

OASIS MIDDLE CHARTER SCHOOL (2122)
POLICY ON COMPLAINTS RELATED TO HOUSE BILL 1557 (2022)

January 1, 2024

I. Types of Concerns Addressed:

Oasis Middle School acknowledges and adheres to the provisions set forth in House Bill 1557 (2022), also known as the "Parental Rights in Education" law. This legislation outlines specific procedures for handling complaints or disputes falling within the categories outlined in Section 1001.42(8)(c)1.-7., Florida Statutes, as well as on the "Parental Request for Appointment of a Special Magistrate" form published by the Florida Department of Education, which can be accessed at this link:
<https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9669/dps2022-158b.pdf>.

Under this policy, Oasis Middle School recognizes and addresses complaints or disputes encompassing the following areas:

- a. Concerns regarding procedures for notifying parents of any changes in a student's services or monitoring relating to their mental, emotional, or physical health and overall well-being. Oasis Middle School is committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all students.
- b. Concerns pertaining to school policies or procedures that may be perceived as discouraging or prohibiting parental involvement and notification in critical decisions affecting their student's mental, emotional, or physical health and well-being.
- c. Concerns regarding classroom instruction relating to sexual orientation or gender identity which must be age-appropriate for grades 6-8.
- d. Concerns relating to the training provided to school personnel involved in student support services that is believed to be out of compliance with the guidelines, standards, and frameworks established by the Department of Education.
- e. Concerns relating to parental notification at the beginning of the school year regarding healthcare services offered by Oasis Middle School, including opting out or withholding consent for such services.

By addressing these concerns, Oasis Middle School aims to maintain open lines of communication with parents and uphold the rights and well-being of all students in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

II. Parent Grievance Procedures

If a parent or guardian has a dispute or concern regarding the rights of parents protected under Florida Statutes 1002.20 and 1014.04, a procedure is in place to address such issues:

- a. The parents or guardians must first reach out to the principal in writing to provide them with an opportunity to rectify or mediate the alleged violation.

b. Once the complaint has been filed, the principal and parent involvement representative are allotted one week to resolve the dispute.

c. The principal will then inform the board about any requests for relief that arise from the dispute.

III. Procedures for Unresolved Student Welfare Complaints:

In the event that a resolution cannot be reached within this initial timeframe, the parents may escalate the dispute to the Manatee County School District.

Upon escalation, the School District will make every effort to address and resolve the dispute within a maximum period of thirty (30) business days. Should the School District be unable to arrive at a satisfactory resolution, the parent may then exercise their right to request the appointment of a special magistrate by utilizing the "Parental Request for Appointment of a Special Magistrate". It is important to note that, for the purposes of this policy, "days" strictly refers to business days and excludes state, federal, and school holidays.

We value open and transparent communication, and our commitment is to promptly and effectively address all concerns raised by parents and guardians, safeguarding the well-being and rights of our students and their families.