219. STUDENT COMPLAINT PROCESS

1. Purpose
The Joint Operating Committee recognizes that students have the right to request redress of complaints. In addition, the Joint Operating Committee believes that the inculcation of respect for established procedures is an important part of the educational process. Accordingly, individual and group complaints shall be recognized, and appropriate appeal procedures shall be provided.

2. Definition
For purposes of this policy, a student complaint shall be one that arises from actions that directly affect the student's participation in an approved educational program.

3. Authority
The Joint Operating Committee and its employees will recognize the complaints of students, provided that such complaints are submitted according to the guidelines established by Joint Operating Committee policy.

4. Guidelines
Students are encouraged to discuss their complaint informally with the person against whom they have the complaint. It is hoped that most complaints can be resolved by discussion. If this proves inadequate, the student may submit his/her complaint in writing to the principal.

Within five (5) school days, the principal shall call a meeting of the student, who may bring counsel, and parties concerned, including parents/guardians. The principal or a designee shall make every effort to resolve the matter equitably and as quickly as possible. The principal’s decision shall be in writing.

If the complaint is not resolved to the satisfaction of the student, s/he may appeal the decision to the Administrative Director within three (3) days. Within five (5) school days, the Administrative Director shall call a meeting of the student who may bring counsel, and the parties concerned, including parents/guardians. The Administrative Director shall make every effort to resolve the matter equitably and as quickly as possible. The decision of the Administrative Director shall be final and binding on all parties, subject to review of the Joint Operating Committee.