

**AC-R Grievance Procedure for Persons with Disabilities**

The Board has adopted this grievance procedure to provide a local avenue for persons with disabilities to raise concerns about whether the school is fully meeting its obligations under state and federal laws to protect persons with disabilities. This procedure is intended to meet the requirements of the federal Rehabilitation Act (34 CFR § 104.7(b)) and the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (28 CFR § 35.107(b)).

Questions about this grievance procedure should be directed to the ADA/504 compliance coordinator: Assistant Director, 1 Main Street, Rockland, ME (207) 594-2161

**Step One**

A person with an identifiable disability, or someone acting on that person's behalf, may file a written grievance regarding compliance with state or federal disabilities laws with the Assistant Director. No grievance will be heard if it involves actions that occurred more than 60 days prior to the filing of the grievance.

The Assistant Director shall respond in writing to the grievance within 15 working days of its receipt. Extensions of 15 working days may be allowed if necessary to address fully the issues in the grievance. The Assistant Director's written response shall be forwarded to the grievant.

**Step Two**

If dissatisfied with the response, the grievant may obtain a review by the Director of the Assistant Director's decision.

The grievant must request that review within 15 working days of the decision by the Assistant Director. The Director, after consultation with the Assistant Director, shall respond in writing to the grievance within 15 working days. Extensions of 15 working days may be allowed when necessary to address fully the issues in the grievance. The Director's written response shall be forwarded to the grievant and to the Assistant Director.

Except for grievances regarding physical alterations to school buildings or grounds, the decision of the Director shall be final. In the case of grievances regarding physical alterations to school buildings or grounds, a dissatisfied grievant may obtain a review of the Director's decision by the Region 8 Board.

The grievant must request that review within 15 working days of the decision by the Director. The Board shall have a reasonable time to schedule a meeting on the grievance and to issue its decision.

Nothing in this grievance procedure in any way forecloses a person with a disability from seeking redress for their concerns at any time through other legal avenues, such as through the Office for Civil Rights, the Department of Justice, the Maine Human Rights Commission or the Maine Department of Education.

Questions about other legal avenues available for persons with disabilities to pursue compliance concerns under various disabilities laws should be directed to the ADA/504 compliance coordinator: Assistant Director, 1 Main Street, Rockland, Maine (207) 594-2161

This notice is available in large print and/or audio recording from the ADA/504 compliance coordinator upon request.

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