cases a written report is to be prepared as soon as possible by the staff member recommending the suspension.

- d. The superintendent or principal, upon receiving a recommendation or referral for suspension or when processing a case for suspension, shall gather the facts relevant to the matter and record them for subsequent presentation, if necessary.
  - i. Short-term (5 days or less) suspension from school
    - 1. When the superintendent or principal (referred to as the "suspending authority") proposes to suspend a student charged with misconduct for five days or less pursuant to Education Law \$3214(3), the suspending authority must immediately notify the student orally. If the student denies the misconduct, the suspending authority must provide an explanation of the basis for the proposed suspension. The suspending authority must also notify the student's parents in writing that the student may be suspended from school. The written notice must be provided by personal delivery, express mail delivery, or some other means that is reasonably calculated to assure receipt of the notice within 24 hours of the decision to propose suspension at the last known address for the parents. Where possible, notice should also be provided by telephone if the school has been provided with a telephone number(s) for the purpose of contacting the parents.
    - 2. The notice shall provide a description of the charges against the student and the incident for which suspension is proposed and shall inform the parents of the right to request an immediate informal conference with the principal. Both the notice and informal conference shall be in the dominant language or mode of communication used by the parents. At the conference, the pupil and the person in parental relation to the pupil shall, be authorized to present the pupil's version of the event and to ask questions of the complaining witnesses.
    - 3. The notice and opportunity for an informal conference shall take place before the student is suspended unless the student's presence in school poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the academic process. If the student's presence does pose such a danger or threat of disruption, the notice and opportunity for an informal conference shall take place as soon after the suspension as is reasonably practicable.

Attachment: Accepted Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

- 4. After the conference, the principal shall promptly advise the parents in writing of his or her decision. The principal shall advise the parents that if they are not satisfied with the decision and wish to pursue the matter, they must file a written appeal to the superintendent within five business days, unless they can show extraordinary circumstances precluding them from doing so. The superintendent shall issue a written decision regarding the appeal within 10 business days of receiving the appeal. If the parents are not satisfied with the superintendent's decision, they must file a written appeal to the Board of Education with the district clerk within 15 business days of the date of the superintendents' decision, unless they can show extraordinary circumstances precluding them from doing so. Only final decisions of the Board may be appealed to the Commissioner within 30 days of the decision.
- ii. Long-term (more than 5 days) suspension from school
  - 1. When the superintendent or building principal determines that a suspension for more than five days may be warranted, he or she shall give reasonable notice to the student and the student's parents of their right to a fair hearing. At the hearing the student shall have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to question witnesses against him or her and the right to present witnesses and other evidence on his or her behalf.
  - 2. The superintendent shall personally hear and determine the proceeding or may, in his or her discretion, designate a hearing officer to conduct the hearing. The hearing officer shall be authorized to administer oaths and to issue subpoenas in conjunction with the proceeding before him or her. A record of the hearing shall be maintained, but no stenographic transcript shall be required. A tape recording shall be deemed a satisfactory record. The hearing officer shall make findings of fact and recommendations as to the appropriate measure of discipline to the superintendent. The report of the hearing officer shall be advisory only, and the superintendent may accept all or any part thereof.
  - 3. An appeal of the decision of the superintendent may be made to the Board that will make its decision based solely upon the record before it. All appeals to the Board must be in writing and submitted to the district clerk within 15 business days of the date of the superintendent's decision, unless the parents can show that extraordinary circumstances precluded them from doing so. The Board may adopt in whole or in part the decision

of the superintendent. Final decisions of the Board may be appealed to the Commissioner within 30 days of the decision.

- iii. Permanent suspension
  - 1. Permanent suspension is reserved for extraordinary circumstances such as where a student's conduct poses a life threatening danger to the safety and well-being of other students, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function.
- e. Minimum Periods of Suspension
  - i. Students who bring a weapon to school
    - 1. Any student, other than a student with a disability, found guilty of bringing a weapon onto school property will be subject to suspension from school for at least one calendar year. Before being suspended, the student will have an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. The superintendent has the authority to modify the one-year suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the superintendent may consider the following:
      - a. The student's age.
      - b. The student's grade in school.
      - c. The student's prior disciplinary record.
      - d. The superintendent's belief that other forms of discipline may be more effective.
      - e. Input from parents, teachers and/or others.
      - f. Other extenuating circumstances.
    - 2. A student with a disability may be suspended only in accordance with the requirements of state and federal law.
  - ii. Students who commit violent acts other than bringing a weapon to school
    - 1. Any student, other than a student with a disability, who is found to have committed a violent act, other than bringing a weapon onto school property, shall be subject to suspension from school for at least five days. If the proposed penalty is the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parents will be given the same notice and opportunity for an informal conference given to all students subject to a short-term suspension. If the proposed penalty exceeds the minimum

Attachment: Accepted Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

five-day suspension, the student and the student's parents will be given the same notice and opportunity for a hearing given to all students subject to a long-term suspension. The superintendent has the authority to modify the minimum five-day suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the superintendent may consider the same factors considered in modifying a one-year suspension for possessing a weapon.

- 2. Any student, other than a student with a disability, who repeatedly is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom, will be suspended from school for at least five days. For purposes of this code of conduct, "repeatedly is substantially disruptive" means engaging in conduct that results in the student being removed from the classroom by teacher(s) pursuant to Education Law §3214(3-a) and this code on four or more occasions during a semester, or three or more occasions during a trimester. If the proposed penalty is the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parent will be given the same notice and opportunity for an informal conference given to all students subject to a short-term suspension. If the proposed penalty exceeds the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parent will be given the same notice and opportunity for a hearing given to all students subject to a long-term suspension. The superintendent has the authority to modify the minimum five-day suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the superintendent may consider the same factors considered in modifying a one-year suspension for possessing a weapon.
- f. Referrals
  - i. Counseling
    - 1. The Guidance Office shall handle all referrals of students to counseling.
  - ii. PINS Petitions
    - 1. The district may file a PINS (person in need of supervision) petition in Family Court on any student under the age of 18 who demonstrates that he or she requires supervision and treatment by:

- a. Being habitually truant and not attending school as required by part one of Article 65 of the Education Law.
- b. Engaging in an ongoing or continual course of conduct that makes the student ungovernable or habitually disobedient and beyond the lawful control of the school.
- c. Knowingly and unlawfully possesses marijuana in violation of Penal Law § 221.05. A single violation of § 221.05 will be a sufficient basis for filing a PINS petition.
- iii. Juvenile Delinquents and Juvenile Offenders
  - 1. The superintendent is required to refer the following students to the County Attorney for a juvenile delinquency proceeding before the Family Court
  - 2. Any student under the age of 16 who is found to have brought a weapon to school; or
  - 3. Any student 14 or 15 years old who qualifies for juvenile offender status under the Criminal Procedure Law §1.20 (42)
  - 4. The superintendent is required to refer students aged 16 and older or any student 14 or 15 years old who qualifies for juvenile offender status to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

## **IX.** Alternative Instruction

When a teacher removes a student of any age from class, or a student of compulsory attendance age is suspended from school pursuant to Education Law §3214, the district will take immediate steps to provide alternative means instruction for the student.

# X. Extra-Curricular and Athletic Participation

## A. Misson Statement

The District recognizes the valuable contribution Extra-Curricular and interscholastic activities make to a student's growth and development. For many students, these activities not only provide learning activities in the social and cognitive domains but also often provide motivation for recalcitrant learners to come to school and actively participate in the academic day. To this end, the Levittown School District (hereinafter referred to as "the District") provides a variety of Extra-Curricular activities that complement the educational and athletic development of each student. Parents/guardians and the school community need to work together to provide these activities for our children. This code is not meant to usurp or restrict the responsibility of parents. The Levittown School District feels very strongly that parents must monitor their own children's behavior and impose their own discipline measures beyond those consequences outlined in this document.

This section applies to any and all Levittown School District students who wish to be involved in Extra-Curricular activities offered by Levittown Schools, including all clubs, organizations and athletics.

Extra-Curricular participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, to the team/club, to the student body, and to the community. When a participant accepts this privilege he/she must also live up to the code of conduct beyond that of the general student body, on and off school property. It is imperative that all students abide by the following:

- 1. Show pride and respect for their school and for their fellow students whom they represent, by being good citizens, good sports, and good students.
- 2. Be loyal to the school, its coaching/advisory staff and contribute to team/school spirit.
- 3. Condition properly so that they can safely and adequately meet the physical demands of a sport.
- 4. Follow training rules that are established by the school and the coach.
- 5. Be responsible for all equipment issued, take proper care of it and return it at the proper time.
- 6. Abide by and respect all decisions of officials.
- 7. Support all school activities to the best of their ability.

## **B.** Eligibility

Extra-Curricular activities are open to all students of the Levittown School District. No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be

2.39.c

discriminated against, under any educational program, or activity, or service, in this district, on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, creed or religion, marital status, age, or disability.

# C. Participation

- 1. In order to participate in extracurricular programs, students (Grades 7 12) must maintain academic standards as determined by the District.
- 2. In order to participate in Athletics, the student must attend an anti-hazing presentation at a time and place to be determined by the District's Athletic Director.
- 3. The District also recognizes the amount of time students have is finite and participation in Extra-Curricular and interscholastic activities may create situations where students are drawn away from their homework and studies by after school activities. Since both issues are important, the District will provide a program of report card monitoring and required extra help when students engaged in Extra-Curricular and/or interscholastic activities are found to be failing, or in jeopardy of failing in their studies. For specific information regarding this issue, refer to Levittown Public Schools Board of Education Regulation #5200, adopted on October 28, 1998 and Revised on February 17, 1999.
- 4. Except for those instances when a student is attending extra help sessions, attendance at all athletic practices and games is mandatory. Only the coach can excuse an athlete from either practice or games. It is the athlete's responsibility to notify the coach in the event it becomes necessary to miss a practice or a game. In the event of an unauthorized absence from or lateness to a game or practice, the athlete may be suspended from the team. Attending an extra help session is an excused absence.
- 5. During the participation in practices, meetings, events and games, all injuries must be reported immediately so that the coach/advisor can file the appropriate report. Students should be aware that parental consent must be available for emergency hospital treatment. It is understood that voluntary participation in all sports requires an acceptance of risk of possible injury. Students can help make the game safer by using techniques which are legal and proper and which will not cause injury. The coaching staff is made up of professionals certified by the State who will continually and repeatedly teach techniques that are fundamental to the sport.
- 6. Club advisors can mandate that a student must participate in a certain number of meetings/events in order to be counted among that club's membership, however students who attend extra help sessions will not have that counted against them, as long as they provide the advisor with proof of attendance at the aforementioned extra help sessions.
- 7. Students who fail physical education class cannot participate in athletic competition until a passing grade is attained.

# **D.** Transportation

When the school provides transportation, all students will travel to and from the scheduled event on school transportation, unless they are released to their parents or

legal guardian due to an emergency or unusual circumstance. The decision to release a student to the parents or legal guardians is at the discretion of the advisor or coach.

### E. Vacations/Absences From School

- 1. If a student misses scheduled events/activities/practices/games due to vacations with parents while school is in session, those absences will be considered unexcused.
- 2. In the event five consecutive days of school are missed, and a doctor's note stating the student is fit to participate in athletics is not presented, athletes must report to the school nurse and arrange for re-examination by the school physician before he or she may again join the team.
- 3. A student who has not been legally present in school may not participate in any Extra-Curricular activities, including proms, during that day.

### F. Equipment

- 1. The Board of Education supplies equipment for athletic programs in the district. All equipment issued must be maintained in good condition and returned at the completion of the season, without any alteration by athletes. If lost or damaged, equipment must be replaced or payment must be made to the school district. It is the responsibility of each athlete to safeguard his/her equipment against theft. An athlete may not participate on another team until all equipment is handed in or paid for.
- 2. The school district is not responsible for students' personal property at Extra-Curricular activities.

#### **G. Student and Parent Contract**

- 1. The privilege of participation carries the responsibility of adherence to the Code of Conduct. As representatives of Levittown Schools, participants are expected to display exemplary conduct at all times, whether or not engaged in a formal activity.
- 2. Parents, participants and spectators are prohibited from smoking at school-sponsored events and on school grounds, whether it is inside the school or outside on the playing fields.
- 3. The Code of Conduct establishes the standards expected for participants in all Extra-Curricular activities. Failure to conform to the Code of Conduct will result in appropriate disciplinary action. A student agreement, parental permission slip and interscholastic health information form (athletics only) must be presented prior to Extra-Curricular involvement.

#### H. Enforcement

The Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct is enforced during the school year, twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven days a week, while participant is enrolled in high school or middle school, **as long as there is a nexus between the student's conduct and school**. The Code is also in effect and enforced during school-supervised Extra-Curricular

Revised – July 2017

activities and events occurring over school recesses and the summer break. Consequences for code violations that occur in the summer/off-season will be enforced at the beginning of the school year/season.

# I. Code of Conduct Violations

## Violation of the Code of Conduct under this section will occur when students:

- 1. Conduct themselves in any way that would otherwise be a violation of the Levittown Schools Code of Conduct.
- 2. Are involved in threatening, hazing activities, and personal misconduct that involves police or court action whether during or outside school hours or sport seasons.
- 3. Are involved in bullying, cyber-bullying, discrimination or harassment in any form.
- 4. Attend a party or other gathering (unless accompanied at all times by the participant's parent/guardian) where alcohol or illegal drugs are available for consumption by the participant or any underage individual in attendance. A participant should leave a party or gathering immediately upon knowing of, or detecting by use of any of the participant's senses, the availability of alcohol or illegal drugs at the party or gathering. If a nexus is found to exist between school and the party or gathering, any student who decides to remain at the party or gathering may be questioned about his or her involvement and discipline measures may be enacted if a student has been found to be a participant or organizer during which illegal actions occur.
- 5. Consume, possess, use, purchase, sell, conceal, or transmit alcohol, any controlled substance, inhalant, paraphernalia, intoxicant, or any illegal drugs on school property or during school-sponsored events.
- 6. Use, possess or distribute tobacco products on school grounds or at school-sponsored events
- 7. Use, possess, or distribute firearms, dangerous weapon(s) or explosive devices on school grounds or at school-sponsored events.

# J. Code Violation Consequences

In addition to suspension/detentions meted out by school administration, students may be subject to suspension from extracurricular activities, including but not limited to clubs and sports. Students who violate the Drug and Alcohol portion of this Code (offenses #4 and #5 listed above), and who wish to participate in any Extra-Curricular activity must, in addition to any other consequence provided herein, attend Substance Abuse counseling, to be arranged by the school district. Students who violate offense #6, listed above, may continue to participate in Extra-Curricular activities, provided they attend and continue to attend a smoking/tobacco cessation program and do so for a minimum of 10 weeks. Attendance in the program is subject to verification by school personnel.

## K. Suspension

Students enrolled in Extra-Curricular activities who are under suspension from school may not participate in practices, contests, productions, performances, meetings, field trips, etc., sponsored by the Extra-Curricular activity.

# L. Appeal Panel

- 1. An administrator shall be appointed by the Principal to investigate suspected violations of the Code of Conduct under this section, and shall render a decision within two weeks.
- 2. A student/parent may appeal the decision of the Principal or the Principal's designee by requesting review by an Appeal Panel.
- 3. The principal will establish the Appeal Panel annually. It will include, but is not limited to:
  - □ An assistant principal/dean of students
  - **D** The building athletic director
  - □ A guidance counselor
  - $\Box \quad A \text{ coach}$
  - A co-curricular advisor
  - **□** The on-site drug and alcohol counselor.
- 4. The original administrator investigating the claim shall not be a voting member of the committee, but will make a full report as to his or her findings regarding this incident and may be present at all times.
- 5. A student charged with a violation of this Code will be given a written notice of violation. The student may appear before, and be heard by the Appeal Panel, with or without a representative.
- 6. The Panel may, in its discretion, conduct further investigation, including requesting the appearance before it, of the alleged violator and/or witnesses with information concerning the alleged violations.
- 7. Decisions rendered by the Appeal Panel will require a simple majority vote based on the evidence presented.
- 8. The student may appeal the decision by presenting a written request to the building principal within 2 days after receiving the notice of violation.
- 9. The Appeal Panel is not bound by formal rules of evidence of procedure in the conduct of its investigations and deliberations, and there is no right on the part of the participant to record the proceedings or to confront or cross-examine witnesses.
- 10. The Appeal Panel may withhold awards or honors pending its decision.
- 11. A participant may request review by the Assistant Superintendent for Administration of a decision by the Appeal Panel finding a Code violation. Such a request must be

in writing and given to the principal with 2 days of being notified of the Appeal Panel's decision. The participant shall have the right to appear before the Assistant Superintendent for Administration, with or without a representative. The Assistant Superintendent for Administration's decision in the matter is final. Pending the Assistant Superintendent's review and decision, the decision of the Appeal Panel shall remain in full force and effect.

# XI. Discipline of Students with Disabilities

The Board recognizes that it may be necessary to suspend, remove or otherwise discipline students with disabilities to address disruptive or problem behavior. The Board also recognizes that students with disabilities enjoy certain procedural protections whenever school authorities intend to impose discipline upon them. The Board is committed to ensuring that the procedures followed for suspending, removing or otherwise disciplining students with disabilities are consistent with the procedural safeguards required by applicable laws and regulations.

This code of conduct affords students with disabilities subject to disciplinary action no greater or lesser rights than those expressly afforded by applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

- A. Authorized Suspensions or Removals of Students with Disabilities
  - 1. For purposes of this section of the code of conduct, the following definitions apply
    - a. A "suspension" means a suspension pursuant to Education Law § 3214.
    - b. A "removal" means a removal for disciplinary reasons from the student's current educational placement other than a suspension and change in placement to an interim alternative educational setting (IAES) ordered by an impartial hearing officer because the student poses a risk of harm to himself or herself or others.
    - c. An "IAES" means a temporary educational placement for a period of up to 45 days, other than the student's current placement at the time the behavior precipitating the IAES placement occurred, that enables the student to continue to progress in the general curriculum, although in another setting, to continue to receive those services and modifications, including those described on the student's current individualized education program (IEP), that will enable the student to meet the goals set out in such IEP, and include services and modifications to address the behavior which precipitated the IAES placement that are designed to prevent the behavior from recurring. "Weapon" means the same as "dangerous weapon" under 18 U.S.C. § 930 (g) (w) which includes "a weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury, except ... [for] a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2 1/2 inches in length."
    - d. "Controlled substance" means a drug or other substance identified in certain provisions of the federal Controlled Substances Act specified in both federal and state law and regulations applicable to this policy.

Revised – July 2017

- e. "Illegal drugs" means a controlled substance except for those legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health-care professional or that is legally possessed or used under any other authority under the Controlled Substances Act or any other federal law.
- 2. School personnel may order the suspension or removal of a student with a disability from his or her current educational placement as follows:
  - a. The Board, the district (BOCES) superintendent of schools or a building principal may order the placement of a student with a disability into an IAES, another setting or suspension for a period not to exceed five consecutive school days and not to exceed the amount of time a non-disabled student would be subject to suspension for the same behavior, subject to the provisions of paragraph 4(d) of this Section.
  - b. The superintendent may order the placement of a student with a disability into an IAES, another setting or suspension for up to 10 consecutive school days, inclusive of any period in which the student has been suspended or removed under subparagraph (a) above for the same behavior, if the superintendent determines that the student has engaged in behavior that warrants a suspension and the suspension or removal does not exceed the amount of time non-disabled students would be subject to suspension for the same behavior.
  - c. The superintendent may order additional suspensions of not more than 10 consecutive school days in the same school year for separate incidents of misconduct, as long as those removals do not constitute a change of placement.
  - d. The superintendent may order the placement of a student with a disability in an IAES to be determined by the committee on special education (CSE), for the same amount of time that a student without a disability would be subject to discipline, but not more than 45 days, if the student (a) carries or possesses a weapon to school or to a school function, (b) knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at school or a school function, or (c) causes serious bodily injury to another student or staff member.
- 3. Subject to specified conditions required by both federal and state law and regulations, an impartial hearing officer may order the placement of a student with a disability in an IAES setting for up to 45 days at a time, if maintaining the student in his or her current educational placement poses a risk of harm to the student or others.
- 4. Change of Placement Rule
  - a. A disciplinary change in placement means a suspension or removal from a student's current educational placement that is either:

Attachment: Accepted Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

- b. for more than 10 consecutive school days; or
- c. for a period of 10 consecutive school days or less if the student is subjected to a series of suspensions or removals that constitute a pattern because they cumulate to more than 10 school days in a school year and because of such factors as the length of each suspension or removal, the total amount of time the student is removed and the proximity of the suspensions or removals to one another.
- d. School personnel may not suspend or remove a student with disabilities if imposition of the suspension or removal would result in a disciplinary change in placement based on a pattern of suspension or removal.

However, the district may impose a suspension or removal, which would otherwise result in a disciplinary change in placement, if the Manifestation Team has determined that the behavior was <u>not</u> a manifestation of the student's disability, or if the student is placed in an IAES for behavior involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances or causing bodily injury to others.

- B. Special Rules Regarding the Suspension or Removal of Students with Disabilities
  - 1. The district's Committee on Special Education shall:
    - a. Conduct functional behavioral assessments to determine why a student engages in a particular behavior, and develop or review behavioral intervention plans whenever the district is first suspending or removing a student with a disability for more than 10 school days in a school year or imposing a suspension or removal that constitutes a disciplinary change in placement, including a change in placement to an IAES, for misconduct involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances.
    - b. If subsequently, a student with a disability who has a behavioral intervention plan and who has been suspended or removed from his or her current educational placement for more than 10 school days in a school year is subjected to a suspension or removal that does not constitute a disciplinary change in placement, the members of the CSE shall review the behavioral intervention plan and its implementation to determine if modifications are necessary.
    - c. If one or more members of the CSE believe that modifications are needed, the school district shall convene a meeting of the CSE to modify such plan and its implementation, to the extent the committee determines necessary.
  - 2. The parents of a student who is facing disciplinary action, but who has not been determined to be eligible for services under IDEA and Article 89 at the time of misconduct, shall have the right to invoke applicable procedural safeguards set forth

in federal and state laws and regulations if, in accordance with federal and state statutory and regulatory criteria, the school district is deemed to have had knowledge that their child was a student with a disability before the behavior precipitating disciplinary action occurred. If the district is deemed to have had such knowledge, the student will be considered a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes.

- a. The superintendent, building principal or other school official imposing a suspension or removal shall be responsible for determining whether the student is a student presumed to have a disability.
- b. A student will not be considered a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes if, upon receipt of information supporting a claim that the district had knowledge the student was a student with a disability, the district either:
  - i. conducted an individual evaluation and determined that the student is not a student with a disability, or
  - ii. determined that an evaluation was not necessary and provided notice to the parents of such determination, in the manner required by applicable law and regulations.
- c. If there is no basis for knowledge that the student is a student with a disability prior to taking disciplinary measures against the student, the student may be subjected to the same disciplinary measures as any other non-disabled student who engaged in comparable behaviors.
- 3. However, if a request for an individual evaluation is made while such non-disabled student is subjected to a disciplinary removal, an expedited evaluation shall be conducted and completed in the manner prescribed by applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Until the expedited evaluation is completed, the non-disabled student who is not a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes shall remain in the educational placement determined by the district, which can include suspension.
- 4. The district shall provide parents with notice of disciplinary removal no later than the date on which a decision is made to change the placement of a student with a disability to an IAES for either misconduct involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances or serious bodily injury because maintaining the student in his/her current educational setting poses a risk of harm to the student or others; or a decision is made to impose a suspension or removal that constitutes a disciplinary change in placement. The procedural safeguards notice prescribed by the Commissioner shall accompany the notice of disciplinary removal.

- 5. The parents of a student with disabilities subject to a suspension of five consecutive school days or less shall be provided with the same opportunity for an informal conference available to parents of non-disabled students under the Education Law.
- 6. Superintendent hearings on disciplinary charges against students with disabilities subject to a suspension of more than five school days shall be bifurcated into a guilt phase and a penalty phase in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Commissioner's regulations incorporated into this code.
- 7. The removal of a student with disabilities other than a suspension or placement in an IAES shall be conducted in accordance with the due process procedures applicable to such removals of non-disabled students, except that school personnel may not impose such removal for more than 10 consecutive days or for a period that would result in a disciplinary change in placement, unless the Manifestation Team has determined that the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability.
- 8. During any period of suspension or removal, including placement in an IAES, students with disabilities shall be provided services as required by the Commissioner's regulations incorporated into this code.
- C. Expedited Due Process Hearings
  - 1. An expedited due process hearing shall be conducted in the manner specified by the Commissioner's regulations incorporated into this code, if:
    - a. The district requests such a hearing to obtain an order of an impartial hearing officer placing a student with a disability in an IAES where school personnel maintain that it is dangerous for the student to be in his or her current educational placement, or during the pendency of due process hearings where school personnel maintain that it is dangerous for the student to be in his or her current educational placement during such proceedings.
    - b. The parent requests such a hearing from a determination that the student's behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability, or relating to any decision regarding placement, including but not limited to any decision to place the student in an IAES.
      - i. During the pendency of an expedited due process hearing or appeal regarding the placement of a student in an IAES for behavior involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances, serious bodily injury, or on grounds of dangerousness, or regarding a determination that the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability for a student who has been placed in an IAES, the student shall remain in the IAES pending the decision of the impartial hearing officer or until expiration of the IAES placement, whichever occurs first, unless the parents and the district agree otherwise.

Attachment: Accepted Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

- ii. If school personnel propose to change the student's placement after expiration of an IAES placement, during the pendency of any proceeding to challenge the proposed change in placement, the student shall remain in the placement prior to removal to the IAES, except where the student is again placed in an IAES.
- 2. An expedited due process hearing shall be completed within 15 business days of receipt of the request for a hearing. Although the impartial hearing officer may grant specific extensions of such time period, he or she must mail a written decision to the district and the parents within five business days after the last hearing date, and in no event later than 45 calendar days after receipt of the request for a hearing, without exceptions or extensions.
- 3. Referral to law enforcement and judicial authorities
  - a. In accordance with the provisions of IDEA and its implementing regulations:
    - 1. The district may report a crime committed by a child with a disability to appropriate authorities, and such action will not constitute a change of the student's placement.
    - 2. The superintendent shall ensure that copies of the special education and disciplinary records of a student with disabilities are transmitted for consideration to the appropriate authorities to which a crime is reported.

# **XII.** Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is any act of physical force or punishment upon a student for the purpose of punishing that student. Corporal punishment of any student by any district employee is strictly forbidden.

However, in situations where alternative procedures and methods that do not involve the use of physical force cannot reasonably be used, reasonable physical force may be used to:

- 1. Protect oneself, another student, teacher or any person from physical injury.
- 2. Protect the property of the school or others.
- 3. Restrain or remove a student whose behavior interferes with the orderly exercise and performance of school district functions, powers and duties, if that student has refused to refrain from further disruptive acts.

The district will file all complaints about the use of corporal punishment with the Commissioner of Education in accordance with Commissioner's regulations.

Attachment: Accepted Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

# XIII. Student Searches and Interrogations

The Board of Education is committed to ensuring an atmosphere on school property and at school functions that is safe and orderly. To achieve this kind of environment, any school official authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty on a student may question a student about an alleged violation of law or the district code of conduct. Students are not entitled to any sort of "Miranda" -type warning before being questioned by school officials, nor are school officials required to contact a student's parent before questioning the student. However, school officials will tell all students why they are being questioned.

In addition, the Board authorizes the superintendent, building principals, the school nurse and district security officials to conduct searches of students and their belongings if the authorized school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the search will result in evidence that the student violated the law or the district code of conduct.

An authorized school official may conduct a search of a student's belongings that is minimally intrusive, such as touching the outside of a book bag, without reasonable suspicion, so long as the school official has a legitimate reason for the very limited search.

The building principal (or, in the absence of, the principal's designee) may search a student or the student's belongings based upon information received from a reliable informant. Individuals, other than the district employees, will be considered reliable informants if they have previously supplied information that was accurate and verified, or they make an admission against their own interest, or they provide the same information that is received independently from other sources, or they appear to be credible and the information they are communicating relates to an immediate threat to safety. District employees will be considered reliable informants unless they are known to have previously supplied information that they knew was not accurate.

Before searching a student or the student's belongings, the authorized school official should attempt to get the student to admit that he or she possesses physical evidence that they violated the law or the district code, or get the student to voluntarily consent to the search. Searches will be limited to the extent necessary to locate the evidence sought. Strip searches of students are prohibited.

Whenever practicable, searches will be conducted in the privacy of administrative offices and students will be present when their possessions are being searched.

## A. Cars/Vehicles

All vehicles entering school grounds shall be subject to search to ensure the safety and security of students, staff, and visitors. Students who are issued a parking permit are subject to all applicable District rules and regulations and are subject to search by authorized school officials and District Campus Patrol Security Officers if there is a reasonable suspicion that the search would turn up evidence that the student broke the law or school rules.

## B. Student Lockers, Desks and other School Storage Places

The rules in this code of conduct regarding searches of students and their belongings do not apply to student lockers, desks and other school storage places. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy with respect to these places and school officials retain complete control over them. This means that student lockers, desks and other school storage places may be subject to search at any time by school officials, without prior notice to students and without their consent.

### **C.** Documentation of Searches

The authorized school official conducting the search shall be responsible for promptly recording the following information about each search:

- 1. Name, age and grade of student searched.
- 2. Reasons for the search.
- 3. Name of any informant(s).
- 4. Purpose of search (that is, what item(s) were being sought).
- 5. Type and scope of search.
- 6. Person conducting search and his or her title and position.
- 7. Witnesses, if any, to the search.
- 8. Time and location of search.
- 9. Results of search (that is, what items(s) were found).
- 10. Disposition of items found.
- 11. Time, manner and results of parental notification.

The building principal or the principal's designee shall be responsible for the custody, control and disposition of any illegal or dangerous item taken from a student. The principal or his or her designee shall clearly label each item taken from the student and retain control of the item(s), until the items is turned over to the police. The principal or his or her designee shall be responsible for personally delivering dangerous or illegal items to police authorities.

#### D. Police Involvement in Searches and Interrogations of Students

District officials are committed to cooperating with police officials and other law enforcement authorities to maintain a safe school environment. Police officials, however, have limited authority to interview or search students in schools or at school functions, or to use school facilities in connection with police work. Police officials may enter school property or a school function to question or search a student or to conduct a formal investigation involving students only if they have:

- 1. A search or an arrest warrant; or
- 2. Probable cause to believe a crime has been committed on school property or at a school function; or
- 3. Been invited by school officials.

Before police officials are permitted to question or search any student, the building principal or his or her designee shall first try to notify the student's parent to give the parent the opportunity 2.39.c

to be present during the police questioning or search. If the student's parent cannot be contacted prior to the police questioning or search, the questioning or search shall not be conducted. The principal or designee will also be present during any police questioning or search of a student on school property or at a school function.

Students who are questioned by police officials on school property or at a school function will be afforded the same rights they have outside the school. This means:

- 1. They must be informed of their legal rights.
- 2. They may remain silent if they so desire.
- 3. They may request the presence of an attorney.

## E. Child Protective Services Investigations

Consistent with the district's commitment to keep students safe from harm and the obligation of school officials to report to child protective services when they have reasonable cause to suspect that a student has been abused or maltreated, the district will cooperate with local child protective services workers who wish to conduct interviews of students on school property relating to allegations of suspected child abuse, and/or neglect, or custody investigations.

All requests by child protective services to interview a student on school property shall be made directly to building principal or his or her designee. The principal or his or her designee shall set the time and place of the interview. The principal or designee shall decide if it is necessary and appropriate for a school official to be present during the interview, depending on the age of the student being interviewed and the nature of the allegations. If the nature of the allegations is such that it may be necessary for the student to remove any of his or her clothing in order for the child protective services worker to verify the allegations, the school nurse or other district medical personnel must be present during that portion of the interview. No student may be required to remove his or her clothing in front of a child protective services worker or school district official of the opposite sex.

A child protective services worker may not remove a student from school property without a court order, unless the worker reasonably believes that the student would be subject to immediate danger of abuse if not he or she were not removed from school before a court order can reasonably be obtained. If the worker believes the student would be subject to immediate danger of abuse, the worker may remove the student without a court order and without the parent's consent upon providing the District with a signed written statement to that effect.

## XIV. Visitors to the Schools

The Board encourages parents and other district citizens to visit the district's schools and classrooms to observe the work of students, teachers and other staff. Since schools are a place of work and learning, however, certain limits must be set, for such visits. The building principal or his or her designee is responsible for all persons in the building and on the grounds. For these reasons, the following rules apply to visitors to the schools:

- 1. Anyone who is not a regular staff member or student of the school will be considered a visitor.
- 2. All visitors to the school must report to the office of the principal upon arrival at the school. There they will be required to sign the visitor's register and will be issued a visitor's identification badge, which must be worn at all times while in the school or on school grounds. The visitor must return the identification badge to the principal's office before leaving the building.
- 3. Visitors attending school functions that are open to the public, such as parent-teacher organization meetings or public gatherings, are not required to register.
- 4. Parents or citizens who wish to observe a classroom while school is in session are required to arrange such visits in advance with the classroom teacher(s), so that class disruption is kept to a minimum.
- 5. Teachers are expected not to take class time to discuss individual matters with visitors.
- 6. Any unauthorized person on school property will be reported to the principal or his or her designee. Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave. The police may be called if the situation warrants.
- 7. All visitors are expected to follow the directions of district staff members during safety drills (fire, lockdown, etc.)
- 8. All visitors are expected to abide by the rules for public conduct on school property contained in this code of conduct.

# **XV. Public Conduct on School Property**

The district is committed to providing an orderly, respectful environment that is conducive to learning. To create and maintain this kind of an environment, it is necessary to regulate public conduct on school property and at school functions. For purposes of this section of the code, "public" shall mean all persons when on school property or attending a school function including students, teachers and district personnel.

The restrictions on public conduct on school property and at school functions contained in this code are not intended to limit freedom of speech or peaceful assembly. The district recognizes that free inquiry and free expression are indispensable to the objectives of the district. The purpose of this code is to maintain public order and prevent abuse of the rights of others.

All persons on school property or attending a school function shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner. In addition, all persons on school property or attending a school function are expected to be properly attired for the purpose they are on school property.

## A. Prohibited Conduct

No person, either alone or with others, shall:

- 1. Intentionally injure any person or threaten to do so.
- 2. Intentionally damage or destroy school district property or the personal property of a teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
- 3. Disrupt the orderly conduct of classes, school programs or other school activities.
- 4. Distribute or wear materials on school grounds or at school functions that are obscene, advocate illegal action, appear libelous, obstruct the rights of others, or are disruptive to the school program.
- 5. Intimidate, harass or discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
- 6. Enter any portion of the school premises without authorization or remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed.
- 7. Obstruct the free movement of any person in any place to which this code applies.
- 8. Violate the traffic laws, parking regulations or other restrictions on vehicles;
- 9. Possess, consume, sell, distribute or exchange alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, or be under the influence of either on school property or at a school function.
- 10. Consume, sell, distribute or exchange tobacco products on school property or at a school function.
- 11. Possess or use weapons in or on school property or at a school function, except in the case of law enforcement officers or except as specifically authorized by the school district.
- 12. Loiter on or about school property.
- 13. Gamble on school property or at school functions.

Attachment: Accepted Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

- 14. Refuse to comply with any reasonable order of identifiable school district officials performing their duties.
- 15. Willfully incite others to commit any of the acts prohibited by this code.
- 16. Violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance or Board policy while on school property or while at a school function.

## **B.** Penalties

Persons who violate this code shall be subject to the following penalties:

- 1. Visitors Their authorization, if any, to remain on school grounds or at the school function shall be withdrawn and they shall be directed to leave the premises. If they refuse to leave, they shall be subject to ejection and possible criminal prosecution.
- 2. Students They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant, in accordance with the due process requirements.
- 3. Tenured faculty members They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance with Education Law §3020-a or any other legal rights that they may have.
- 4. Staff members in the classified service of the civil service entitled to the protection of Civil Service Law §75 They shall be subject to immediate ejection and to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance with Civil Service Law §75 or any other legal rights that they may have.
- 5. Staff members other than those described in subdivisions 4 and 5 They shall be subject to warning, reprimand, suspension or dismissal as the facts may warrant in accordance with any legal rights they may have.

## C. Enforcement

The building principal or his or her designee shall be responsible for enforcing the conduct required by this code.

When the building principal or his or her designee sees an individual engaged in prohibited conduct, which in his or her judgment does not pose any immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or his or her designee shall tell the individual that the conduct is prohibited and attempt to persuade the individual to stop. The principal or his or her designee shall also warn the individual of the consequences for failing to stop. If the person refuses to stop engaging in the prohibited conduct, or if the person's conduct poses an immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or his or her designee shall have the individual removed immediately from school property or the school function. If necessary, local law enforcement authorities will be contacted to assist in removing the person.

The district shall initiate disciplinary action against any student or staff member, as appropriate, with the "Penalties" section above. In addition, the district reserves its right to pursue a civil or criminal legal action against any person violating the code.

# XVI. Dissemination and Review

## A. Dissemination of Code of Conduct

The Board will work to ensure that the community is aware of this code of conduct by:

- 1. Providing copies of a summary of the code to all students, at a general school assembly held at the beginning of each school year.
- 2. Making copies of the code available to all parents at the beginning of the school year.
- 3. Mailing a summary of the code of conduct written in plain language to all parents of district students before the beginning of the school year and making this summary available later upon request.
- 4. Providing all current teachers and other staff members with a copy of the code and a copy of any amendments to the code as soon as practicable after adoption.
- 5. Providing all new employees with a copy of the current code of conduct when they are first hired.
- 6. Making copies of the code available for review by students, parents and other community members.

The Board will sponsor an in-service education program for all district staff members to ensure the effective implementation of the code of conduct. The superintendent may solicit the recommendations of the district staff, particularly teachers and administrators, regarding in service programs pertaining to the management and discipline of students.

The Board of Education will review this code of conduct every year and update it as necessary. In conducting the review, the Board will consider how effective the code's provisions have been and whether the code has been applied fairly and consistently.

The Board may appoint an advisory committee to assist in reviewing the code and the district's response to code of conduct violations. The committee will be made up of representatives of student, teacher, administrator, and parent organizations, school safety personnel and other school personnel.

Before adopting any revisions to the code, the Board will hold at least one public hearing at which school personnel, parents, students and any other interested party may participate.

The District shall post the complete Code of Conduct (with all amendments and annual updates) on the District's website. The District shall file a copy of its Code of Conduct and any amendments with the Commissioner, in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner, no later than thirty (30) days after their respective adoption.

The code of conduct and any amendments to it will be filed with the Commissioner no later than 30 days of adoption.

Attachment: Accepted Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) (2714 : District Code of Conduct)

# Levittown School District Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct

Student/Parent/School Contract

## PARENT AND STUDENT MUST SIGN BELOW

I have read and understand the Levittown School District Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct and this form. I accept my responsibilities to them.

Signature of Student

Date

I have read and understand the Levittown School District Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct and this form. I accept my responsibilities to them. I request and give my permission for \_\_\_\_\_\_ to participate in any and all Extra-Curricular activities.

Signature of Parent

Date

A student/athlete may not participate in try-outs, practice or contests until this signed permission form is on file with the school. Please sign above, detach from the Code of Conduct, and return this form to the coach/club advisor.

## LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Code of Conduct Summary - September 2017

This summary of the school district Code of Conduct has been developed as required by the New York State SAVE Act and will be distributed to students and parents at the beginning of the school year. The entire code is available at the Levittown District Websit (www.Levittownschools.com). This Code has been adopted by the Board of Education and submitted to the New York State Education Department as required by law. The Code applies to all students, school personnel, parents, and other visitors when on school property (including school buses and vehicles) or attending school functions and extracurricular activities. The Code contains the following provisions:

- Appropriate conduct, dress and language when on school property, including school functions and extracurricular activities a well as appropriate range of disciplinary procedures that may be imposed for violations of the Code.
- (2714 : District Code of Conduct) Acceptable civil and respectful treatment of teachers, administrators, other school personnel, students, and visitors on school property or at school functions and extracurricular activities as well as roles of teachers, coaches, administrators, other schoo personnel, the Board of Education and parents.
- Standards and procedures to assure the security and safety of students and school personnel.
- Provisions for the removal from the classroom, school property (including school functions and extracurricular activities detention, suspension of students or other persons who violate the Code or who possess or use illegal substances or weapons, use of physical force, vandalize school property, or violate another student's civil rights, or threaten violence.
- Provisions for the removal of students from the classroom, including plans to ensure continued educational programming and activities for such students.
- Procedures by which violations are reported, determined, discipline measures imposed, and such measures carried out.
- Procedures by which students may be suspended or removed from participation in extracurricular activities, including sports.
- Procedures by which students may be disciplined in school for events that take place out of school when a connection to schoo exists.
- Attachment: Accepted Code of Conduct 2017-18 (for board approval July 2017) Provisions that ensure that enforcement of the Code is in compliance with state and federal laws relating to students with disabilities.
- Procedures for notifying local law enforcement agencies of Code violations which constitute a crime.
- Provisions for notifying persons in parental relation to the student of Code violations by the student.
- Provisions and procedures by which a complaint in criminal court, a juvenile delinquency petition or person in need o supervision petition as defined in Article Three and Seven of the Family Court Act will be filed.
- Circumstances under and procedures by which referral to appropriate human services agencies will be made.
- A minimum suspension period, for students who repeatedly are substantially disruptive of the educational process o substantially interfere with the teacher's authority over the classroom will be suspended from school for at least five days. The suspending authority may reduce such period on a case-by-case basis to be consistent with any other state or federal laws.
- Provisions by which students may be searched.

Please review the Code of Conduct on the district website and then sign and return the portion below:

I have read and understand the complete version of the Levittown School District Code of Conduct from the district website : School

Student Name (please print):\_\_\_\_

Student Signature Date Parent/Guardian Signature Date Please return this tear-off to your child's classroom teacher (elementary) or 1st period teacher (secondary) no later than September 20, 2017. Thank you.



#### lews Essentials

- What's Hot
- News Releases
- IRS The Basics
- IRS Guidance
- Media Contacts
- Facts & Figures
- Around the Nation
- · e-News Subscriptions

#### he Newsroom Topics

- Multimedia Center
- Noticias en Español
- Radio PSAs
- Tax Scams
- The Tax Gap
- Fact Sheets
- IRS Tax Tips
- myRA: Retirement
- Latest News Home

# 2017 Standard Mileage Rates for Business, Medical and Moving Announced

IR-2016-169, Dec.13, 2016

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today issued the 2017 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2017, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- · 53.5 cents per mile for business miles driven, down from 54 cents for 2016
- 17 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes, down from 19 cents for 2016
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations

The business mileage rate decreased half a cent per mile and the medical and moving expense rates each dropped 2 cents per mile from 2016. The charitable rate is set by statute and remains unchanged.

The standard mileage rate for business is based on an annual study of the fixed and variable cost of operating an automobile. The rate for medical and moving purposes is based on the variable costs.

Taxpayers always have the option of calculating the actual costs of using their vehicle rather thar using the standard mileage rates.

A taxpayer may not use the business standard mileage rate for a vehicle after using any depreciation method under the Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS) or after claiming a Section 179 deduction for that vehicle. In addition, the business standard mileage rate cannot be used for more than four vehicles used simultaneously.

These and other requirements are described in <u>Rev. Proc. 2010-51</u>. <u>Notice 2016-79</u>, posted today on IRS.gov, contains the standard mileage rates, the amount a taxpayer must use in calculating reductions to basis for depreciation taken under the business standard mileage rate, and the maximum standard automobile cost that a taxpayer may use in computing the allowance under a fixed and variable rate plan.

Follow the IRS on Social Media Subscribe to IRS Newswire

Page Last Reviewed or Updated: 13-Dec-201

# PURCHASING POLICY & PROCEDURES MANUAL

**OF THE** 

# LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Tonie McDonald, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools** 

Revised Purchasing Policy July 5, 2017

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

# PURCHASING POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

INTRODUCTION	3
PURCHASING POLICY AND REGULATIONS General	4
PURCHASING PROCEDURES Determining Subjectivity to Competitive Bidding Installment Purchase Contracts & Leases Special Areas	6 8 9
PROCUREMENT OF MATERIALS UNDER BID LIMITS Commodities, Equipment or Goods Public Works Contracts	10 11
REJECTION OF LOW BIDDER	11
SAFEGUARDS Internal Control Review	12 12
PURCHASING PROCESS Requisition Purchase Order Transfers Blanket Orders Confirming Orders Quotes and RFP	12 13 13 13 13 13

## PURCHASING POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

## INTRODUCTION

The objective of the Board of Education is to establish Purchasing policies and procedures for the procurement of goods and services economically and efficiently of the appropriate quality, in the appropriate quantity, from the most appropriate source, at the best possible price, in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local requirements, and to ensure that all purchases fall within the framework of budgetary limitations.

The Board seeks to purchase competitively, without prejudice, favoritism, improvidence, extravagance, fraud or corruption. It is the policy of this District that all qualified suppliers shall have equal opportunity to bid on the requirements of the School District.

The Purchasing Manual has been prepared at the direction of the Board of Education as a statement of policy on which our purchasing practices and procedures are based. It will serve as a guide to the Board, to our staff and to interested residents of the District.

## PURCHASING POLICY AND REGULATIONS

#### **GENERAL**

The Purchasing Agent shall be responsible for developing and administering the purchasing programs of the district. Yearly, the Board of Education appoints a Purchasing Agent for the district. In his/her absence, the Board has designated the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance to act as Purchasing Agent.

Competitive bids or quotations shall be solicited in connection with all purchases as defined by this policy and applicable law. Contracts shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder complying with specifications and with other bidding conditions stipulated by Section 103, General Municipal Law, except as permitted by law.

All purchase contracts for materials, equipment, or supplies involving an anticipated expenditure of or over \$20,000 annually, and all public work contracts involving over \$35,000 shall be put out for bid and awarded on the basis of competitive bidding. Purchase contracts and public works contracts subject to competitive bidding will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, however, the Board authorizes that purchase contracts may be awarded on the basis of best value, as defined in State Finance Law \$163. Other exceptions to competitive bidding are outlined below. The Purchasing Agent or her designated representative together with at least one other individual, is authorized to open bids and record the same pursuant to law, and will be awarded only after responsible bids have been received in response to a public advertisement soliciting formal bids. Similar procurements to be made in a fiscal year will be grouped together for the purpose of determining whether a particular item must be bid.

Opportunities shall be provided to all responsible suppliers to do business with the school district. Suppliers whose place of business is situated within the district may be given preferential consideration only when bids or quotations on an item or service are identical as to price, quality and other factors.

Where permitted by law, purchases will be made through available cooperative BOCES bids, or by "piggybacking" onto contracts of the New York State Office of General Services (OGS) departments or agencies of New York State, New York State county, or any state or any county or political subdivision or district therein, whenever such purchases are in the best interests of the District or will result in cost savings to the district. In addition, the district will make purchases from correctional institutions and severely disabled persons through charitable or non-profit-making agencies, as provided by law.

In accordance with law, the district shall give a preference in the purchase of instructional materials to vendors who agree to provide materials in alternative formats. The term "alternative format" shall mean any medium or format for the presentation of instructional materials, other than a traditional print textbook, that is needed as an accommodation for a disabled student enrolled in the district (or program of a BOCES),

including but not limited to Braille, large print, open and closed captioned, audio, or an electronic file in a format compatible with alternative format conversion software that is appropriate to meet the needs of the individual student.

The Board is also aware of the need to reduce exposure of students and staff to potentially harmful chemicals and substances used in cleaning and maintenance. In accordance with law, regulation and guidelines set forth by the Office of General Services (OGS), the district will purchase and utilize environmentally sensitive cleaning and maintenance products in its facilities whenever feasible. Cleansers purchased must, first and foremost, be effective so that the district may continue to purchase non-green products as necessary. Environmentally sensitive cleaning and maintenance products will be procured in accordance with standard purchasing procedures as outlined in this policy and regulation.

In order to ensure that the district avails itself of advantageous purchasing opportunities, the Board authorizes the Purchasing Agent to represent the district in applying for federal programs designed to discount prices for goods and services. Specifically, the Purchasing Agent will abide by the rules and regulations associated with applying for telecommunications service discounts through the Universal Service Fund (E-Rate), in addition to complying with the local purchasing policies set forth by the Board. As with all purchasing activity, appropriate documentation of the application and purchase through any federal program will be maintained by the Business Office.

<u>PURCHASE CONTRACT</u> is a contract involving the acquisition of commodities, materials, supplies or equipment.

<u>PURCHASE WORK CONTRACT</u> is a contract involving services, labor or construction and material.

<u>PURCHASE ORDERS OVER -\$10,000</u> will be shared with the Board of Education prior to final approval. Any purchase order questioned will be held until sufficient information is presented to satisfy the question. If necessary, the purchase order will be presented for review to the School Board. Upon approval by the Board, the purchase order will be processed. A formal motion is not necessary unless specifically requested and seconded.

#### PURCHASING PROCEDURES

#### GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW, SECTION 103

#### A. <u>DETERMINING WHETHER PROCUREMENT IS SUBJECT TO</u> <u>COMPETITIVE BIDDING</u>

- **1.** The Purchasing Agent will first determine if a proposed procurement is a purchase contract or a contract for public work, and whether the amount of the procurement is above the applicable monetary threshold stated previously.
- **2.** The Purchasing Agent will document the basis for any determination that competitive bidding as outlined above, is not required by law. The following are exceptions to the competitive requirements:
  - **a.** <u>EMERGENCIES</u>: Instances wherein the procurement of goods or services arises out of an accident or other unforeseen occurrence or condition whereby circumstances affecting public buildings, public property, the life, health, safety or property of inhabitants are involved. A Memorandum to the Superintendent and Board of Education shall explain how an emergency purchase meets the above criteria, and the Board of Education shall pass a resolution declaring an emergency prior to the purchase, if feasible. The district will make the purchases at the lowest possible costs, seeking competition by informal solicitation of quotes to the extent practicable under the circumstances. Records of verbal or written quotes will be maintained with the purchase requisition.
  - b. <u>PURCHASES FROM PREFERRED SOURCES</u>: These include NYS Department of Correctional Services - CORCRAFT, NYS Preferred Source Program for People Who are Blind (NYSPSP), New York State Industries for the Disabled Inc., Office of Mental Health and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
  - **c.** <u>SOLE SOURCE ITEMS</u>: These are procurements for which there is no possibility of competition. Documentation will be attached to the purchase requisitions indicating that two additional vendors have been contacted and were unable to provide the required items.
  - **d.** <u>PURCHASES FROM GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS</u>: New York State Contracts, County Contracts, BOCES (after approval by Resolution by the Board of Education), Municipal Cooperative Agreements, Surplus and second-hand supplies, material or equipment purchased from the federal government, State of New York, or any other political subdivision within the State of New York.

Attachment: Purchasing Policies Procedures\_2017-2018 (2713 : Purchasing Policy and Procedures Manual)

- e. <u>INSURANCE</u>: The district will adopt insurance practices that will obtain the best coverage for the lowest cost. The district has the option of requiring formal request for proposals (RFP); documentation would include bid advertisements, specifications and awarding resolution. Written or verbal quotation forms could serve as documentation if formal RFP is not required. Contractors/Vendors shall not commence any work until all required insurance has been obtained and a Certificate of Insurance provided.
- **f.** <u>PERISHABLE ITEMS</u>: The following items need not be grouped meats and provisions, fresh produce, frozen foods, milk, livestock, etc.
- g. <u>UTILITIES</u>: Gas or Electric (Monopolies)
- **h.** <u>SMALL PROCUREMENTS</u>: Purchases and/or contracts below New York State limits are also exempt but must adhere to all other policy and procedural guidelines.
- **i.** <u>STATE-MANDATED OPERATIONS</u>: Those that require certification of contracts, such as inspection of underground gas tanks.
- **j.** <u>TESTING</u>: The acquisition of products for testing evaluation purposes. Such testing will be coordinated and documented.
- **k.** <u>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</u>: Because of the confidential nature of these services, they do not lend themselves to procurement solicitation. For initial contracts, at least three professionals will be contacted and asked to provide proposals. Requests for proposals may be used to obtain the services of architects, engineers, accountants, lawyers, underwriters, fiscal consultants, energy performance contractors and other professionals.

#### B. INSTALLMENT PURCHASE CONTRACTS

Voter authorization is required for installment purchase contracting. Provisions of the law are as follows:

- 1. The Board of Education must approve the contract.
- 2. The contract is <u>not</u> exempt from competitive bidding.

- 3. If the district is financing the contract through annual budget appropriations payments, the down payment cannot be greater than ten percent (10%) of the full contract price.
- 4. The installment payments should be substantially equal to each other.
- 5. Payments under this type of contract may not be made with the proceeds of the municipal bonds or notes.
- 6. The contract must contain an executory clause to the effect that the contract will be in effect only when funds are available.
- 7. Such a contract cannot be considered as indebtedness under Section 20.00 or 135.00 of the Local Finance Law.

In excess of bid limits, the following is also subject to Municipal Law, Section 103 in procurement of equipment:

- 1. <u>LEASE/RENTAL OF PERSONAL PROPERTY</u>: Section 1725 of the Education Law provides that:
  - (a) The Board of Education may enter into an agreement for the lease of personal property.
  - (b) The Board of Education must adopt a resolution stating the reason why such agreement is in the best financial interest of the district.
  - (c) The agreement may not exceed the current year unless the voters approve such agreement.
  - (d) Such agreements are subject to competitive bidding requirements if the total amount over the term of the contract exceeds the \$20,000 limit for purchase established by Section 103, General Municipal Law.

Note Related Regulations: Sec. **16**-1725, **16**-1950(4)(y) Sec. **23**-101, **23**-103(1)(2), **23**-103(2), **23**-119

- 2. <u>LEASE / PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT</u>: The Board of Education may only enter into a lease purchase agreement for personal property as provided for in Section 1725-a of the Education Law which:
  - (a) Authorizes such agreement for instructional equipment
  - (b) Are subject to written approval of the Commissioner
  - (c) Require formal bidding if the total amount over the term of the contract exceeds \$20,000
- <u>INSTALLMENT PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT, MACHINERY AND</u> <u>APPARATUS</u>: Section 109(b) of the General Municipal Law enables school districts to enter into installment purchase contracts for data processing and office copying and other equipment, machinery and apparatus. The intent of the legislation is to:
  - (a) Allow school districts to acquire ownership of the equipment upon completion of the contract.

(b) Effect economies when the annual payment under an installment contract is less costly than an annual lease.

#### C. SPECIAL AREAS

1. COOPERATIVE BID ARRANGEMENTS:

School districts may enter into contracts with BOCES to furnish hardware, software, training and maintenance of instructional services for a period not to exceed five (5) years under Education Law (1950 Subdivision 4 JJ). This Law allows school districts to enter into such contracts, executed by the Boards of Trustees of the school districts and the Board of Cooperative Education Services. Contract is subject to the approval of the Commissioner.

- 2. <u>STANDARDIZATION</u>: Makes it possible for the governing board to standardize a particular type of material or equipment, but does not eliminate the necessity to conform to competitive bidding requirement. There is no longer a need for the inclusion of the term "or equivalent" after make or model. Where there are reasons of efficiency or economy to standardize, the Board of Education will determine by resolution (by 3/5 vote) there is a need to standardize purchase contracts for a particular type or kind of equipment, material or supplies.
- 3. <u>TRANSPORTATION AND CAFETERIA CONTRACTS</u>: Covered by "Education Law" are subject to the same limits as "Purchase Contracts" except that transportation contracts may be entered into through an RFP instead of by competitive bid and, under special circumstances, may be renewed for up to five years.

## **GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW, SECTION 104-b**

#### D. PROCUREMENT OF MATERIAL UNDER BID LIMITS

Whenever feasible "Preferred Sources" and "Government Contracts" shall be used for purchases that are not required to be bid. When items are being purchased using "Preferred Sources" or "Government Contracts" and the amount of the purchase is greater than \$5,000, the procedure below "Purchase of Commodities, Equipment of Goods" must be followed.

Although formal written quotes are not required on purchases below \$1,000 total, every attempt should be made to contact the vendors to procure the lowest prices possible. Written quotations must be on the vendor's letterhead. Faxed quotations are acceptable.

Quotations are to be obtained based on the unit cost of the item(s). If increased quantities of an item are being purchased, but the total cost of the purchase is still under \$20,000, additional quotations may be requested at the discretion of the Purchasing Agent to ensure that the District is receiving the best possible pricing.

The following procedure will be followed for all other procurements not required to be bid:

## **PURCHASE OF COMMODITIES, EQUIPMENT OR GOODS**

<u>Dollar Limit</u> \$1,000 –5,000	<b><u>Procedure</u></b> Documented verbal quotations from at least three separate vendors must be attached to the requisition.
\$5,001 - 15,000	Formal written quotations from three separate vendors must be attached to the purchase requisition.
\$15,001 – 19,999	Formal written quotes from five separate vendors must be attached to the purchase requisition.
\$20,000 and above	Formal sealed bids are required, in conformance with General Municipal Law, Section 103.

## PUBLIC WORK PROJECTS/CONTRACTS

\$1-1,000	At the discretion of the Purchasing Agent.
\$1,001-5,000	Verbal quotations from at least three separate vendors.
\$5,001 – 15,000	Written quotations from at least three separate vendors.
\$15,001 – 25,000	Formal written quotations from at least five separate vendors.
\$25,001 - 34,999	Formal Request for Proposal (RFP) with a response from at least three vendors.

\$35,000 and above

Formal sealed bids in conformance With General Municipal Law, Section 103.

Copies of quotations and/or associated bids or contracts referenced should be attached to purchase requisitions and sent to the Purchasing Department for a Purchase Order to be processed. When the Purchase Order is generated, the voucher package attached to the Purchase Order will be sent to the Accounts Payable Department for later review by the Claims Auditors. Such quotations will include the name, address and phone number of the vendor contacted, name of the contacted person, item to be purchased specifying quantity, brand name and model number, the unit price of each item, the extended price, and the total price of the order.

**NOTE:** In instances wherein the procurement of goods or services arises out of an accident or other unforeseen occurrence or condition whereby circumstances affecting public buildings, public property, the life, health, safety or property of the inhabitants are involved, the Assistant Superintendent for Business may authorize an expenditure without regard to the above. Immediately following, a memorandum to the Superintendent and Board of Education shall explain how an emergency purchase meets the above criteria.

#### E. <u>REJECTION OF LOW BIDDER</u>

The district will provide justification and documentation, and the Board of Education will approve such documentation of any Bid awarded to other than the lowest responsible bidder (i.e., lowest dollar offer), setting forth the reasons why such award is in the best interests of the District, and otherwise furthers the purposes of Section 104-b of the General Municipal Law. The reliability and/or past performance of the bidder providing the offer is a factor in determining the lowest responsible bidder. Unacceptable performance or products may include prior and/or current circumstance. The following list is provided for clarification only and is not intended to be all-inclusive. Any or all items may apply in a given case.

- 1. Inability to provide items as specified.
- 2. Inability to deliver materials or services in a timely fashion.
- 3. The substitution of alternate items to those bid without informing the district.
- 4. Varying from prescribed procedures and/or specifications for the performance of the service or contract without expressed permission of the district.
- 5. Failure or difficulty in providing proper certificates of insurance or performance bonds when required.
- 6. Failure to provide samples of alternate bid items when requested.

#### ALSO:

Any bids submitted past the required bid opening time will be returned to the vendor unopened as per NYS regulations. Any bids submitted without proper bid deposit security specified in the General Conditions will be disqualified but may be reviewed at the discretion of the Purchasing Agent.

#### F. SAFEGUARDS

1. INTERNAL CONTROL

The Superintendent together with the Assistant Superintendent for Business and District Treasurer, will establish and maintain an internal control structure to ensure, to the best of their ability, that the district's assets will be safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, that transactions will be executed in accordance with the law and district policies and regulations, and recorded properly in the financial records of the district. Internal controls will be reviewed annually by the external auditor.

THE UNINTENTIONAL FAILURE TO FULLY COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 104-b OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW OR THE DISTRICT'S REGULATIONS REGARDING PROCUREMENT WILL NOT BE GROUNDS TO VOID ACTION TAKEN OR GIVE RISE TO A CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST THE DISTRICT OR ANY OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OF THE DISTRICT.

2. <u>REVIEW</u>

The policies and procedures shall be reviewed and adopted annually at the District Reorganization Meeting, by the Board of Education. Comments concerning the policies and procedures shall be solicited from Administrators, Supervisors, Directors and Principals annually.

#### PURCHASING PROCESS

**<u>Requistioner</u>**: Official, Supervisor, Director, or Principal initiating a request for goods or services.

The forms used in the purchasing process are:

Requisition:	A written (or electronic) request for one or more items or services necessary to carry on or improve a particular function.
Purchase Order:	A formal notice/contract to a vendor to furnish the supplies or services described in detail thereon.

All locations throughout the district complete requisitions prior to the printing of purchase orders signed by the Administrator requesting goods or services, and forwarded to the Purchasing Department where it is proofed for accuracy and budget codes. Each department head is responsible for compliance with the purchasing procedures adopted.

All purchase orders are approved by the appropriate Central Office designated Administrator and signed by the Purchasing Agent prior to mailing to vendor, thus certifying that money is available and that the appropriation has been encumbered.

Purchase Orders shall include the following essentials:

- a. A specification which adequately describes the characteristics and the quality standards of the item required.
- b. A firm, quoted, net delivered price, whenever possible. Prices shall be shown per unit and extended.
- c. Corresponding Bid, RFP, or contract number where applicable
- d. Clear "Send To" instructions including location, department and person.
- e. Signature of Purchasing Agent.
- f. Budget account code number.

### Request for Transfers:

In the event sufficient funds are unavailable in one code, a <u>Request for Transfer</u> of funds from one code to another should be in writing and directed to the Assistant Superintendent for Business. Budget transfers will be made in accordance with Policy 5330 Budget Transfers.

<u>Blanket Orders</u> may be issued to various vendors for the purpose of consolidating items that are purchased frequently from the same vendor, i.e., automotive supplies.

<u>Confirming Purchase Orders</u> will be used only in emergencies and kept to a minimum. All confirming purchase orders require prior administrative approval through the Business Office.

<u>**Quotations and Requests for Proposals**</u> will be adhered to as stated in the Policy Section under 104-b, General Municipal Law.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING EITHER THESE POLICIES OR THEIR IMPLEMENTATION SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE PURCHASING AGENT OR THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR BUSINESS AND FINANCE.

Memorandum of Understanding of Terms of Employment ("Memorandum") dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2017, between the LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT and RANDI D'AMBROSIO, Secretary to the Superintendent (Confidential).

WHEREAS, as a confidential employee, Ms. D'Ambrosio is neither covered by a collective bargaining agreement nor entitled by law to negotiate with the District for her terms and conditions of employment, and the District does not wish to take any action that could be construed as creating any type of binding contract of employment between them; and

WHEREAS, the District nevertheless desires to provide Ms. D'Ambrosio with an outline of the terms and conditions of employment that it has established for her, so as to avoid any misunderstanding or confusion about those terms and conditions of employment;

NOW THEREFORE, the District, having exercised its discretion to set Ms. D'Ambrosio's terms and conditions of employment, and having expressed its willingness to codify them pursuant to the caveats set forth above, establishes the terms and conditions of employment of Ms. D'Ambrosio in her position as Secretary to the Superintendent (Confidential), as follows:

 <u>Effective Date</u>. This Memorandum will be effective from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

2. <u>Effect</u>. This Memorandum will not be interpreted as creating or constituting a contract or binding agreement of any type. Instead, this Memorandum merely describes the terms and conditions of employment that will be in effect for Ms. D'Ambrosio during her employment with the District during the period described in paragraph "1."

3. <u>Base Salary</u>. The base salary to be paid to Ms. D'Ambrosio during the term of this Memorandum will be:

2.56.a

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018: \$77,429, including a \$3,000 confidential stipend

4. <u>Terms and Conditions</u>. The terms and conditions of Ms. D'Ambrosio's

employment will be as set forth in the then current collective negotiations agreement between the

District and the CSEA that apply to full-time, 12 month, "Office and Clerical Employees"

(Article XXIX) employees. Ms. D'Ambrosio's terms and conditions of employment will not

include the following provisions of the CSEA collective negotiations agreement:

#### WITNESSETH

Article 1 (Recognition)

Article II (Fair Practices)

Article III (Checkoff)

Article V (Board and District Policies, Practice and Regulations), ¶ 2

Article VI (Conformity to Law-Savings Clause)

Article VII (Legislative Action Required for Implementation)

Article X (Consultations)

Article XI (Labor-Management Committee)

Article XII (Grievance and Arbitration) (Grievances may be filed pursuant to Board Policy #6122)

Article XIX (Health Plan), except: for the first ¶ ("Employees shall be permitted ....") (with the reference to the CSEA being changed to Ms. D'Ambrosio), the second ¶, first sentence ("Contributions, by the School District ...."), the fourth ¶ ("Effective June 24, 2015 ...."), the sixth ¶ ("Retirees from this unit shall be entitled to the same health insurance benefits ...."), the seventh ¶ ("Notwithstanding the above, upon retirement, employees hired after July 1, 1998 shall be entitled ...."), (with the chart replaced by the requirement that Ms.

D'Ambrosio have 10 years of service in the District in order to be eligible for retiree health insurance), and the last ¶ ("The CSEA acknowledges ....") (with the reference to the CSEA being changed to Ms. D'Ambrosio); and except that Ms. D'Ambrosio will pay the same health insurance premium percentage during her retirement as she paid on her last day of employment with the District. Article XXIII (Advancement on Salary Schedule), except for the last sentence Article XXIV (Salary Increases) Article XXVII (Rights of the Association) Article XXVIII (Miscellaneous), other than ¶¶ 4, 5, 7 Article XXIX, except ¶6 Article XXX Article XXXI Article XXXII Article XXXIII Article XXXIV Article XXXV This Memorandum represents the totality of Ms. D'Ambrosio's terms and

conditions of employment. There are no other agreements or understandings.

FOR THE LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

BY: ---, Board of Education President de .

Randi D'Ambrosio

5.

Memorandum of Understanding of Terms of Employment ("Memorandum") dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2017, between the LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT and JILL STEIGER, Senior Account Clerk (Confidential).

WHEREAS, as a confidential employee, Ms. Steiger is neither covered by a collective bargaining agreement nor entitled by law to negotiate with the District for her terms and conditions of employment, and the District does not wish to take any action that could be construed as creating any type of binding contract of employment between them; and

WHEREAS, the District nevertheless desires to provide Ms. Steiger with an outline of the terms and conditions of employment that it has established for her, so as to avoid any misunderstanding or confusion about those terms and conditions of employment;

NOW THEREFORE, the District, having exercised its discretion to set Ms. Steiger's terms and conditions of employment, and having expressed its willingness to codify them pursuant to the caveats set forth above, establishes the terms and conditions of employment of Ms. Steiger in her position as Senior Account Clerk (Confidential), as follows:

 <u>Effective Date</u>. This Memorandum will be effective from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

2. <u>Effect</u>. This Memorandum will not be interpreted as creating or constituting a contract or binding agreement of any type. Instead, this Memorandum merely describes the terms and conditions of employment that will be in effect for Ms. Steiger during her employment with the District during the period described in paragraph "1."

 Base Salary. The base salary to be paid to Ms. Steiger during the term of this Memorandum will be:

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018: \$73,555, including a \$3,000 confidential stipend

4. <u>Terms and Conditions</u>. The terms and conditions of Ms. Steiger's employment will be as set forth in the then current collective negotiations agreement between the District and the CSEA that apply to full-time, 12 month, "Office and Clerical Employees" (Article XXIX) employees. Ms. Steiger's terms and conditions of employment will not include the following provisions of the CSEA collective negotiations agreement:

#### WITNESSETH

Article 1 (Recognition)

Article II (Fair Practices)

Article III (Checkoff)

Article V (Board and District Policies, Practice and Regulations), ¶ 2

Article VI (Conformity to Law-Savings Clause)

Article VII (Legislative Action Required for Implementation)

Article X (Consultations)

Article XI (Labor-Management Committee)

Article XII (Grievance and Arbitration) (Grievances may be filed pursuant to Board Policy #6122)

Article XIX (Health Plan), except: for the first ¶ ("Employees shall be permitted ....") (with the reference to the CSEA being changed to Ms. Steiger), the second ¶, first sentence ("Contributions, by the School District ...."), the fourth ¶ ("Effective June 24, 2015 ...."), the sixth ¶ ("Retirees from this unit shall be entitled to the same health insurance benefits ...."), the seventh ¶ ("Notwithstanding the above, upon retirement, employees hired after July 1, 1998 shall be entitled ....") (with the chart replaced by the requirement that Ms. Steiger have 10 years of service in the District in order to be eligible for retiree health

insurance), and the last ¶ ("The CSEA acknowledges ....") (with the reference to the CSEA being changed to Ms. Steiger); and except that Ms. Steiger will pay the same health insurance premium percentage during her retirement as she paid on her last day of employment with the District.

Article XXIII (Advancement on Salary Schedule), except for the last sentence

Article XXIV (Salary Increases)

Article XXVII (Rights of the Association)

Article XXVIII (Miscellaneous), other than ¶¶ 4, 5, 7

Article XXIX, except ¶6

Article XXX

Article XXXI

Article XXXII

Article XXXIII

Article XXXIV

Article XXXV

 This Memorandum represents the totality of Ms. Steiger's terms and conditions of employment. There are no other agreements or understandings.

FOR THE LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

BY: Board of Education President Jill Steiger

Memorandum of Understanding of Terms of Employment ("Memorandum") dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2017, between the LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT and CATHY DINDA, Senior Clerk Typist.

WHEREAS, as a confidential employee, Ms. Dinda is neither covered by a collective bargaining agreement nor entitled by law to negotiate with the District for her terms and conditions of employment, and the District does not wish to take any action that could be construed as creating any type of binding contract of employment between them; and

WHEREAS, the District nevertheless desires to provide Ms. Dinda with an outline of the terms and conditions of employment that it has established for her, so as to avoid any misunderstanding or confusion about those terms and conditions of employment;

NOW THEREFORE, the District, having exercised its discretion to set Ms. Dinda's terms and conditions of employment, and having expressed its willingness to codify them pursuant to the caveats set forth above, establishes the terms and conditions of employment of Ms. Dinda in her position as Senior Clerk Typist, as follows:

 <u>Effective Date</u>. This Memorandum will be effective from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

2. <u>Effect</u>. This Memorandum will not be interpreted as creating or constituting a contract or binding agreement of any type. Instead, this Memorandum merely describes the terms and conditions of employment that will be in effect for Ms. Dinda during her employment with the District during the period described in paragraph "1."

 Base Salary. The base salary to be paid to Ms. Dinda during the term of this Memorandum will be:

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018: \$57,325, including a \$3,000 confidential stipend

2.56.c

4. <u>Terms and Conditions</u>. The terms and conditions of Ms. Dinda's employment will be as set forth in the then current collective negotiations agreement between the District and the CSEA that apply to full-time, 12 month, "Office and Clerical Employees" (Article XXIX) employees. Ms. Dinda's terms and conditions of employment will not include the following provisions of the CSEA collective negotiations agreement:

WITNESSETH

Article 1 (Recognition)

Article II (Fair Practices)

Article III (Checkoff)

Article V (Board and District Policies, Practice and Regulations), ¶ 2

Article VI (Conformity to Law-Savings Clause)

Article VII (Legislative Action Required for Implementation)

Article X (Consultations)

Article XI (Labor-Management Committee)

Article XII (Grievance and Arbitration) (Grievances may be filed pursuant to Board Policy #6122)

Article XIX (Health Plan), except: for the first  $\P$  ("Employees shall be permitted ....") (with the reference to the CSEA being changed to Ms. Dinda), the second  $\P$ , first sentence ("Contributions, by the School District ...."), the fourth  $\P$  ("Effective June 24, 2015 ...."), the sixth  $\P$  ("Retirees from this unit shall be entitled to the same health insurance benefits ...."), the seventh  $\P$  ("Notwithstanding the above, upon retirement, employees hired after July 1, 1998 shall be entitled ....") (with the chart replaced by the requirement that Ms. Dinda have 10 years of service in the District in order to be eligible for retiree health

insurance), and the last ¶ ("The CSEA acknowledges ....") (with the reference to the CSEA being changed to Ms. Dinda); and except that Ms. Dinda will pay the same health insurance premium percentage during her retirement as she paid on her last day of employment with the District.

Article XXIII (Advancement on Salary Schedule), except for the last sentence

Article XXIV (Salary Increases)

Article XXVII (Rights of the Association)

Article XXVIII (Miscellaneous), other than ¶¶ 4, 5, 7

Article XXIX, except ¶6

Article XXX

Article XXXI

Article XXXII

Article XXXIII

Article XXXIV

Article XXXV

5. This Memorandum represents the totality of Ms. Dinda's terms and conditions of employment. There are no other agreements or understandings.

FOR THE LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

BY:

, Board of Education President

Cathy Dinda

Memorandum of Understanding of Terms of Employment ("Memorandum") dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2017, between the LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT and SUSAN GARIBALDI, Principal Clerk Typist (Confidential).

WHEREAS, as a confidential employee, Ms. Garibaldi is neither covered by a collective bargaining agreement nor entitled by law to negotiate with the District for her terms and conditions of employment, and the District does not wish to take any action that could be construed as creating any type of binding contract of employment between them; and

WHEREAS, the District nevertheless desires to provide Ms. Garibaldi with an outline of the terms and conditions of employment that it has established for her, so as to avoid any misunderstanding or confusion about those terms and conditions of employment;

NOW THEREFORE, the District, having exercised its discretion to set Ms. Garibaldi's terms and conditions of employment, and having expressed its willingness to codify them pursuant to the caveats set forth above, establishes the terms and conditions of employment of Ms. Garibaldi in her position as Principal Clerk Typist (Confidential), as follows:

 <u>Effective Date</u>. This Memorandum will be effective from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

2. <u>Effect</u>. This Memorandum will not be interpreted as creating or constituting a contract or binding agreement of any type. Instead, this Memorandum merely describes the terms and conditions of employment that will be in effect for Ms. Garibaldi during her employment with the District during the period described in paragraph "1."

3. <u>Base Salary</u>. The base salary to be paid to Ms. Garibaldi during the term of this Memorandum will be:

Attachment: MOU - Susan Garibaldi(2724:Memorandum of Understanding - Confidential Employees)

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018: \$61,704, including a \$3,000 confidential stipend.

Ms. Garibaldi will also receive an additional payment of \$850 in recognition of her longevity with the District.

4. <u>Terms and Conditions</u>. The terms and conditions of Ms. Garibaldi's employment will be as set forth in the then current collective negotiations agreement between the District and the CSEA that apply to full-time, 12 month, "Office and Clerical Employees" (Article XXIX) employees. Ms. Garibaldi's terms and conditions of employment will not include the following provisions of the CSEA collective negotiations agreement:

WITNESSETH

Article 1 (Recognition)

Article II (Fair Practices)

Article III (Checkoff)

Article V (Board and District Policies, Practice and Regulations), ¶ 2

Article VI (Conformity to Law-Savings Clause)

Article VII (Legislative Action Required for Implementation)

Article X (Consultations)

Article XI (Labor-Management Committee)

Article XII (Grievance and Arbitration) (Grievances may be filed pursuant to Board Policy #6122)

Article XIX (Health Plan), except: for the first ¶ ("Employees shall be permitted

....") (with the reference to the CSEA being changed to Ms. Garibaldi), the

second ¶, first sentence ("Contributions, by the School District ...."), the fourth ¶

("Effective June 24, 2015 ...."), the sixth ¶ ("Retirees from this unit shall be

entitled to the same health insurance benefits ...."), the seventh ¶

("Notwithstanding the above, upon retirement, employees hired after July 1, 1998 shall be entitled ....") (with the chart replaced by the requirement that Ms. Garibaldi have 10 years of service in the District in order to be eligible for retiree health insurance), and the last ¶ ("The CSEA acknowledges ....") (with the reference to the CSEA being changed to Ms. Garibaldi); and except that Ms. Garibaldi will pay the same health insurance premium percentage during her retirement as she paid on her last day of employment with the District. Article XXIII (Advancement on Salary Schedule), except for the last sentence Article XXVII (Rights of the Association) Article XXVIII (Miscellaneous), other than ¶¶ 4, 5, 7 Article XXIX, except 96 (Ms. Garibaldi will not receive overtime or compensatory time) Article XXX Article XXXI Article XXXII Article XXXIII Article XXXIV Article XXXV This Memorandum represents the totality of Ms. Garibaldi's terms and conditions

of employment. There are no other agreements or understandings.

FOR THE LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

BY:

5.

Board of Education President

2.56.d

Memorandum of Understanding of Terms of Employment ("Memorandum") dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2017, between the LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT and DEBBY SLOAN, Principal Personnel Clerk (Confidential).

WHEREAS, as a confidential employee, Ms. Sloan is neither covered by a collective bargaining agreement nor entitled by law to negotiate with the District for her terms and conditions of employment, and the District does not wish to take any action that could be construed as creating any type of binding contract of employment between them; and

WHEREAS, the District nevertheless desires to provide Ms. Sloan with an outline of the terms and conditions of employment that it has established for her, so as to avoid any misunderstanding or confusion about those terms and conditions of employment;

NOW THEREFORE, the District, having exercised its discretion to set Ms. Sloan's terms and conditions of employment, and having expressed its willingness to codify them pursuant to the caveats set forth above, establishes the terms and conditions of employment of Ms. Sloan in her position as Principal Personnel Clerk (Confidential), as follows:

 <u>Effective Date</u>. This Memorandum will be effective from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

2. <u>Effect</u>. This Memorandum will not be interpreted as creating or constituting a contract or binding agreement of any type. Instead, this Memorandum merely describes the terms and conditions of employment that will be in effect for Ms. Sloan during her employment with the District during the period described in paragraph "1."

 Base Salary. The base salary to be paid to Ms. Sloan during the term of this Memorandum will be:

July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018: \$78,023, including a \$3,000 confidential stipend

2.56.e

4. <u>Terms and Conditions</u>. The terms and conditions of Ms. Sloan's employment will be as set forth in the then current collective negotiations agreement between the District and the CSEA that apply to full-time, 12 month, "Office and Clerical Employees" (Article XXIX) employees. Ms. Sloan's terms and conditions of employment will not include the following provisions of the CSEA collective negotiations agreement:

WITNESSETH

Article 1 (Recognition)

Article II (Fair Practices)

Article III (Checkoff)

Article V (Board and District Policies, Practice and Regulations), ¶ 2

Article VI (Conformity to Law-Savings Clause)

Article VII (Legislative Action Required for Implementation)

Article X (Consultations)

Article XI (Labor-Management Committee)

Article XII (Grievance and Arbitration) (Grievances may be filed pursuant to Board Policy #6122)

Article XIX (Health Plan), except: for the first  $\P$  ("Employees shall be permitted ....") (with the reference to the CSEA being changed to Ms. Sloan), the second  $\P$ , first sentence ("Contributions, by the School District ...."), the fourth  $\P$  ("Effective June 24, 2015 ...."), the sixth  $\P$  ("Retirees from this unit shall be entitled to the same health insurance benefits ...."), the seventh  $\P$  ("Notwithstanding the above, upon retirement, employees hired after July 1, 1998 shall be entitled ....") (with the chart replaced by the requirement that Ms. Sloan have 10 years of service in the District in order to be eligible for retiree health

insurance), and the last ¶ ("The CSEA acknowledges ....") (with the reference to the CSEA being changed to Ms. Sloan); and except that Ms. Sloan will pay the same health insurance premium percentage during her retirement as she paid on her last day of employment with the District.

Article XXIII (Advancement on Salary Schedule), except for the last sentence

Article XXIV (Salary Increases)

Article XXVII (Rights of the Association)

Article XXVIII (Miscellaneous), other than ¶¶ 4, 5, 7

Article XXIX, except ¶6

Article XXX

Article XXXI

Article XXXII

Article XXXIII

Article XXXIV

Article XXXV

 This Memorandum represents the totality of Ms. Sloan's terms and conditions of employment. There are no other agreements or understandings.

FOR THE LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

BY:

, Board of Education President

Dehly Sloan

Debby Sloan

Memorandum of Understanding of Terms of Employment ("Memorandum") dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2017, between the LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT and CHARLENE DREWES, Principal Account Clerk (Confidential).

WHEREAS, as a confidential employee, Ms. Drewes is neither covered by a collective bargaining agreement nor entitled by law to negotiate with the District for her terms and conditions of employment, and the District does not wish to take any action that could be construed as creating any type of binding contract of employment between them; and

WHEREAS, the District nevertheless desires to provide Ms. Drewes with an outline of the terms and conditions of employment that it has established for her, so as to avoid any misunderstanding or confusion about those terms and conditions of employment;

NOW THEREFORE, the District, having exercised its discretion to set Ms. Drewes's terms and conditions of employment, and having expressed its willingness to codify them pursuant to the caveats set forth above, establishes the terms and conditions of employment of Ms. Drewes in her position as Principal Account Clerk (Confidential), as follows:

 <u>Effective Date</u>. This Memorandum will be effective from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

2. <u>Effect</u>. This Memorandum will not be interpreted as creating or constituting a contract or binding agreement of any type. Instead, this Memorandum merely describes the terms and conditions of employment that will be in effect for Ms. Drewes during her employment with the District during the period described in paragraph "1."

3. <u>Base Salary</u>. The base salary to be paid to Ms. Drewes during the term of this Memorandum will be:

July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018: \$70,062, including a \$3,000 confidential stipend

4. <u>Terms and Conditions</u>. The terms and conditions of Ms. Drewes's employment will be as set forth in the then current collective negotiations agreement between the District and the CSEA that apply to full-time, 12 month, "Office and Clerical Employees" (Article XXIX) employees. Ms. Drewes's terms and conditions of employment will not include the following provisions of the CSEA collective negotiations agreement:

WITNESSETH

Article 1 (Recognition) Article II (Fair Practices) Article III (Checkoff) Article V (Board and District Policies, Practice and Regulations), ¶2 Article VI (Conformity to Law-Savings Clause) Article VII (Legislative Action Required for Implementation) Article X (Consultations) Article XI (Labor-Management Committee) Article XII (Grievance and Arbitration) (Grievances may be filed pursuant to Board Policy #6122) Article XIX (Health Plan), except: for the first ¶ ("Employees shall be permitted ....") (with the reference to the CSEA being changed to Ms. Drewes), the second ¶, first sentence ("Contributions, by the School District ...."), the fourth ¶ ("Effective June 24, 2015 ...."), the sixth ¶ ("Retirees from this unit shall be entitled to the same health insurance benefits ...."), the seventh ¶ ("Notwithstanding the above, upon retirement, employees hired after July 1, 1998 shall be entitled ....") (with the chart replaced by the requirement that Ms. Drewes have 10 years of service in the District in order to be eligible for retiree health

2

insurance), and the last ¶ ("The CSEA acknowledges ....") (with the reference to the CSEA being changed to Ms. Drewes); and except that Ms. Drewes will pay the same health insurance premium percentage during her retirement as she paid on her last day of employment with the District.

Article XXIII (Advancement on Salary Schedule), except for the last sentence

Article XXIV (Salary Increases)

Article XXVII (Rights of the Association)

Article XXVIII (Miscellaneous), other than ¶¶ 4, 5, 7

Article XXIX, except ¶6

Article XXX

Article XXXI

Article XXXII

Article XXXIII

Article XXXIV

Article XXXV

5. This Memorandum represents the totality of Ms. Drewes's terms and conditions

of employment. There are no other agreements or understandings.

FOR THE LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

BY: , Board of Education President

 $n \mid Q$ 

elles

Charlene Drewes

## Labor Seasonal/Summer Worker Rates:

Year 1	\$10.00/hr.
Year 2	\$11.00/hr.

## **Election Worker Rates:**

Chairperson/Inspector	\$11.00/hr.
Election Workers	\$9.00/hr.

# Substitute Teacher Rate:

\$100/day

#### Substitute Nurse Rate:

see CSEA schedule for P/T Registered Nurse

#### Substitute Teacher Aides/Monitor Rate:

see CSEA schedule for P/T aides/monitors

#### **Substitute Clerical Rate:** see CSEA schedule for P/T clerical

Substitute Cleaner Rate:

see CSEA schedule for P/T cleaner

#### Substitute Security:

see CSEA schedule for P/T security aide

#### **Dance Program:**

Trainee:		\$10.14/hr.
Level 1	New employees w/full class, minimum experience	\$10.51/hr.
Level 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> year teaching and/or minimum experience	\$15.77/hr.
Level 3	3-4 years in program and/or intermediate level experience	\$16.89/hr.
Level 4	More than 4 years in program and/or experienced	\$21.41/hr.
Level 5	More than 20 years in program and/or master teacher with advanced training	\$24.79/hr.
Gymnastics:	Coordinator – level 2 – with limited experience	\$24.79/hr.
Gymnastics:	Coordinator – level 1 – experience personnel	\$36.86/hr.

# **Recital Pay:**

Except where noted, recital pay is based on 3 days of work (dress rehearsal and 2 performances)

٨	Director	¢1 000
	Director	\$1,000
В.	Stage Manager	\$1,000
C.	Assistant Stage Manager	\$950
D.	Artwork, program cover	\$250
E.	Artwork, stage scenery	\$250
F.	Program/brochure layout	\$170
G.	Recording music	\$200
H.	Stage crew, level 1	\$200
I.	Stage crew, level 2	\$220
J.	Stage crew, level 3	\$240
K.	Stage assistants	\$300
	1. Dressing room monitors	
	2. Gathering/holding room monitors	
	3. Hairdresser	
	4. Hall monitors	
	5. Runners	
	6. Station monitors	
	7. Ushers	
L.	Security (2 days)	\$400

## **Dance Faculty**

Level 1 (1-2 classes in recital)	\$300
Level 2 (3 classes in recital)	\$375
Level 3 (4 classes in recital)	\$450
Level 4 (5 classes in recital)	\$600
Level 5 (5 classes in recital & additional responsibilities)	\$750