



**EAST BAY INNOVATION ACADEMY (EBIA)**

**FAMILY/STUDENT HANDBOOK**

**2023-2024**

*Updated June 2023*

<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b>	<b>4</b>
OUR TEAM	4
EBIA MODEL	5
ENROLLMENT	9
WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL	10
TELEPHONING	11
STUDENT ATTENDANCE	11
DAILY OPERATIONS	19
COMMUNICATION WITH THE SCHOOL	21
PARENT INVOLVEMENT	21
<b>INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>22</b>
GRADE CATEGORIES	22
GRADING SCALE	23
COMMON RUBRICS	24
REVISION POLICY	25
STUDENT TESTING	25
SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION	26
CURRICULUM MATERIALS	27
STUDENT ACADEMIC PROGRESS	27
CAL GRANT PROGRAM NOTICE AND INFORMATION REGARDING FINANCIAL AID	27
TEACHER CONFERENCES	27
RIGHT TO ASK FOR TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS	28
ENGLISH LEARNERS	28
SURVEYS ABOUT BELIEFS	28
INDEPENDENT STUDY	29
<b>STUDENT BEHAVIOR</b>	<b>29</b>
DRESS CODE	30
CELL PHONES / ELECTRONIC DEVICES	32

GUM ON CAMPUS	33
APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE	33
PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION	34
PERSONAL GROOMING	34
ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, DRUGS	34
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE	34
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY	35
REASONABLE SEARCH	36
<b>STUDENT HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>	<b>37</b>
ILLNESS	37
INJURIES	37
IMMUNIZATIONS	38
MEDICATIONS	39
ALLERGY REPORTING	43
SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT	43
PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS AND RIGHT TO REFUSE	43
SCHOOLBUS AND PASSENGER SAFETY	44
SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN	44
SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST PREVENTION AND AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS	44
CONCUSSION/HEAD INJURY	44
OPIOID INFORMATION SHEET	45
PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS	45
HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION	46
DIABETES	46
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	49
DANGERS OF SYNTHETIC DRUGS	51
SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS	51
<b>SCHOOL OPERATIONS &amp; PROCEDURES</b>	<b>52</b>
NON DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT	52

VISITS AND CLASSROOM OBSERVATIONS	54
VOLUNTEERING	55
PARENTS' PERMISSION FOR THE PUBLICATION OF STUDENT WORK/PICTURES	55
LOST OR DAMAGED SCHOOL PROPERTY	56
MEAL PROGRAM	56
STUDENT RECORDS	57
EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH ANNUAL NOTICE	61
EDUCATION OF FOSTER AND MOBILE YOUTH ANNUAL NOTICE	65
SECTION 504	74
SPECIAL EDUCATION / STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES	74
UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES	75
<b>APPENDIX: COMPLETE POLICIES</b>	<b>79</b>
TITLE IX, HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, DISCRIMINATION, AND BULLYING POLICY	79
EMPLOYEE INTERACTIONS WITH STUDENTS POLICY (FROM EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK)	95
PUPIL SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION POLICY	99

## GENERAL INFORMATION

# OUR TEAM

Contact information for our **School Team** are as follows:

- Central Office Phone number: 510-577-9557
- Attendance/Info (Jonathan Cervantes – Lower, Daisy Romero– Upper): [info@eastbayia.org](mailto:info@eastbayia.org)
- Executive Director (Miranda Thorman): [miranda.thorman@eastbayia.org](mailto:miranda.thorman@eastbayia.org)
- Dean of Academics, Lower (Mick Terrizzi ): [mterrizzi@eastbayia.org](mailto:mterrizzi@eastbayia.org)
- Dean of Academics, Upper (Francesca Fay): [francesca.fay@eastbayia.org](mailto:francesca.fay@eastbayia.org)
- Dean of Culture, Lower (Ernesto Diaz): [ernesto.diaz@eastbayia.org](mailto:ernesto.diaz@eastbayia.org)
- Dean of Culture, Upper (Mike Calhoun): [michael.calhoun@eastbayia.org](mailto:michael.calhoun@eastbayia.org)
- Senior Director of Operations (Bonita Herrera): [bherrera@eastbayia.org](mailto:bherrera@eastbayia.org)
- Director of Operations (Charlie Noel): [charlie.noel@eastbayia.org](mailto:charlie.noel@eastbayia.org)
- Director of Student Support Services (Robert Moore): [rmoore@eastbayia.org](mailto:rmoore@eastbayia.org)
- Director of College and Career Readiness (Kayla Jackson): [kayla.jackson@eastbayia.org](mailto:kayla.jackson@eastbayia.org)
- Quest, After-school Care at Lower School (Janisse Watts): [quest@eastbayia.org](mailto:quest@eastbayia.org)
- Manager of Linked Learning and Career Pathways (Christine Mandilag): [christine.mandilag@eastbayia.org](mailto:christine.mandilag@eastbayia.org)

Lower School: 3400 Malcolm Ave, Oakland, CA 94605

Upper School: 3800 Mountain Blvd, Oakland, CA 94619

Information on our **Board of Directors** can be found online: <https://eastbayia.org/about/board-material>

# EBIA MODEL

## OUR MISSION

East Bay Innovation Academy’s (“EBIA,” the “School,” or “the Charter School”) mission is to prepare a diverse group of students to be successful in college and to be thoughtful, engaged citizens who are leaders and innovators in a 21st century global world.

## OUR VISION

EBIA is rethinking how schools are run and structured, so that they better reflect the needs of a 21st century world. Most schools have not changed their structure, organization, facilities or instruction in over fifty (50) years. While schools have not changed, our world has, leaving many of our schools, even the “best” ones, behind. EBIA is a powerful option for Oakland families and educators to build a diverse school that addresses the needs of the 21st century and beyond.

## OUR INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL

EBIA is a rigorous STEAM (“Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math”) school with a unique focus on the social and emotional skills students need to be leaders. Students will learn to be problem solvers and strong advocates who work together and take responsibility for their own learning.



Students will work together on long-term, “**real-world**” projects that combine many different subjects, and will learn to present those projects using technology.

Students will alternate between different learning models, including online learning, and in later grades will be **self-guided**.

## OUR CORE BELIEFS

We believe in **Possibility and Perseverance**

*All students will achieve at the highest levels and prepare for success in college and career. We value courage, action and hard work.*

We believe in **Creativity and Curiosity**

*Students will work together with critical and creative minds. We value exploration, perspective and determination.*

We believe in **Community**

*Parents, teachers, school leaders, and board members will take responsibility for all students' success. We value relationships, kindness, integrity and respect.*

We believe in the **Greater Good**

*EBIA will teach students about social justice and civic responsibility. We value giving back to the community and improving our school, our community and our world.*

We believe in **Diversity**

*Students will prepare for society and the workforce by working with and appreciating those who are different from themselves.*

## OUR INNOVATOR NORMS

The character traits we expect all our students to exhibit are known as **Innovator Norms**. Our six Innovator Norms will be woven throughout our culture, classrooms and community.

**Perseverance:** Maintaining a steady persistence in a course of action, and exhibiting a commitment to purpose and tenacity, in spite of difficulties, obstacles, or discouragement.

**Curiosity:** Eagerly desiring to know and learn; taking initiative and being inventive.

**Kindness:** Being considerate or helpful.

**Respect:** Honoring or being considerate towards self, property, and others.

**Conscientiousness:** Being careful, meticulous; being thorough, careful, or vigilant; desiring to do a task well and to completion; being accountable, prioritizing to set and meet goals, and achieving results.

**Leadership:** The quality of an individual's membership in, and contribution to, a community.

## WHAT DOES A DAY LOOK LIKE?

EBIA's doors open at 7:45 am<sup>1</sup> and students are invited to to work on assignments, and socialize respectfully with classmates.

### Lower Campus Arrival

All lower campus students report to the outdoor blacktop from 8:15-9:05 am unless attending office hours. Students use the front external campus walkway in the mornings. The internal hallway is closed to students during morning arrival.

### Upper Campus Arrival

We are a technology driven-school, using Chromebooks as our learning platforms Students who do not have internet access at home or appropriate devices can use this time before school to work on assignments during designated office hours days.

Because we know that building relationships and creating a sense of belonging and connectedness is integral to students' success, we have been very strategic in developing our master schedule to meet the socio-emotional needs of adolescents. Every day, our students meet with their Advisor, an adult who will serve as the captain of their crew. Advisory classes are composed of eighteen (18) to twenty- six (26) students who work together to develop interpersonal skills that will ensure their success in college and career. These tight- knit Advisory crews will learn to monitor one another's progress and success, navigating the nuances of school on a daily basis in their assigned rooms.

Throughout the course of the day, students will receive instruction in the four core academic subjects of math, science, English/Language Arts, and social studies. Additionally, each student will have periods of Independent Learning Time ("ILT"), where he/she can work individually or collaboratively

---

<sup>1</sup> While doors open at 7:45, the school day does not begin until 8:30 AM for Upper School (9 AM on Wednesdays) and 9 AM for Lower School. For more information about school hours, see DAILY OPERATIONS.



on assignments. EBIA additionally provides elective courses in fitness, computer science, Spanish and art.

After school, students may stay to receive help from tutors on designated office hour days, or participate in enrichment activities designed to engage students and give them exposure to myriad learning experiences. At our Lower School, these activities occur through the EBIA Quest program.

Arrangements must be made for on-time pick-up every day.

\* In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent public health response to prioritize the safety and health of all students, staff and families, the EBIA experience may be modified as needed to include social distancing and/or other health and safety protocols for the 2023-24 school year.

## **WHAT DOES A YEAR LOOK LIKE?**

Our school year opens with a three-day orientation program aimed to provide students a comprehensive introduction to EBIA and the school year. Students will learn about our school pillars, Innovator Norms, behavioral and academic norms, Advisory, regular and block schedules, support structures, breakfast, lunch, and most importantly, one another. In addition to building familiarity and community, all students will take diagnostic tests so that EBIA staff can determine academic levels and begin to set goals with students as part of their Personalized Learning Plans (“PLPs”).

The second week of school and throughout the year, students will attend their classes, receiving high- quality instruction, working towards mastery of course content through Blended Learning (“BL”) and Project-Based Learning (“PBL”). They will utilize design-thinking principles in solving problems and utilize SEL skills in collaboration and presentation. Students will be accessing most of the curriculum via teacher-curated blended learning platforms, with links to content that is informative and meaningful. Students will have myriad benchmarks to track their progress and will demonstrate mastery via cumulative assessments, often in the form of end-of-unit projects they must develop and present.

Three (3) times during the year, students will have one (1) week intersessions where they will have markedly different learning experiences than they experience during the approximately six (6) week “academic sprints”. During these intersessions, outside agencies are contracted to provide opportunities for exploration (expeditions) into the worlds of science, arts, engineering, college and career planning, etc. Many of the sessions will take place on campus, while others will require field trips. This is a critical component of our instructional model, as we believe that incredible learning takes place not just in the typical classroom environment.

Twice a year, we have Student-Led Conferences days, where families meet with Advisors to discuss student progress towards achieving academic and socio-emotional goals. These “parent-teacher

conferences” serve as another means of calibration in the learning partnership that must exist between home and school.

Near the end of the school year, EBIA will administer mandatory state testing to all students so that we can gauge our students’ individual academic progress and gauge our school’s effectiveness.

At the end of the school year, students will make Capstone presentations to our community about projects on which they have worked, demonstrating what they have learned in a professional manner and in a public forum.

## ENROLLMENT

Enrollment at EBIA is governed by regulations for charter schools set forth in California Department of Education code for Charter Schools and our own Charter Petition. We are an open enrollment public school committed to equal opportunity. EBIA is non-sectarian and employs no admissions exams or special admissions requirements. Admission to the school is open to all students on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, sex, ethnicity, behavior, age, ancestry, proficiency in English Language, or academic achievement. Enrollment priorities will be granted to applicants with the following criteria, Students who are children of staff, the Board, or Founding Families, students who currently attend EBIA and their siblings, students who reside within the public elementary school where EBIA is physically located, and residents of the district have priority, as long as places are available, before places are opened up to other students. EBIA complies with the minimum and the maximum age for public school attendance in charter schools. In order to ensure fairness and clarity, EBIA uses *Schoolmint*, a software that helps to collect and organize application information pertinent to the application priorities. We also employ *Schoolmint* in the enrollment and registration process which is outlined below.

Applications will be accepted during a publicly advertised open enrollment period each year for enrollment in the following school year. In the event that applications for a certain grade exceed the number of available slots for that grade, EBIA will hold a public random drawing to determine admission for the impacted grade level, with the exception of existing students, who are guaranteed admission in the following school year. Admission priorities, in the case of a public random drawing, shall be given to applicants in the following order:

- 1. Children of EBIA Staff, Members of the Board of Directors & Founding Families (Not to exceed 10% of total enrollment)
- 2. Siblings of *current* EBIA students
- 3. Students who are currently enrolled and reside in the elementary school boundary corresponding to

## EBIA

- 4. Residents of EBIA's district
- 5. All other applicants who are residents of the state of California.

At the conclusion of the public random drawing, all applicants who were not granted admission due to capacity shall be assigned a number on the waitlist calculated in accordance with the priorities listed above. All guidelines concerning enrollment and the public random drawing are laid out in full in the EBIA Charter.

## REGISTRATION & ENROLLMENT

Once a child has applied to and been accepted by EBIA the enrollment process begins. Families are provided with the appropriate enrollment paperwork through our online system, *Schoolmint*. Our operations team consistently follows up with families throughout the enrollment process to ensure that EBIA has collected and continues to update all of the pertinent student information throughout their tenure at EBIA.

## ENROLLMENT PROCESS

The following documents are required for enrollment:

- Completion of student enrollment forms
- Handbook Acknowledgment (Shared at the beginning of each school year)
- Proof of immunization (Updates)
- Home Language survey
- Release of Records
- Proof of minimum age requirements, e.g., birth certificate

Please notify the office, if any registration information changes. It is essential that we have accurate information regarding your address, home telephone number, daytime phones numbers and emergency contact numbers.

## VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

Please notify the office personnel at least one (1) week in advance if your child will be withdrawing from EBIA. There is an official withdrawal form that needs to be completed by the student's parent/guardian prior to disenrollment. You will be asked to please provide your forwarding address,

and the name and address of the school your child will be attending. EBIA will send notice to the student's last known district of residence that the student has withdrawn from EBIA within thirty (30) days, and the student's records will be forwarded upon receipt of the request from the new school. All school property must be returned before withdrawal.

## **TELEPHONING**

In general, school telephones are for business use and for educational or emergency use by students. Only urgent messages will be delivered to your child. Please take care of personal business, such as rides home, etc., prior to school. Middle School students will not have access to their cell phones during instructional time (see cell phone policy below). Please ensure you are calling the office with urgent needs, and in a timely manner to ensure the EBIA team can relay a message to your student with minimum disruption to the academic day. If you need to get in touch with your child during the school, please call the office and we will ensure that they get your message. Families are expected not to call or text students during the class time.

## **STUDENT ATTENDANCE**

It is the intent of the Governing Board ("Board") of East Bay Innovation Academy ("EBIA" or the "Charter School") to ensure that students attend school every day on time. Consistent school attendance is critical to school success. Being present for classroom instructional time is essential for students to reach their goals and achieve their dreams. Chronic absenteeism has been linked to an increased likelihood of poor academic performance, disengagement from school and behavior problems.

EBIA will operate with an extended school day and year, offering the needed supports to ensure all students are ready for success in college and career. The school year consists of 183 calendar days with Lower School hours running from 9:00 am – 3:30 pm and Upper School hours running from 8:30 am – 3:45 pm, followed by Office Hours on select days and enrichment program. The campus will open at 7:45 am for students to do school work.

Parents have the right to be notified in a timely manner if their child is absent from school without permission, except for when students in grades 7-12, inclusive, are excused from school for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without the consent of the student's parent or guardian.

## **ABSENCES**

EBIA encourages students to approach their academic experience with a growth mindset, attaining a high degree of academic and social emotional growth across the year. It is not possible for this to happen if students are absent from class. The adult(s) legally responsible for a child are charged with ensuring that students are in school. EBIA understands that it is inevitable that there will be absences for excused reasons. However, with rare exceptions, these absences are infrequent and do not create a barrier that

prevents students from reaching their potential.

- 1) EBIA has policies and procedures that allow students who have been absent for excused reasons to make up missed academic work. Making up missing assignments is seen as a way to minimize the negative impact of poor attendance. However, there is no way students can make up all they miss by not being in the classroom when learning is taking place.
- 2) In evaluating the success of students, we believe that attendance is the single most reliable predictor of student performance. Students who are regularly in school succeed; students who are chronically absent do poorly. Research also shows that there is an identical relationship between school attendance and success in the workplace.

## **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

A student's absence shall be excused for the following reasons:

1. Personal illness, including an absence for the benefit of the pupil's mental or behavioral health (see section below for further information);
2. Quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer;
3. Medical, dental, optometric, or chiropractic appointments;
  - a. Students in grades 7-12, inclusive, may be excused from school for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without the consent of the student's parent or guardian.
4. Attendance at funeral services for a member of the student's immediate family:
  - a. Excused absence in this instance shall be limited to one (1) day if the service is conducted in California or three (3) days if the service is conducted out of state.
  - b. "Immediate family" shall be defined as parent or guardian, grandparent, spouse, son/son-in-law, daughter/daughter-in-law, brother, sister or any relative living in the student's household.
5. Participation in religious instruction or exercises in accordance with Charter School policy:
  - a. The student shall be excused for this purpose on no more than four (4) school days per month. When your student will be absent for religious observance, please call or send a note to school prior to that date.
6. For the purposes of jury duty in the manner provided for by law.
7. Due to the illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent, including absences to care for a sick child. (The school does not require a note from the doctor for this excuse.)
8. To permit the pupil to spend time with an immediate family member who is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in Education Code Section 49701, and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from,

deployment to a combat zone or combat support position. Absences granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be granted for a period of time to be determined at the discretion of the Charter School.

9. For purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to Election Code Section 12302.
10. Attendance at the pupil's naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen.
11. Authorized parental leave for a pregnant or parenting pupil for up to eight (8) weeks, which may be extended if deemed medically necessary by the student's physician.
12. Authorized at the discretion of the Executive Director or designee, based on the facts of the pupil's circumstances, are deemed to constitute a valid excuse.
13. A pupil who holds a work permit to work for a period of not more than five (5) consecutive days in the entertainment or allied industries shall be excused from school during the period that the pupil is working in the entertainment or allied industry for a maximum of up to five (5) absences per school year subject to the requirements of Education Code Section 48225.5.
14. In order to participate with a not-for-profit performing arts organization in a performance for a public-school pupil audience for a maximum of up to five (5) days per school year provided the pupil's parent or guardian provides a written note to the school authorities explaining the reason for the pupil's absence.
15. For the purpose of participating in a cultural ceremony or event. "Cultural" for these purposes means relating to the habits, practices, beliefs, and traditions of a certain group of people.
16. For the purpose of a middle or high school pupil engaging in a civic or political event as indicated below, provided that the pupil notifies the school ahead of the absence. A "civic or political event" includes, but is not limited to, voting, poll working, strikes, public commenting, candidate speeches, political or civic forums, and town halls.
  - a. A middle school or high school pupil who is absent pursuant to this provision is required to be excused for only one school day-long absence per school year.
  - b. A middle school or high school pupil who is absent pursuant to this provision may be permitted additional excused absences in the discretion of a school administrator.
17. For the following justifiable personal reasons for a maximum of five (5) school days per school year, upon advance written request by the student's parent or guardian and approval by the Executive Director or designee pursuant to uniform standards:
  - a. Appearance in court.
  - b. Observance of a holiday or ceremony of the pupil's religion.
  - c. Attendance at religious retreats.
  - d. Attendance at an employment conference.
  - e. Attendance at an educational conference on the legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit organization.

A student who is absent due to an excused absence will be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the excused absence that can be reasonably provided and will receive full credit upon satisfactory completion within a reasonable period of time. The teacher of the class from which a student is absent shall determine which tests and assignments are reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the student missed during the excused absence.

## **METHOD OF VERIFICATION**

Please notify the School by emailing [info@eastbayia.org](mailto:info@eastbayia.org) or calling 510-577-9557, if it is necessary for your student to be absent for any reason. In the email or when leaving a message, please include your name, student's name, reason for the absence, and a phone number where you can be reached.

Absences must be cleared within five (5) school days of the student's return to School or the absence becomes unexcused.

When excusing students for confidential medical services or verifying such appointments, Charter School staff shall not ask the purpose of such appointments but may contact a medical office to confirm the time of the appointment.

A healthcare provider's note of illness will be accepted for any reported absence. When a student has had fourteen (14) absences in the school year for illness verified by methods listed above without a healthcare provider's note, any further absences for illness must be verified by a healthcare provider.

As class participation is an integral part of students' learning experiences, parents/guardians and students shall be encouraged to schedule medical appointments during non-school hours.

Students should not be absent from school without their parents/guardians' knowledge or consent except in cases of medical emergency or for Students in grades 7-12, inclusive, who may be excused from school for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without the consent of the student's parent or guardian.

## **TRUANCY**

Students shall be classified as truant if the student is absent from school without a valid excuse three (3) full days in one (1) school year, or if the student is tardy or absent for more than any thirty (30) minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on three (3) occasions in one (1) school year, or any combination thereof. Such students shall be reported to the Executive Director or designee.

Students shall be classified as a habitual truant if the student is reported for truancy three (3) or more times within the same school year. This generally occurs when the student is absent from school without a valid excuse for five (5) full days in one school year or if the student is tardy or absent for more than any 30-minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on five (5) occasions in one school year, or

any combination thereof. In addition, students shall be classified as a chronic truant if the student is absent from school without a valid excuse for ten (10) percent or more of the school days in one (1) school year, from the date of enrollment to the current date.

The Executive Director, or designee, shall implement positive steps to reduce truancy, including working with the family in an attempt to resolve the attendance problem. A student's progress and learning may be affected by excessive unexcused absences. In addition, the Charter School is fiscally dependent on student attendance and is negatively impacted by excessive unexcused absences. If all attempts to resolve the student's attendance problem are unsuccessful, the Charter School will implement the processes described below.

We will track daily attendance closely and communicate promptly and directly with families to minimize the impact of absence on any child's academic progress. EBIA has established a School Attendance Review Board ("SARB") who reviews school-wide attendance on a regular basis. The SARB is responsible for addressing students who are truant or chronically absent.

## **PROCESS FOR ADDRESSING TRUANCY**

1. Each of the first two (2) unexcused absences or unexcused tardies over thirty (30) minutes will result in a call home to the parent/guardian. The student's classroom teacher may also call home.
2. Each of the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) and fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) unexcused absences or unexcused tardies over thirty (30) minutes will result in a call home to the parent/guardian by the Executive Director or designee. In addition, the student's classroom teacher may also call home and/or the Charter School may send the parent an email notification. In addition, upon reaching three (3) unexcused absences or unexcused tardies over thirty (30) minutes in a school year, the parent/guardian will receive "Truancy Letter #1" from the Charter School notifying the parent/guardian of the student's "Truant" status. This letter must be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the Charter School. This letter shall also be accompanied by a copy of this Attendance Policy. This letter, and all subsequent letter(s) sent home, shall be sent by Certified Mail, return receipt requested, or some other form of mail that can be tracked.
3. Upon reaching five (5) unexcused absences or unexcused tardies over thirty (30) minutes, the parent/guardian will receive "Truancy Letter #2 – Habitual Truant Classification Notice and Conference Request," notifying the parent/guardian of the student's "Habitual Truant" status and a parent/guardian conference will be scheduled to review the student's records and develop an intervention plan/contract.
4. Upon reaching six (6) unexcused absences or unexcused tardies over thirty (30) minutes, the student will be referred to a Student Success Team ("SST") and the School Attendance Review Board ("SARB"). In addition, the parent/guardian will receive a Truancy Letter #3," and will be



asked/invited to attend an evening assembly for parents/guardians of chronically absent students. The SARB panel will be composed of administrators and other staff. The SARB panel will discuss the absence problem with the Parent/Guardian to work on solutions, develop strategies, discuss appropriate support services for the student and his/her family, and establish a plan to resolve the attendance issue.

- a. The SARB panel shall direct the parent/guardian that no further unexcused absences or tardies can be tolerated.
  - b. The parent shall be required to sign a contract formalizing the agreement by the parents to improve the child's attendance or face additional administrative action. The contract will identify the corrective actions required in the future, and indicate that the SARB panel shall have the authority to order one or more of the following consequences for non-compliance with the terms of the contract:
    - i. Parent/guardian to attend school with the child for one day
    - ii. Student retention
    - iii. After school detention program
    - iv. Required school counseling
    - v. Loss of field trip privileges
    - vi. Loss of school store privileges
    - vii. Loss of school event privileges
    - viii. Required remediation plan as set by the SARB
    - ix. Notification to the District Attorney
  - c. The SARB panel may discuss other school placement options.
  - d. Notice of action recommended by the SARB will be provided in writing to the parent/guardian.
5. If the conditions of the SARB contract are not met, the student may incur additional administrative action up to and including disenrollment from the Charter School, consistent with the Involuntary Removal Process described below. If the student is disenrolled after the Involuntary Removal Process has been followed, notification will be sent within thirty (30) days to the student's last known district of residence. For all communications set forth in this process, the Charter School will use the contact information provided by the parent/guardian in the registration packet. It is the parent's or guardian's responsibility to update the Charter School with any new contact information.

6. If student is absent fifteen (15) or more consecutive school days without valid excuse and parent/guardian cannot be reached at the number or address provided in the registration packet and does not otherwise respond to the Charter School's communication attempts, as set forth above, the student will be in violation of the SARB contract, and the SARB panel may recommend that the student be disenrolled in compliance with the Involuntary Removal Process described below. The Involuntary Removal Process can be started immediately upon the Charter School receiving documentation of Student's enrollment and attendance at another public or private school (i.e. a CALPADS report).

## **PROCESS FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT IN ATTENDANCE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR**

When students are not in attendance on the first five (5) days of the school year, the Charter School will attempt to reach the student's parent/guardian on a daily basis for each of the first five (5) days to determine whether the student has an excused absence, consistent with the process outlined in this policy. If the student has a basis for an excused absence, the student's parents/guardian must notify the Charter School of the absence and provide documentation consistent with this Policy. However, consistent with process below, students who are not in attendance due to an unexcused absence by the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) day of the school year will be disenrolled from the Charter School roster after following the Involuntary Removal Process described below, as it will be assumed that the student has chosen another school option.

1. Students who are not in attendance on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) day of the school year will be contacted by phone to ensure their intent to enroll in the Charter School.
2. Students who have indicated their intent to enroll but have not attended by the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) day of the school year and do not have an excused absence will receive a letter indicating the student's risk of disenrollment.
3. Students who have indicated their intent to enroll but have not attended by the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) day of the school year and do not have an excused absence will receive a phone call reiterating the content of the letter.
4. Students who are not in attendance by the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) day of the school year and do not have an excused absence will receive an Involuntary Removal Notice and the CDE Enrollment Complaint Notice and Form. The Charter School will follow the Involuntary Removal Process described below, which includes an additional five (5) schooldays for the parent/guardian to respond to the Charter School and request a hearing before disenrollment.
5. The Involuntary Removal Process can be started immediately upon the Charter School receiving documentation of Student's enrollment and attendance at another public or

private school (i.e. a CALPADS report).

6. The Charter School will use the contact information provided by the parent/guardian in the registration packet.
7. Within thirty (30) calendar days of disenrollment, the Charter School will send the student's last known school district of residence a letter notifying it of the student's failure to attend the Charter School.

## **INVOLUNTARY REMOVAL PROCESS**

No student who has been attending the Charter School shall be involuntarily removed for any reason unless the parent or guardian of the student has been provided written notice of intent to remove the student no less than five (5) schooldays before the effective date of the proposed disenrollment date.

The written notice shall be in the native language of the student or the student's parent or guardian or, if the student is a foster child or youth or a homeless child or youth, the student's educational rights holder. The Involuntary Removal Notice shall include

1. the charges against the pupil,
2. an explanation of the pupil's basic rights including the right to request a hearing before the effective date of the action,
3. The CDE Enrollment Complaint Notice and Form.

The hearing shall be consistent with the Charter School's expulsion procedures. If the student's parent, guardian, or educational rights holder requests a hearing, the student shall remain enrolled and shall not be removed until the Charter School issues a final decision. As used herein, "involuntarily removed" includes disenrolled, dismissed, transferred, or terminated, but does not include suspensions or expulsions pursuant to the Charter School's suspension and expulsion policy.

Upon parent/guardian request for a hearing, the Charter School will provide notice of hearing consistent with its expulsion hearing process, through which the pupil has a fair opportunity to present testimony, evidence, and witnesses and confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses, and at which the pupil has the right to bring legal counsel or an advocate. The notice of hearing shall be in the native language of the student or the student's parent or guardian or, if the student is a foster child or youth or a homeless child or youth, the student's educational rights holder and shall include a copy of the Charter School's expulsion hearing process.

If the parent/guardian is nonresponsive to the Involuntary Removal Notice, the Student will be disenrolled as of the effective date set forth in the Involuntary Removal Notice. If parent/guardian requests a hearing and does not attend on the date scheduled for the hearing the Student will be

disenrolled effective the date of the hearing.

If as a result of the hearing the student is disenrolled, notice will be sent to the student's last known district of residence within thirty (30) calendar days.

A hearing decision not to disenroll the student does not prevent the Charter School from making a similar recommendation in the future should student truancy continue or reoccur.

## **REFERRAL TO APPROPRIATE AGENCIES OR COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

It is the Charter School's intent to identify and remove all barriers to the student's success, and the Charter School will explore every possible option to address student attendance issues with the family. For any unexcused absence, the Charter School may refer the family to appropriate school-based and/or social service agencies.

If a child's attendance does not improve after a SARB contract has been developed according to the procedures above, or if the parents fail to attend a required SARB meeting, the Charter School shall notify the District's Attorney's office, which then may refer the matter for prosecution through the court system. Students 12 years of age and older may be referred to the juvenile court for adjudication.

These policies will be enforced fairly, uniformly, and consistently without regard to the characteristics listed in Education Code Section 220 (actual or perceived disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code, including immigration status, pregnancy, or association with an individual who has any of the aforementioned characteristics).

## **REPORTS**

The Executive Director, or designee, shall gather and report to the Board the number of absences both excused and unexcused as well as students who are truant, and the steps taken to remedy the problem.

## **DAILY OPERATIONS**

### **DROP-OFF/PICK-UP PROCEDURES**

The Lower School begins at 9:00 a.m. and dismissal time is 3:30 p.m. daily. The Upper School begins at 8:30 a.m. and dismissal time is 3:45 p.m. Light supervision is provided prior to 8:00 a.m. Please pick students up within ten (10) minutes of dismissal. If class is being conducted at an off-campus site, students not picked up within ten (10) minutes of dismissal will be returned to the school site.

## Lower School:

Wanting to be good neighbors in our Lower School community and responsible safe keepers of our students, we ask that parents/guardians either **park on Malcolm Ave.** to drop-off or pick-up students **OR** enter the driveway and **move** in a **counter-clockwise** direction in the turn-about. Cars **MAY NOT** park in the turn-about, as indicated by the red painted curb. **Cars should stop for no more than thirty (30) seconds in the turnabout so that traffic may flow.** Turning left onto Malcolm Ave. when exiting the school is not recommended, as cars traveling up the street do not have a lasting, clear view of the driveway. We recommend turning right when exiting the driveway. Parents/guardians needing to meet with EBIA staff should park on Malcolm Ave. Unless disabled and displaying a placard, parents/guardians may not use the parking lot on campus, as those spaces are designated for staff use only.

## Upper School:

We ask that parents/guardians enter the driveway and move in a counter- clockwise direction in the turn-about, or park in the front lot. Cars should stop for **no more than thirty (30) seconds** in the turn-about so that traffic may flow. Parents/Guardians needing to meet with EBIA staff should park in the designated spaces next to the driveway. Students are required to park in the upper lot near the gym.

## LATE PICK UP POLICY

EBIA is committed to providing a safe campus for all students. When students are left on school property after the close of school hours, EBIA will follow certain steps to ensure students are safe until their parents/guardians come to pick them up. In the event students are left on campus after school hours, EBIA staff will:

- Notify the Site-Leaders or designee immediately.
- Attempt to reach parents/guardians through the phone number provided to the School by parents/guardians at the beginning of the year. This may include contacting any emergency contact(s) listed for the student.
- Bring students into the lobby of the building. Parents/guardians will be asked to come into the building to pick up their student. Students must remain on site until an adult comes to retrieve the student.
- Notify the Site-leaders or designee within forty-five (45) minutes following the close of business if there is a possibility that law enforcement may be called to assist the student.
- As a last resort, at sixty (60) minutes after the close of business, EBIA may contact law enforcement and/or child welfare services who may remove the student and may assume responsibility for the student until the parent/guardian retrieves the student.

EBIA understands unforeseen circumstances can occur. Should a late pick-up be likely, please inform the main office at 510-577-9557. Five (5) or more late pick-ups during a school year may result in a meeting with school administration.

## **RIDESHARING SERVICES**

As per state and federal law, ridesharing services like Lyft and Uber are forbidden for unaccompanied minors (under the age of 18) unless the service explicitly states that its drivers are qualified to transport an unaccompanied minor. If your student uses ridesharing services to get to and from school, you may consider using services like HopSkipDrive or Zum and ensure that the driver is qualified to transport minors. EBIA does not assume responsibility for the safety of students whose parents elect to privately contract with a transportation service.

## **COMMUNICATION WITH THE SCHOOL**

As learning partners in every child's education, we value transparency in communication. Most of our communication to families will be conducted electronically, via emails. Announcements about upcoming events or important issues will be made via email newsletters that will be sent out to all families and information will be updated on the EBIA website ([www.eastbayia.org](http://www.eastbayia.org)). Phone calls will be made to discuss individual student issues. The most effective means of communicating with EBIA staff is by email. It is our practice to return emails within two (2) business days. If you would like to contact the school by phone, our phone number is (510) 577-9557.

## **PARENT PORTAL**

In order to monitor student academic progress, every parent/guardian will receive a Parent Portal account to PowerSchool, our student information systems. Every parent/guardian will also receive a Parent Portal account to our learning management system ("LMS"), Echo. The portal will allow you to see when assignments are due and the grades received on any assessment or assignment. We recommend you check this on a weekly basis, minimally.

## **NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The EBIA newsletter is a regular means of sharing school news, publishing the school calendar, issuing reminders, and thanking volunteers and contributors. If you have an article to include in the newsletter, please turn it in to staff for approval and inclusion in the newsletter. If you would like the newsletter emailed to you, send an email request to: [info@eastbayia.org](mailto:info@eastbayia.org).

## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

Parent involvement is vital to our school's success and to the success and achievement of each

student. A Parent Advisory Council, composed of a leadership team and interest group leads, will meet with EBIA's leadership team to determine how the parents/guardians can best serve the school's needs. The roles of the parents may include but are not limited to:

- Volunteering in EBIA community events, with opportunities ranging from event planning to community outreach, to chaperoning field trips (requires a background check and TB test). Volunteering is strongly encouraged but not required. No student's enrollment shall be adversely affected by the family's lack of ability to volunteer time to the school.
- Giving feedback to the school about their students to help improve programs.
- Responding to school surveys.
- Being responsible for their student's transportation to and from school.
- Providing materials, time and places for your student(s) to do homework.
- Participating in at least one (1) conference per year with their student's advisor, and more as necessary.
- Partnering with your student(s) and EBIA to encourage and support on-time attendance totaling over 96%.

## **PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY**

The Charter School aims to provide all students in our school significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps while abiding by guidelines within the Elementary and Secondary Education Act ("ESEA"). The Charter School staff recognizes a partnership with families is essential to meet this goal. Our Parent and Family Engagement Policy leverages and promotes active involvement of all families as partners with schools to ensure student success. A copy of the Charter School's complete Policy is available upon request in the main office.

## **INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM**

EBIA is a rigorous STEAM school with a unique focus on the social and emotional skills students need to be leaders. Students learn to be problem solvers and strong advocates who work together and take responsibility for their own learning. Students collaborate on long-term, real world projects that combine many different subjects and will learn to complete and present those projects using technology. Students balance this project work with independent blended learning tools that are personalized to meet their individual needs.

To reflect these multiple goals - the acquisition of new knowledge, the development of social and emotional skills, the creation of both strong self-advocacy and collaboration tools - EBIA has adopted a set of learning categories, or outcomes, to guide our support of students and their long-term success.

## GRADE CATEGORIES

The EBIA Grade Categories are a set of research-based outcomes aimed at preparing students for postsecondary college and career success that reflect the mission and priorities of our community. For each category a rubric or set of rubrics has been developed to help ensure that students are being provided with regular feedback on their growth and needs in each of these areas. These categories are an essential component of the project- and problem-based learning curriculum and are used to provide feedback and support to students across each of these outcomes.

- **Knowledge and Thinking:** Reason, problem-solve, develop sound arguments or decisions, and create new ideas by using appropriate sources and applying the knowledge and skills of a discipline.
- **Agency:** Develop a growth mindset and take ownership over learning.
- **Collaboration:** Be a productive member of diverse teams through strong interpersonal communication, a commitment to shared success, and leadership.
- **Oral Communication:** Communicate knowledge and thinking through effective oral presentations.
- **Written Communication:** Communicate knowledge and thinking through effective writing.

## GRADE CATEGORY DISTRIBUTION

Category	Humanities (History, ELA, Span, Art)	STEM (Math, Science, CS)	Fitness
Agency	10%	10%	30%
Collaboration	15%	15%	40%
Knowledge and Thinking	Ranging from 30-50% depending upon subject area		30%
Oral Communication	Ranging from 10-30% depending upon subject area		N/A
Written Communication	Ranging from 20-40% depending upon subject area		N/A

## GRADING SCALE



Letter	A	B	C	F
Range	100 - 90	89 - 80	79 - 70	69 -0

Within EBIA's online gradebook, assignments will be given a score based on our grading scale. Assignments that are "missing" or "incomplete" will also be identified within the gradebook. Those students with a final trimester grade of less than 50% will receive a 50% "floor grade" as their final trimester grade.

Please note that EBIA's grading scale does not include a grade of "D." Those students scoring a 70% or above are considered to be consistently demonstrating a basic mastery of skills and content. Those students scoring below a 70% are considered to be not consistently demonstrating a basic mastery of skills and content, and therefore in need of additional support. This support may include engaging in EBIA's Revision Policy (as outlined below), attending office hours, and/or being recommended for a school support team ("SST") meeting with teachers and family.

## COMMON RUBRICS

EBIA courses will utilize the EBIA Grading Category Rubrics to assess students during project work. Teachers may choose to focus on only specific strands (rows) of the rubric at different parts of a project or different times of the year or may add rows to account for specific content knowledge that is associated with the project.

## CATEGORY GRADING

Each assignment may be assessed and graded on one or more of the categories listed above. These categories are meant to communicate to the student clear information about their performance in that area and the criteria for assessment in that area should be communicated clearly. When talking about grades, teachers and students can move from "what grade did I get on the project?" to "my written communication was strong, but how could I have done better in collaboration?"

## GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL GRADES

All courses at EBIA will include a blend of both collaborative and individual assignments. Within a project, students will have the opportunity to be assessed multiple times. Some of these assessments will be group grades based on work completed collaboratively; however every project will also include individual assessments that will allow students to show mastery independently. Teachers may use their discretion to modify the grades of students in the group based on observed/documentated contributions. Grades may be modified up or down, depending on the circumstances.

## SELF AND PEER EVALUATION

During each project cycle, students will evaluate themselves and their peers using the collaboration rubric. While peer evaluations will contribute to a student's overall collaboration grade, they will not be the only method of assessment and will be a smaller portion of a student's overall grade.

## REVISION POLICY

All students are expected to master skills and content that are aligned to CA State Standards. In the spirit of continuous improvement, EBIA's revision policy is designed so that students are provided the ability to demonstrate mastery through revision and reflection.

- All assignments will be scored within two (2) weeks of the assignment deadline.
- All students will have the opportunity to revise submitted Oral Communication, Written Communication and Knowledge and Thinking coursework that has received a score of below 85%.
- Before a revision is submitted, students must complete the designated Revision Reflection form.
- Revised assignments must be submitted within two (2) weeks of the date upon which the assignment was scored.
- Revised assignments may receive a score of up to 85%.
- Late work may be submitted for revision, but may lose credit in the Agency category, and may not receive a score of greater than 85%.

## STUDENT TESTING

Throughout the year students may participate in various forms of testing and assessment, depending on grade, site, etc.

**CAASPP** - California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress ("CAASPP" includes the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments; the California Alternate Assessments (CAAs), including the CAA for Science; the California Science Test (CAST); and the California Spanish Assessment (CSA). CAASPP testing takes place in the Spring. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a parent's or guardian's written request to the Executive Director to excuse his or her child from any or all parts of this state assessment shall be granted.

**Physical Fitness Testing** - Students in grades 5, 7, and 9 will participate in a Physical Fitness Test in the Spring.

**NWEA MAP** - All students will take math, reading, language and science assessment tests during the school year. Ninth graders must take a second assessment in Math within thirty (30) days of enrollment per the *California Math Placement Act of 2015*.

**AP Testing-** Students enrolled in Advanced Placement (“AP”) courses at our Upper School are encouraged to take the College Board’s AP Exam near the end of the year. While this exam is optional, students who pass the exam have the potential to both earn college credit and bypass certain entry examinations.

**PSAT-** During the 10th and 11th grade years at our Upper School, students take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (“PSAT”) exam during the month of October. During the 11th grade assessment, students who perform well may qualify to earn National Merit Scholarships. A parent’s or guardian’s written request to the Executive Director to excuse his or her child from any or all parts of this state assessment shall be granted.

**SAT-** In the spring of a student’s 11th grade year, our Upper School campus administers the Scholastic Aptitude Test (“SAT”) exam. A parent’s or guardian’s written request to the Executive Director to excuse his or her child from any or all parts of this state assessment shall be granted.

## **SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION**

The Charter School offers comprehensive sexual health education to its students in grades 7-12. A Parent or guardian of a student has the right to excuse their child from all or part of comprehensive sexual health education, HIV prevention education, and assessments related to that education through a passive consent (“opt-out”) process. The Charter School does not require active parental consent (“opt- in”) for comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education.

Parents and guardians may:

- Inspect written and audiovisual educational materials used in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education.
- Excuse their child from participation in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education in writing to the Charter School.
- Be informed whether the comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education will be taught by Charter School personnel or outside consultants. When the Charter School chooses to use outside consultants or to hold an assembly with guest speakers to teach comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education, be informed of:
  - o The date of the instruction
  - o The name of the organization or affiliation of each guest speaker
- Request a copy of Education Code sections 51930 through 51939.

Anonymous, voluntary, and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure student’s health behaviors and risks (including tests, questionnaires, and surveys containing age-appropriate questions about the student’s attitudes concerning or practices relating to sex) may be administered to students IN GRADES 7-12. A parent or guardian has the right to excuse their child from the test, questionnaire, or survey through a passive consent (“opt-out”) process. Parents or guardians shall be notified in writing that this test, questionnaire, or survey is to be administered, given the opportunity to review the test, questionnaire, or survey if they wish, notified of their right to excuse their child

from the test, questionnaire, or survey, and informed that in order to excuse their child they must state their request in writing to the Charter School.

A Student may not attend any class in comprehensive sexual health education or HIV prevention education, or participate in any anonymous, voluntary, and confidential test, questionnaire, or survey on student health behaviors and risks, if the school has received a written request from the student's parent or guardian excusing the student from participation. An alternative educational activity shall be made available to students whose parents or guardians have requested that they not receive the instruction or participate in the test, questionnaire, or survey.

## **CURRICULUM MATERIALS**

Parents have the right to examine the school prospectus upon request including curriculum materials of any class offered. Please note that, pursuant to law, the Charter School may charge for the prospectus in an amount not to exceed the cost of duplication.

## **STUDENT ACADEMIC PROGRESS**

Parents have the right to be informed of their child's academic progress in school and of the persons to contact if they wish more information or assistance with their child.

## **CAL GRANT PROGRAM NOTICE AND INFORMATION REGARDING FINANCIAL AID**

EBIA is required by state law to submit the Grade Point Average ("GPA") of all high school seniors by Oct. 1 of each year, unless the student over age 18 or parent/guardian for those under 18 opt-out. Students currently in eleventh (11th) grade will be deemed a Cal Grant applicant, unless the Student (or Parent, as applicable) has opted out by or before February 1st.

Charter School shall ensure that each of its students receives information on how to properly complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the California Dream Act Application, as appropriate, at least once before the student enters grade 12. ACE will provide a paper copy of the FAFSA or the California Dream Act Application upon request.

- The FAFSA form and information regarding the FAFSA are available at:
  - <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
- The California Dream Act Application and information regarding the California Dream Act is available at: <https://www.csac.ca.gov/post/resources-california-dream-act-application>

## **TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Parents have the right to request a conference with their child's teacher(s), site leaders, and/or the Executive Director. Parents should contact the school to schedule a date and time convenient to all participants.

## **RIGHT TO ASK FOR TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS**

As the Charter School receives Title I federal funds through the Elementary and Secondary Education Act ("ESEA"), as reauthorized and amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act ("ESSA"), all parents/guardians of students attending the Charter School may request information regarding the professional qualifications of classroom teachers and/or paraprofessionals, including at a minimum:

1. Whether the student's teacher:
  - a. Has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
  - b. Is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
  - c. Is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher; and
2. Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Upon request, the Charter School will provide the information to the parents/guardians in a timely manner. Parents/guardians may contact the Executive Director to obtain this information.

## **ENGLISH LEARNERS**

EBIA is committed to the success of its English Learners and support will be offered both within academic classes and in supplemental settings for students who need additional support for English language learning. The Charter School will meet all applicable legal requirements for English Learners as they pertain to annual notification to parents, student identification, placement, program options, English Learners and core content instruction, teacher qualifications and training, reclassification to fluent English proficient status, monitoring and evaluating program effectiveness, and standardized testing requirements. The Charter School will implement policies to assure proper placement, evaluation, and communication regarding English Learners and the rights of students and parents.

## **SURVEYS ABOUT BELIEFS**

Unless the student's parent/guardian gives written permission, a student will not be given any test, questionnaire, survey, or examination containing any questions about the student's, or the student's

parents' or guardians' personal beliefs or practices in sex, family life, morality, or religion

## INDEPENDENT STUDY

EBIA may offer independent study to meet the educational needs of students who receive prior approval from an administrator in conformance with the school's Board Policy on Independent Study, which is available for review on the school website and in the main office.

## STUDENT BEHAVIOR

At EBIA, we strive to create a culture of community, where caring and nurturing relationships exist, giving students a sense of belonging and responsibility to one another. We know that students engaged in rigorous, relevant and real curriculum are more likely to be active participants in the community, eschewing misbehavior that takes away from the productivity of the learning environment. In order to support all students personifying our Six Innovator Norms (Perseverance, Curiosity, Kindness, Respect, Conscientiousness, and Leadership), we have implemented the following positive behavior support plan, with a restorative approach to addressing disciplinary issues that may arise.

We will honor students and staff regularly and publicly for being positive contributors to the EBIA community. Time in Advisory classes will be dedicated to honoring students at a more local level. Acknowledging, validating and affirming our students will take place daily in all classes and throughout campus. We support the idea of setting personal and community goals and celebrating the attainment of those goals in myriad ways that honor process and progress.

We hold high expectations for student behavior and have established a set of behavioral norms and school rules that are in place to support a safe and positive learning environment. Consistency and transparency are the keys to ensuring students understand behavioral expectations. The iterative process of examining and refining these norms is not only encouraged, but expected, as we are an innovative school dedicated to creating a culture where buy-in exists as a result of all voices being heard in order to meet the needs of our community. There is intentionally not a litany of behavioral norms, but these following few, so that we can call attention, when necessary, for correction to anti-community behavior and focus on the positive choices our community makes:

- **Take care of yourself**
- **Take care of one another**
- **Take care of our community**
- **Live the Innovator Norms**

A copy of the complete Suspension & Expulsion Policy is located within the Appendix of this Handbook.

# DRESS CODE

## PHILOSOPHY

EBIA's student dress code supports equitable educational access and is written in a manner that does not reinforce stereotypes. To ensure effective and equitable enforcement of this dress code, school staff shall enforce the dress code consistently and in a manner that does not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income or body type/size.

Our values are:

- All students should be able to dress comfortably for school and engage in the educational environment without fear of or actual unnecessary discipline or body shaming.
- Student dress code enforcement should not result in unnecessary barriers to school attendance.
- School staff should be trained and able to use student/body-positive language to explain the dress code and to address dress code violations.
- Teachers should focus on teaching without the additional and often uncomfortable burden of dress code enforcement.
- Reasons for conflict and inconsistent and/or inequitable discipline should be minimized whenever possible.

Our student dress code is designed to accomplish several goals:

- Maintain a safe learning environment in classes where protective or supportive clothing is needed, such as chemistry/biology (eye or body protection), dance (bare feet, tights/leotards), or PE (athletic attire/shoes).
- Allow students to wear clothing of their choice that is comfortable.
- Allow students to wear clothing that expresses their self-identified gender.
- Allow students to wear religious attire without fear of discipline or discrimination.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories with offensive images or language, including profanity, hate speech, and pornography.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories that denote, suggest, display or reference alcohol, drugs or related paraphernalia or other illegal conduct or activities.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories that will interfere with the operation of the school, disrupt the educational process, invade the rights of others, or create a reasonably foreseeable risk of such interference or invasion of rights.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories that reasonably can be construed as being or including content that is racist, lewd, vulgar or obscene, or that reasonably can be construed as

containing fighting words, speech that incites others to imminent lawless action, defamatory speech, or threats to others.

- Ensure that all students are treated equitably regardless of race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income or body type/size.

## DRESS CODE

EBIA expects that all students will dress in a way that is appropriate for the school day or for any school sponsored event.

Student dress choices should respect EBIA's intent to sustain a community that is inclusive of a diverse range of identities. The primary responsibility for a student's attire resides with the student and their parent(s) or guardian(s). EBIA is responsible for seeing that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student, that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student, and that dress code enforcement does not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income, or body type/size. Any restrictions to the way a student dresses must be necessary to support the overall educational goals of the school and must be explained within this dress code.

### **1. Basic Principle:** Certain body parts must always be covered for all students.

Clothes must be worn in a way such that genitals, buttocks, breasts, and nipples are fully covered with opaque fabric. All items listed in the "must wear" and "may not wear" categories below must meet this basic principle.

### **2. Students Must Wear,** while following the basic principle of Section 1 above:

- A Shirt (with fabric in the front, back, and on the sides under the arms), AND
- Pants/jeans or the equivalent (for example, a skirt, sweatpants, leggings, a dress or shorts)
- Shoes, closed toe with backs (no flip-flops and sandals without backs as they are safety issues)

### **3. Students Cannot Wear:**

- Clothing that depicts Violent language or images.
- Clothing that depicts Images or language depicting drugs or alcohol, gambling, gang related signs or images, or any illegal item or activity.
- Clothing that depicts Hate speech, profanity, or is sexually suggestive or obscene.
- Clothing that depicts Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class or consistently marginalized groups.
- Any clothing that reveals visible undergarments.
- Swimsuits (except as required in class or athletic practice).



- Accessories that could be considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon.
- Any item that obscures the face or ears, including headphones (except as a religious observance).

## **Dress Code Enforcement**

To ensure effective and equitable enforcement of this dress code, school staff shall enforce the dress code consistently using the requirements below. School administration and staff shall not have discretion to vary the requirements in ways that lead to discriminatory enforcement.

- Students in violation of the dress code policy will be provided three (3) options to be dressed more to code during the school day:
  - Students will be asked to put on their own alternative clothing, if already available at school, to be dressed more to code for the remainder of the day.
  - Students will be provided with temporary school clothing to be dressed to code for the remainder of the day.
  - If necessary, students' parents may be called during the school day to bring alternative clothing for the student to wear for the remainder of the day.
- No student should be affected by dress code enforcement because of racial identity, sex assigned at birth, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, cultural or religious identity, household income, body size/type, or body maturity.
- School staff shall not enforce the school's dress code more strictly against transgender and gender nonconforming students than other students.

These dress code guidelines shall apply to regular school days and summer school days, as well as any school-related events and activities, such as graduation ceremonies, dances, and prom.

Students may not be disciplined or penalized academically as a consequence for wearing attire in violation of this school dress code.

## **CELL PHONES / ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

At EBIA we are dedicated to providing students the opportunity to grow and learn and we support this goal with the following personal device usage policy:

Private devices (including cell phones) may be used:

- Off campus before or after school.
- Before or after any Charter School sponsored activity occurring before or after the regular school day.
- When a teacher or administrator of the Charter School grants permission to a student to possess or use a private device, subject to any reasonable limitation imposed by that teacher or administrator.

- When a licensed physician and surgeon determines that the possession or use of a private device is necessary for the health or well-being of the student.
- When the possession or use of a private device is required in a student's individualized education program ("IEP").

Private devices shall be turned off and shall not be used:

- During instructional classroom time, including assemblies, and any other school activity, which takes place during the regularly scheduled school day on or off campus.
  - During break periods, between class periods, or during lunch.
  - During events sponsored by the Charter School held before or after regular school hours.
- On field trips or excursions sponsored by the Charter School.

**Lower School students are required to submit their personal devices to be secured in a classroom lock box at the start of each class.**

Any EBIA staff member has the right to confiscate a student's personal device at any time this policy is violated. School administration reserves the right to require families to hold a student's personal device at home for any amount of time for reasons including but not limited to: academic distraction, conflict, misuse, or failure to meet schoolwide expectations.

As the research has demonstrated, cell phones and other electronic devices have become increasingly more capable and increasingly more disruptive to students in recent years. It is critical that students are engaging in their coursework and collaborating with their peers with as few distractions as possible in order to achieve the social and academic goals we are partnering with you and your families to reach. We request your partnership in helping stress the importance of this updated policy. Please review [telephoning](#) for information on reaching your student during school hours.

## **GUM ON CAMPUS**

Responsible gum chewing is allowed at EBIA. Students who elect to chew gum on campus must ensure they discard chewing gum in proper trash receptacles.

## **APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE**

Students will refrain from using profane, rude or offensive language on campus.

## PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION

Appropriate, brief and platonic public displays of affection are permitted while at school, on school grounds, and at school-sponsored activities. EBIA staff will use discretion to determine level of appropriateness.

## PERSONAL GROOMING

Personal grooming (hair and make-up) will take place outside of class time.

## ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, DRUGS

EBIA does not tolerate the use, possession, or sale of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco/nicotine (including e- cigarettes and vape pens) by students on campus or at school-sponsored activities. Students violating this policy will face disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

*Restorative justice promotes values and principles that use inclusive, collaborative approaches for being in community. These approaches validate the experiences and needs of everyone within the community, particularly those who have been marginalized, oppressed, or harmed. These approaches allow us to act and respond in ways that are healing rather than alienating or coercive. Restorative conferences are not punitive, but proactive.*

-excerpt from Amstutz and Mullet, Restorative Discipline for Schools

Instructional time is “sacred” and successful learning experiences depend upon the engaged participation of every student. The community is composed of individuals who exercise self-discipline while understanding the need for inter-dependency.

Below is an **example** of teacher response to students making poor choices in class which are adversely affecting the learning environment:

1. If misbehavior occurs, the teacher will address the responsible individual(s) respectfully, reminding the student of the appropriate desired behaviors, and logging the behavior as appropriate.

2. If misbehavior persists, the teacher will ask the student(s) to step outside the classroom or individually approach the student for a 1-2-minute conference. That conference will provide the student(s) the opportunity to discuss the behavior and ways in which they can demonstrate to the class that they are ready to learn and re-join the community.
  - If the teacher feels the student(s) is/are ready to return to class, the student(s) re-joins the community and demonstrates active scholarly participation.
  - If the student returns to class and continues misbehavior, that student may be asked to write a reflection and may be referred to speak to an administrator.
  - If the teacher feels the student(s) is/are not ready to return, the student(s) may be asked to write a reflection about the undesired behavior either in that teacher's class or a neighboring class.
3. If the student(s) return(s) to class after having written a reflection and continues with unproductive behavior, the student(s) will be referred to the office and will engage in the administrative behavior support plan.
4. If the behavior in class is extreme in nature and cannot be dealt with following the aforementioned steps, the student will be referred to the office and will engage in the administrative behavior support plan and/or the School will follow its Suspension Expulsion Policy as outlined within its Charter.

Understanding most behaviors will be addressed by the classroom teacher, as a means of re-engaging students in the learning environment, students referred to the office will already have been given multiple opportunities for correcting misbehavior. We treat every student as an individual and will adjust our approach on a case-by-case basis. We apply restorative justice principles to supporting positive student choices so that unwanted behaviors do not continue, but we can also offer a more traditional model for students and families who prefer not to participate in the restorative approach.

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

The EBIA Board believes that academic honesty and personal integrity are fundamental components of a student's education and character development. The Board expects that students will not cheat, lie, plagiarize or commit other acts of academic dishonesty.

Students, parents/guardians, staff and administrators shall be responsible for creating and maintaining a positive school climate that encourages honesty. Students found to have committed an act of academic dishonesty shall be subject to discipline.

Plagiarism and Copyright Infringement definitions:

1. Users will not plagiarize works that they find on the Internet. Plagiarism is taking the ideas or writings of others and presenting them as if they were original to the user.
2. Users will respect the rights of copyright owners and not infringe on those rights. Copyright infringement occurs when an individual inappropriately reproduces a work that is protected by a copyright. If a work contains language that specifies acceptable use of that work, the user should follow the expressed requirements. If the user is unsure whether or not they can use a work, they should request permission from the copyright owner.

Assignments for which students have engaged in plagiarism and/or copyright infringement will be scored as a zero (0), and students will be asked to re-submit the assignment within two (2) weeks. In the event that a student engages in plagiarism and/or copyright infringement more than once in a given course in the school year, that student will be referred to an administrator.

## REASONABLE SEARCH

The Charter School recognizes and has determined that the occurrence of incidents which may include the possession of firearms, weapons, alcohol, controlled substances, or other items of contraband prohibited by law or Charter School rules and regulations, jeopardizes the health, safety and welfare of students and Charter School employees.

The California Constitution requires that all students and staff of public schools have the inalienable right to attend campuses which are safe, secure, and peaceful. As such, Charter School has adopted a Policy outlining the reasonable search of students and their property, student use areas, and/or student lockers and the seizure of illegal, unsafe, unauthorized or contraband items and materials through a search based upon reasonable suspicion.

Student lockers, including P.E. lockers, are school property and remain at all times under the control of the Charter School. Students shall assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers. Student lockers may not be used to store illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials. The acceptance and use of locker facilities on school campus by any student shall constitute consent by the student to the search of such locker facilities by authorized school personnel and/or law enforcement. Inspections of lockers may be conducted by school personnel and/or law enforcement through the use of trained dogs.

A student's personal cell phone, smartphone, or other personal electronic device shall not be searched by school officials without a warrant, the student's consent, or a legitimate emergency, unless the device is lost or abandoned. An emergency is any *situation involving danger of death or serious physical injury to any person, that requires access to the information located or reasonably believed to be located on the electronic device*. If the Charter School has a good faith belief that the device is lost, stolen, or abandoned, the Charter School may only access electronic device information in order to attempt to identify, verify, or contact the owner of the device.

The Charter School is not prohibited from seizing/confiscating a student's personal electronic device, without searching its contents, if the student's use or possession of the private electronic device is in violation of Charter School rules or regulations.

## **STUDENT HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **ILLNESS**

A student who is ill should not be sent to school, since this may result in their health becoming worse and exposing others. Good indicators that students should be kept home:

**Fever:** With a temperature equal to or greater than 38.0 C or 100.4 F. The child can return to school after he/she has been fever-free for 24 hours (without fever-reducing medicine such as Tylenol or Advil).

**Colds:** A continuous green discharge from the nose may be a sign of infection; consider having the child seen by your health care provider.

**Diarrhea/Vomiting:** Return to school only after being symptom-free for 12 hours.

**Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye):** Return to school 24 hours after the first dose of prescribed medication.

**Rashes:** A student with an unexplained rash should return to school only after a health care provider has made a diagnosis and authorized the child's return to school.

**Lice:** A student with lice is encouraged to remain home until lice free. Please treat your student and notify the school.

While we understand that many families want to celebrate birthdays and other events as part of the community, we ask that families follow healthy guidelines when bringing in food. Please check with the office before bringing in any food or drinks for any event. Some students have allergies to food and drinks and cannot be in close proximity to these items. Students bringing snacks to school should make healthy choices, such as fruits and vegetables.

### **INJURIES**

A first aid kit is located in the office. If your student is ill or injured beyond first aid or simple comfort measures, you will be called to take the student home or to the doctor. In an emergency, appropriate action will be taken, and you will be informed immediately. If you cannot be reached, other designated adults listed on the student's emergency form will be notified. It is essential that you keep the school

informed of any change in address and/or telephone numbers so that a responsible party may be reached in an emergency.

## IMMUNIZATIONS

Pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code and the California Code of Regulations, children must provide proof of having received required immunizations (shots) before they can attend school unless they meet the requirements for an exemption. Immunization records are required for all incoming students. Verification of immunizations will be completed with written medical records from the child's doctor or immunization clinic. To ensure a safe learning environment for all students, the Charter School follows and abides by the health standards set forth by the state of California. The immunization status of all students will be reviewed periodically. Those students who are not in compliance with the State requirements must be excluded from attendance until the requirements are met. Students who have been exposed to a communicable disease for which they have not been immunized may be excluded from school at the discretion of the Charter School.

These required immunizations include:

Child's Grade	List of shots required to attend school
---------------	---

<p><b>TK/K-12 Admission</b></p>	<p>Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (DTaP) - Five (5) doses          Polio - Four (4) doses          Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) - Two (2) doses          Hepatitis B (Hep B) - Three (3) doses          Varicella (chickenpox) – Two (2) doses</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Four doses of DTaP are allowed if one was given on or after the fourth birthday. Three doses of DTaP meet the requirement if at least one dose of Tdap, DTaP, or DTP vaccine was given on or after the seventh birthday (also meets the 7th-12th grade Tdap requirement.) One or two doses of Td vaccine given on or after the seventh birthday count towards the requirement for DTaP. Three doses of Polio are allowed if one was given on or after fourth birthday. MMR doses must be given on or after first birthday. Two doses of measles, two doses of mumps, and one dose of rubella vaccine meet the requirement, separately or combined. Combination vaccines (e.g., MMRV) meet the requirements for individual component vaccines.</p>
<p><b>Entering 7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b></p>	<p>Tetanus, reduced Diphtheria, and acellular Pertussis (Tdap) - One (1) dose          Varicella (chickenpox) - Two (2) doses</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> In order to begin 7th grade, students who had a valid personal belief exemption on file with a public or private elementary or secondary school in California before January 1, 2016 must meet the requirements listed for grades K-12 as well as requirements for 7<sup>th</sup> grade advancement (i.e., polio, MMR, varicella and primary series for diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis). At least one dose of pertussis-containing vaccine is required on or after the 7th birthday.</p>

## MEDICATIONS

The following information regarding the administration of medications is applicable when the staff is responsible for the administration of, or assisting in the administration of, medication to students



attending school during the regular school day, which includes during school hours, before- or after-school programs, field trips, extracurricular and co- curricular activities, and camps or other activities that typically involve at least one (1) overnight stay away from home.

## **ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATIONS**

In order for a student to take any medication, during the regular school day, a Medication Authorization Form must be completed and on file. This includes both prescription and non-prescription medications.

A copy of the School's Medication Authorization Form is located at the main office. Please complete and return this form to the main office.

Students in grades 6-8 must take medication with school assistance, with the exception of auto-injectable epinephrine and inhaled asthma medication.

## **ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION WITH SCHOOL ASSISTANCE**

Any student who is or may be required to take, during the regular school day, prescription medication prescribed or ordered for the student by an authorized health care provider may be assisted by a designated Charter School health aide.

In order for a student to be assisted by the designated Charter School personnel in administering medication, Charter School shall obtain both:

1. A written statement from the student's authorized health care provider detailing the name of the medication, method, amount/dosage, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken, and
2. A written statement from the parent, foster parent, or guardian of the student indicating the desire that EBIA assist the student in the matters set forth in the statement of the authorized health care provider.

These written statements specified shall be provided at least annually and more frequently if the medication, dosage/amount, frequency of administration, or reason for administration changes.

## **SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF AUTO-INJECTABLE EPINEPHRINE AND INHALED ASTHMA MEDICATION (WITHOUT SCHOOL ASSISTANCE)**

Students will be permitted to self-carry and self-administer auto-injectable epinephrine ("EpiPen") and inhaled asthma medication if an authorized health care provider has indicated that a student may need to take this medication or is required to take this medication during the regular school

day. In order to carry and self-administer this medication, EBIA must receive the following:

1. A written statement from the student's authorized health care provider (1) detailing the name of the medication, method, dosage/amount, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken, and (2) confirming that the student is able to self-administer an EpiPen or inhaled asthma medication, and
2. A written statement from the parent, foster parent, or guardian of the student (1) consenting to the self-administration, (2) providing a release for the school nurse or designated Charter School personnel to consult with the health care provider of the student regarding any questions that may arise with regard to the medication, and (3) releasing EBIA and Charter School personnel from civil liability if the self-administering student suffers an adverse reaction as a result of self-administering medication.

These written statements specified shall be provided at least annually and more frequently if the medication, dosage/amount, frequency of administration, or reason for administration changes.

Prior to approving self-administration of a prescription medication, EBIA may elect to observe and document the student's ability to safely and competently self-carry and self-administer the medication as directed by the authorized health care provider.

A student may be subject to disciplinary action if the student uses a prescription medication in a manner other than as prescribed.

Any student requiring insulin shots must establish a plan for administration of insulin shots with the Principal in consultation with the parent or guardian and the student's medical professional.

### **SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF OTHER PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION (WITHOUT SCHOOL ASSISTANCE) FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-8**

EBIA does not permit grade 6-8 students to self-carry and self-administer prescription medication with the exception of auto-injectable epinephrine ("EpiPen") and inhaled asthma medication.

### **SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF OTHER PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION (WITHOUT SCHOOL ASSISTANCE) FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 9-12**

Students in grade 9-12 may be permitted to self-carry and self-administer other prescription medication (other an Epi Pen or asthma inhaler) if an authorized health care provider has indicated that a student may need to take this medication or is required to take this medication during the regular school day. In order to carry and self-administer this medication, EBIA must receive the following:

1. A written statement from the student's authorized health care provider (1) detailing the name of the medication, method, dosage/amount, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken, and (2) confirming that the student is able to self-administer the medication, and
2. A written statement from the parent, foster parent, or guardian of the student (1) consenting to the self-administration, (2) providing a release for the school nurse or designated Charter School personnel to consult with the health care provider of the student regarding any questions that may arise with regard to the medication, and (3) releasing EBIA and Charter School personnel from civil liability if the self-administering student suffers an adverse reaction as a result of self-administering medication.

## **OBSERVATION AND DOCUMENTATION PROCESS FOR SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS**

EBIA will use the following procedure to observe and document a student's ability to safely and competently self-carry and self-administer the medication as directed by the authorized health care provider.

- Observation of the student self-administering the medication.
- Determination of the student's capability to have in his or her possession all necessary equipment and supplies.
- Determination of the student's capability to adhere to standard precautions and appropriate handling of syringes, needles, lancets, and other medical equipment.
- Determination of the student's capability to maintain safety and privacy.
- Development of an individualized school healthcare plan (ISHP) by the Principal or designated personnel if the student's health condition and status require monitoring and supervision.
- Development of a Section 504 Plan or a written agreement with the student that includes:
  - Procedures for reporting to designated school personnel any problems with medication, supplies or equipment, or if and when the student needs assistance.
  - A monitoring system for tracking self-medicating student outcomes.
  - Information for the student of what constitutes responsible behavior and that any act of inappropriate behavior with regard to self-administration of medication, such as sharing medications with peers, may result in the school administrator

informing the parent or guardian and revoking the privilege of self-administration.

- Provision for the student to keep on his or her person a copy of the authorized health care provider and parent or guardian written statements.
- Recommendation that the student carry photo identification.

## **ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES**

- The primary responsibility for the administration of medication rests with the parent/guardian, pupil, and authorized healthcare provider.
- Medication shall be administered during the regular school day if determined by an authorized healthcare provider to be necessary.
- Designated staff shall keep records of medication administered at EBIA.
- All medication will be kept in a secure and appropriate storage location and administered per physician's instructions by appropriately designated staff.
- Designated staff shall return all surplus medication to the parent/guardian upon completion of the regimen or prior to extended holidays.
- Designated staff shall establish emergency procedures for specific medical conditions that require an immediate response (i.e. allergies, asthma, diabetes).
- The written statements specified in this policy shall be provided at least annually and more frequently if the medication, dosage, frequency of administration, or reason for administration changes.
- A pupil may be subject to disciplinary action if that pupil uses auto-injectable epinephrine or inhaled asthma medication in a manner other than as prescribed.
- Any pupil requiring insulin shots must establish a plan for administration of insulin shots with the Principal in consultation with the parent or guardian and the pupil's medical professional.

## **ALLERGY REPORTING**

It is vital that EBIA is informed of any student allergy that is life threatening and/or may require use of medication. A list of students with allergies will be kept in each classroom. Any required medication will be stored in the main office. Please see the "Medications" section above for applicable guidelines.

## **SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT**

Parents have the right and are entitled to the assurance of a safe and supportive learning environment for their child. EBIA has established a Comprehensive School Safety Plan. The Plan is available upon request at the main office.

## **PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS AND RIGHT TO REFUSE**

All students must complete a health screening examination on or before the 90th day after the student's entrance into first grade or such students must have obtained a waiver pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 124040 and 124085. This examination can be obtained from your family physician or possibly through the services provided by your County Health Department. Information and forms are distributed to students enrolled in kindergarten. If your child's medical status changes, please provide the teacher with a physician's written verification of the medical issue, especially if it impacts in any way your child's ability to perform schoolwork.

A parent/guardian having control or charge of any child enrolled in the Charter School may file annually with the Executive Director of the school in which the child is enrolled a written and signed statement stating that the parent/guardian will not consent to a physical examination of the child. Thereupon the child shall be exempt from any physical examination, but whenever there is a good reason to believe that the child is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the child shall be sent home and shall not be permitted to return until the school authorities are satisfied that any contagious or infectious disease does not exist.

## **SCHOOLBUS AND PASSENGER SAFETY**

All students who are transported in a schoolbus or school student activity bus shall receive instruction in school bus emergency procedures and passenger safety. EBIA's procedures are outlined in the School Safety Plan.

## **SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN**

The Charter School has established a Comprehensive School Safety Plan. The Plan is available upon request at the main office.

## **SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST PREVENTION AND AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS**

EBIA is invested in the health of its athletes, especially their heart health. Sudden cardiac arrest (“SCA”) is when the heart stops beating, suddenly and unexpectedly. Those wishing to participate in athletics at EBIA, must review the information sheet on sudden cardiac arrest via the link below:

<https://www.cdc.gov/dhdsr/docs/cardiac-arrest-infographic.pdf>.

## **CONCUSSION/HEAD INJURY**

A concussion is a brain injury that can be caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. Even though most concussions are mild, all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications including prolonged brain damage and death if not recognized and managed properly. Because EBIA has elected to offer an athletic program, we must immediately remove from a school-sponsored athletic activity for the remainder of the day an athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury during that activity. The athlete may not return to that activity until he or she is evaluated by, and receives written clearance from, a licensed healthcare provider. If the licensed health care provider determines the athlete has a concussion or head injury, the athlete shall also complete a graduated return-to-play protocol of no less than 7 days in duration under the supervision of a licensed health care provider. On a yearly basis, a concussion and head injury information sheet must be signed and returned by the athlete and the athlete’s parent or guardian before the athlete initiates practice or competition. This requirement does not apply to an athlete engaging in an athletic activity during the regular school day or as part of a physical education course.

## **OPIOID INFORMATION SHEET**

The Charter School annually provides each athlete with an Opioid Factsheet for Patients published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The athlete and, if the athlete is 17 years of age or younger, the athlete’s parent or guardian shall sign a document acknowledging receipt of the Opioid Factsheet for Patients and return that document to the Charter School before the athlete initiates practice or competition. The fact sheet is available at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/AHA-Patient-Opioid-Factsheet-a.pdf>

## **PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS**

EBIA recognizes that pregnant and parenting pupils are entitled to accommodations that provide them with the opportunity to succeed academically while protecting their health and the health of their children. A pregnant or parenting pupil is entitled to eight (8) weeks of parental leave, or more if deemed medically necessary by the pupil's physician, which the pupil may take before the birth of the pupil's infant if there is a medical necessity and after childbirth during the school year in which the birth takes place, inclusive of any mandatory summer instruction, in order to protect the health of the pupil who gives or expects to give birth and the infant, and to allow the pregnant or parenting pupil to care for and bond with the infant. The Charter School will ensure that absences from the pupil's regular school program are excused until the pupil is able to return to the regular school program or an alternative education program.

Upon return to school after taking parental leave, a pregnant or parenting pupil will be able to make up work missed during his or her leave, including, but not limited to, makeup work plans and re enrollment in courses. Notwithstanding any other law, a pregnant or parenting pupil may remain enrolled for a fifth year of instruction in the Charter School if it is necessary in order for the pupil to be able to complete any graduation requirements, unless the Charter School determines that the pupil is reasonably able to complete the graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the pupil's fourth year of high school.

Complaints of noncompliance with laws relating to pregnant or parenting pupils may be filed under the Uniform Complaint Procedures ("UCP") of the Charter School. The complaint may be filed in writing with the compliance officer:

Senior Director of Operations: Bonita Herrera  
3400 Malcolm Avenue, Oakland, CA 94605  
Phone: 510-577-9557

A copy of the UCP is available upon request at the main office. For further information on any part of the complaint procedures, including filing a complaint or requesting a copy of the complaint procedures, please contact the Senior Director of Operations.

## **HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION**

California has the highest number of incidents of human trafficking in the U.S., and all students may be vulnerable. Charter School believes it is a priority to inform our students about (1) prevalence, nature of and strategies to reduce the risk of human trafficking, techniques to set healthy boundaries, and how to safely seek assistance, and (2) how social media and mobile device applications are used for human trafficking.

In accordance with the California Healthy Youth Act, Charter School will provide age-appropriate instruction on the prevention of human trafficking, including sexual abuse, assault, and harassment. You have the right to excuse your child from all or part of instruction on prevention of human trafficking. Please contact the front office if you wish for your student to opt out from this instruction. Your consent for this instruction is NOT required. If we do not receive a written request to excuse your child, your child will be included in the instruction.

## DIABETES

The Charter School will provide an information sheet regarding type 2 diabetes to the parent or guardian of incoming 7th grade students, pursuant to Education Code Section 49452.7. The information sheet shall include, but shall not be limited to, all of the following:

1. A description of type 2 diabetes.
2. A description of the risk factors and warning signs associated with type 2 diabetes.
3. A recommendation that students displaying or possibly suffering from risk factors or warning signs associated with type 2 diabetes should be screened for type 2 diabetes.
4. A description of treatments and prevention of methods of type 2 diabetes.
5. A description of the different types of diabetes screening tests available.

A copy of the information sheet regarding type 2 diabetes is available at:  
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/type2diabetes.asp>.

Please contact the office if you need a copy of this information sheet or if you have any questions about this information sheet.

The Charter School will provide an information sheet regarding type 1 diabetes to the parent or guardian of a student when the student is first enrolled in elementary school, pursuant to Education Code Section 49452.6. The information sheet shall include, but shall not be limited to, all of the following:

1. A description of type 1 diabetes.
2. A description of the risk factors and warning signs associated with type 1 diabetes.
3. A recommendation that parents or guardians of students displaying warning signs associated with type 1 diabetes should immediately consult with the student's primary care provider to determine if immediate screening for type 1 diabetes is appropriate.
4. A description of the screening process for type 1 diabetes and the implications of test results.
5. A recommendation that, following a type 1 diagnosis, parents or guardians should consult



with the pupil's primary care provider to develop an appropriate treatment plan, which may include consultation with and examination by a specialty care provider, including, but not limited to, a properly qualified endocrinologist.

A copy of the information sheet regarding type 1 diabetes is available at:

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/type1diabetes.asp>. Please contact the office if you need a copy of this information sheet or if you have any questions about this information sheet.

## Type 2 Diabetes Description

Type 2 diabetes is the most common form of diabetes in adults. Until a few years ago, type 2 diabetes was rare in children, but it is becoming more common, especially for overweight teens. According to the

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"), one in three American children born after 2000 will develop type 2 diabetes in his or her lifetime.

Type 2 diabetes affects the way the body is able to use sugar (glucose) for energy.

- The body turns the carbohydrates in food into glucose, the basic fuel for the body's cells.
- The pancreas makes insulin, a hormone that moves glucose from the blood to the cells.
- In type 2 diabetes, the body's cells resist the effects of insulin, and blood glucose levels rise.
- Over time, glucose reaches dangerously high levels in the blood, which is called hyperglycemia.
- Hyperglycemia can lead to health problems like heart disease, blindness, and kidney failure.

It is recommended that students displaying or possibly experiencing the risk factors and warning signs associated with type 2 diabetes be screened (tested) for the disease.

## Risk Factors

Researchers do not completely understand why some people develop type 2 diabetes and others do not; however, the following risk factors are associated with an increased risk of type 2 diabetes in children:

- **Being overweight.** The single greatest risk factor for type 2 diabetes in children is excess weight. In the U.S., almost one out of every five children are overweight. The chances are more than double that an overweight child will develop diabetes.
- **Family history of diabetes.** Many affected children and youth have at least one parent with diabetes or have a significant family history of the disease.
- **Inactivity.** Being inactive further reduces the body's ability to respond to insulin.
- **Specific racial/ethnic groups.** Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, or Asian/Pacific Islanders are more prone than other ethnic groups to develop type 2 diabetes.

- **Puberty.** Young people in puberty are more likely to develop type 2 diabetes than younger children, probably because of normal rises in hormone levels that can cause insulin resistance during this stage of rapid growth and physical development.

## Warning Signs and Symptoms Associated with Type 2 Diabetes

Warning signs and symptoms of type 2 diabetes in children develop slowly, and initially there may be no symptoms. However, not everyone with insulin resistance or type 2 diabetes develops these warning signs, and not everyone who has these symptoms necessarily has type 2 diabetes.

- Increased hunger, even after eating
- Unexplained weight loss
- Increased thirst, dry mouth, and frequent urination
- Feeling very tired
- Blurred vision
- Slow healing of sores or cuts
- Dark velvety or ridged patches of skin, especially on the back of the neck or under the arms
- Irregular periods, no periods, and/or excess facial and body hair growth in girls
- High blood pressure or abnormal blood fats levels

## Type 2 Diabetes Prevention Methods and Treatments

Healthy lifestyle choices can help prevent and treat type 2 diabetes. Even with a family history of diabetes, eating healthy foods in the correct amounts and exercising regularly can help children achieve or maintain a normal weight and normal blood glucose levels.

- **Eat healthy foods.** Make wise food choices. Eat foods low in fat and calories.
- **Get more physical activity.** Increase physical activity to at least 60 minutes every day.
- **Take medication.** If diet and exercise are not enough to control the disease, it may be necessary to treat type 2 diabetes with medication.

The first step in treating type 2 diabetes is to visit a doctor. A doctor can determine if a child is overweight based on the child's age, weight, and height. A doctor can also request tests of a child's blood glucose to see if the child has diabetes or pre-diabetes (a condition which may lead to type 2 diabetes).

## Types of Diabetes Screening Tests That Are Available

- **Glycated hemoglobin (A1C) test.** A blood test measures the average blood sugar level over two to three months. An A1C level of 6.5 percent or higher on two separate tests indicates diabetes.

- **Random (non-fasting) blood sugar test.** A blood sample is taken at a random time. A random blood sugar level of 200 milligrams per deciliter (mg/dL) or higher suggests diabetes. This test must be confirmed with a fasting blood glucose test.
- **Fasting blood sugar test.** A blood sample is taken after an overnight fast. A fasting blood sugar level less than 100 mg/dL is normal. A level of 100 to 125 mg/dL is considered pre-diabetes. A level of 126 mg/dL or higher on two separate tests indicates diabetes.
- **Oral glucose tolerance test.** A test measuring the fasting blood sugar level after an overnight fast with periodic testing for the next several hours after drinking a sugary liquid. A reading of more than 200 mg/dL after two hours indicates diabetes.

Type 2 diabetes in children is a preventable/treatable disease and the guidance provided above is intended to raise awareness about this disease. Contact the School nurse, school administrator, or health care provider if you have questions.

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Charter School recognizes that when unidentified and unaddressed, mental health challenges can lead to poor academic performance, increased likelihood of suspension and expulsion, chronic absenteeism, student attrition, homelessness, incarceration, and/or violence. Access to mental health services at the Charter School and in our community is not only critical to improving the physical and emotional safety of students, but it also helps address barriers to learning and provides support so that all students can learn problem-solving skills and achieve in school and, ultimately, in life. The following resources available to your child:

### Available on Campus:

- School-based counseling services – your child is encouraged to directly contact a Charter School counselor by coming into the counseling office during school hours and making an appointment to speak with a counselor. Our Charter School counselors support students by providing individual sessions, group or parent consultations whenever a student is having a difficult time due to academic stress, transition to changes in their environment, or social concerns, including isolation. Counseling services, whether provided by our Charter School or by an outside provider listed in this letter, are voluntary.
- Special education services – if you believe your child may have a disability, you are encouraged to contact Robert Moore at 510-577-9557 to request an evaluation.
- Prescription medication while on campus – if your child requires prescription medication

during school hours and you would like assistance from School staff in providing this mediation to your child, please contact Office Manager at 510-577-9557.

### **Available in the Community:**

- Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services 2000 Embarcadero #400, Oakland, CA 94606  
(510) 567-8100

### **Available Nationally:**

- National Suicide Prevention Hotline - This organization provides confidential support for adults and youth in distress, including prevention and crisis resources. Available 24 hours at 1-800-273- 8255.
- The Trevor Project - This organization provides suicide prevention and crisis intervention for LGBTQ youth between the ages of 13 and 24. **Available at 1-866-488-7386 or visit <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/>.**
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America – This organization is a community- based mentorship program. Community-specific program information can be found online at <https://www.bbbs.org> or by calling (813) 720-8778.

## **DANGERS OF SYNTHETIC DRUGS**

The illicit use and abuse of synthetic drugs represents an emerging and ongoing public health threat in California. The fentanyl crisis specifically, has impacted communities across the state, leading to a sharp increase in fentanyl poisonings and deaths in recent years.

This notice aims to address the crisis with a preventative approach ensuring students and families are educated on the deadly consequences of recreational drug use.

A synthetic drug is a drug with properties and effects similar to a known hallucinogen or narcotic but having a slightly altered chemical structure, especially such a drug created in order to evade existing restrictions against illegal substances.

Synthetic drugs include but are not limited to synthetic cannabinoids (“synthetic marijuana,” “Spice,” “K2”), methamphetamines, bath salts, and fentanyl.

The California Department of Public Health (“CDPH”), has expounded on the extreme danger of

drugs laced with fentanyl. Illicit fentanyl can be added to other drugs to make them cheaper, more powerful, and more addictive. Illicit fentanyl has been found in many drugs, including heroin, methamphetamine, counterfeit pills, and cocaine. Fentanyl mixed with any drug increases the likelihood of a fatal overdose. Furthermore, it is nearly impossible to tell if drugs have been laced with fentanyl without additional testing, because fentanyl cannot be seen, smelled, or tasted when used as a lacing agent.

Additional information regarding fentanyl from the CDPH's Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch [can be found here](#).

## SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS

The purpose of this notice is to inform and to remind parents and legal guardians of all students at the Charter School of their responsibilities for keeping firearms out of the hands of children as required by California law. There have been many news reports of children bringing firearms to school. In many instances, the child obtained the firearm(s) from his or her home. **These incidents can be easily prevented by storing firearms in a safe and secure manner, including keeping them locked up when not in use and storing them separately from ammunition.**

To help everyone understand their legal responsibilities, this notice spells out California law regarding the storage of firearms. Please take some time to review this notice and evaluate your own personal practices to assure that you and your family are in compliance with California law:

- With very limited exceptions, California makes a person criminally liable for keeping any firearm, loaded or unloaded, within any premises that are under their custody and control where that person knows or reasonably should know that a child is likely to gain access to the firearm without the permission of the child's parent or legal guardian, and the child obtains access to the firearm and thereby (1) causes death or injury to the child or any other person; (2) carries the firearm off the premises or to a public place, including to any preschool or school grades kindergarten through twelfth grade, or to any school-sponsored event, activity, or performance; or (3) unlawfully brandishes the firearm to others.
  - The criminal penalty may be significantly greater if someone dies or suffers great bodily injury as a result of the child gaining access to the firearm.
- With very limited exceptions, California also makes it a crime for a person to negligently store or leave any firearm, loaded or unloaded, on their premises in a location where the person knows or reasonably should know that a child is likely to gain access to it without the permission of the child's parent or legal guardian, unless reasonable action is taken to secure the firearm against access by the child, even where a minor **never** actually accesses the firearm.
- In addition to potential fines and terms of imprisonment, as of January 1, 2020, a gun owner

found criminally liable under these California laws faces prohibitions from possessing, controlling, owning, receiving, or purchasing a firearm for 10 years.

- Finally, a parent or guardian may also be civilly liable for damages resulting from the discharge of a firearm by that person's child or ward.

The county or city may have additional restrictions regarding the safe storage of firearms. Thank you for helping to keep our children and schools safe. Remember that the easiest and safest way to comply with the law is to keep firearms in a locked container or secured with a locking device that renders the firearm inoperable.

## **SCHOOL OPERATIONS & PROCEDURES**

### **NON DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

The Charter School does not discriminate against any person on the basis of actual or perceived disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, immigration status, religion, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, pregnancy or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes in the California Penal Code.

The Charter School adheres to all provisions of federal law related to students with disabilities, including, but not limited to, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 ("IDEIA").

The Charter School does not discourage students from enrolling or seeking to enroll in the Charter School for any reason, including, but not limited to, academic performance, disability, neglect or delinquency, English proficiency, for being homeless or a foster/mobile youth, economic disadvantage, nationality, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. Charter School shall not encourage a student currently attending Charter School to disenroll or transfer to another school based on any of the aforementioned reasons except in cases of expulsion and suspension or involuntary removal in accordance with the Charter School's charter and relevant policies.

The Charter School does not request nor require student records prior to a student's enrollment.

The Charter School shall provide a copy of the California Department of Education Complaint Notice and Form to any parent, guardian, or student over the age of 18 at the following times: (1) when a parent, guardian, or student over the age of 18 inquires about enrollment; (2) before conducting an

enrollment lottery; and (3) before disenrollment of a student.

The Charter School is committed to providing an educational atmosphere that is free of unlawful harassment under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex), Titles IV, VI, and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (race, color, or national origin), The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the IDEIA; and Section 504 and Title II of the ADA (mental or physical disability). The Charter School also prohibits sexual harassment, including cyber sexual bullying, and harassment based upon pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, race, religion, religious affiliation, creed, color, immigration status, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, marital status, age, sexual orientation, or any other basis protected by federal, state, local law, ordinance or regulation. The Charter School does not condone or tolerate harassment of any type, including discrimination, intimidation, or bullying, including cyber sexual bullying, by any employee, independent contractor or other person with which the Charter School does business, or any other individual, student, or volunteer. This applies to all employees, students, or volunteers and relationships, regardless of position or gender. The Charter School will promptly and thoroughly investigate any complaint of harassment and take appropriate corrective action, if warranted.

Inquiries, complaints, or grievances regarding harassment as described in this section, above, should be directed to the EBIA Uniform Complaint Procedures (“UCP”) Compliance Officer:

Senior Director of Operations: Bonita Herrera  
3400 Malcolm Avenue, Oakland, CA 94605  
Phone: 510-577-9557

The lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission or participation in Charter School’s programs or activities. Charter School prohibits retaliation against anyone who files a complaint or who participates or refuses to participate in a complaint investigation.

## **VISITS AND CLASSROOM OBSERVATIONS**

Parents have the right to visit their child's classroom to observe activities. The time and date of the visitation must be arranged in advance with the school. The school may set reasonable time and frequency expectations related to classroom observation.

All visitors (including volunteers) shall register in the Visitors Log Book and complete a Visitor’s Permit in the main office immediately upon entering any school building or grounds when during regular school hours. When registering, the visitor is required to provide his/her name, address, age (if under 21), his/her purpose for entering school grounds, and proof of identity.

While on campus, visitors are to enter and leave classrooms as quietly as possible, not converse

with any student, teacher, or other instructional assistant unless permitted, and not interfere with any school activity. No electronic listening or recording device may be used in a classroom without the teacher's and Principal's written permission.

Before leaving campus, the visitor shall return the Visitor's Permit and sign out of the Visitors Log Book in the main office.

All visitors are asked to comply with current mandated and recommended health and safety protocols. Visitors (including volunteers) who demonstrate signs of a contagious disease (e.g. fever, coughing) may be denied registration. When recommended or requested by the Department of Public Health, visitors will be required to wear personal protective equipment, such as masks, and practice social distancing. EBIA reserves the right to implement additional measures for the protection of its school community, such as requiring forehead temperature checks before entry to the same extent being utilized for students and employees.

If the visitor is a government officer/official (including but not limited to local law enforcement officers, immigration enforcement officers, social workers, district attorneys, or U.S. attorneys) the officer/official will also be asked to produce any documentation that authorizes school access. EBIA shall make reasonable efforts to notify parents or guardians prior to permitting a student to be interviewed or searched, consistent with the law and/or any court order, warrant or instructions from the officer/official. A copy of the documentation provided by the officer and notes from the encounter may be maintained by EBIA consistent with the law. The EBIA Board of Directors and Bureau of Children's Justice in the California Department of Justice, at [BCJ@doj.ca.gov](mailto:BCJ@doj.ca.gov), will be timely informed regarding any attempt by a law-enforcement officer to access a school site or a student for immigration-enforcement purposes, as recommended by the Attorney General.

The Executive Director or designee may refuse to provide or withdraw consent to be on campus even if the visitor has a right to be on campus whenever there is reason to believe that the person has willfully disrupted or is likely to disrupt EBIA's orderly operation. The Executive Director or designee may request that a visitor who has failed to register, or whose registration privileges have been denied or withdrawn, promptly leave school grounds. When a visitor is directed to leave, the Executive Director or designee shall inform the visitor that if he/she reenters the school without following the posted requirements he/she will be guilty of a misdemeanor.

## **VOLUNTEERING**

Parents have the right to volunteer their time and resources for the improvement of school facilities and programs. Parents should contact the school to determine the terms and conditions of this service.

Volunteers who come in regularly will need to present TB clearance and proof of clearance (fingerprinting) from the Department of Justice.



## **PARENT VOLUNTEERS**

Research on student achievement indicates that when parents are active members of the child's school life, the student's academic progress accelerates and self-esteem blossoms. Based on this research, parents are encouraged to volunteer in a variety of settings. There are many opportunities for involvement. Please contact the school for information regarding our parent volunteer needs. You can also get ideas at parent meetings, through the newsletter, or by talking with teachers and other parents. Parents and/or family members are encouraged to volunteer. Volunteering at EBIA is optional and not required for a student to attend EBIA. Volunteer time may be done in a variety of ways including, but not limited to:

- Driving and/or chaperoning field trips
- Tutoring
- Fundraising
- Facilities maintenance/Tech support
- Lunch or morning supervision

## **PARENTS' PERMISSION FOR THE PUBLICATION OF STUDENT WORK/PICTURES**

I understand that from time-to-time the school may wish to publish examples of student projects, photographs of students, and other work on an Internet accessible World Wide Web server. If you have any concerns or do not give consent, please contact [info@eastbayia.org](mailto:info@eastbayia.org).

## **LOST OR DAMAGED SCHOOL PROPERTY**

If a student willfully damages the Charter School's property or the personal property of a Charter School employee, or fails to return a textbook, library book, computer/tablet or other Charter School property that has been loaned to the student, the student's parents/guardians are liable for all damages caused by the student's misconduct not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), adjusted annually for inflation. After notifying the student's parent or guardian in writing of the student's alleged misconduct and affording the student due process, Charter School may withhold the student's grades, transcripts, and diploma until the damages have been paid. If the student and the student's parent/guardian are unable to pay for the damages or to return the property, Charter School will provide a program of voluntary work for the minor in lieu of the payment of monetary damages. Upon completion of the voluntary work, the student's grades and diploma will be released.

# MEAL PROGRAM

EBIA participates in the National School Lunch Program ("NSLP. Commencing with the 2022-23 school year , the Charter School shall provide two (2) nutritionally adequate meals to each student who requests a meal without consideration of the student's eligibility for a federally funded free or reduced-price meal, with a maximum of one (1) free meal per meal service (breakfast and lunch) each school day. This shall apply to all pupils in kindergarten through grade twelve (12). All parents/guardians of EBIA students are all encouraged to apply. Applications for school meals are available in the main office throughout the year. There is no deadline to apply.

A copy of the complete Universal Meals Policy is available upon request. EBIA also maintains a School Wellness Policy pursuant to state and federal requirements. A copy of the complete Policy is available upon request at the main office.

Note: Due to security concerns, we ask that families please avoid all online ordering vendors such as Doordash, Uber Eats, etc.

# STUDENT RECORDS

## PUPIL RECORDS, INCLUDING CHALLENGES AND DIRECTORY INFORMATION

"The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within five (5) business days after the day the School receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the School principal or designee a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect.

The School official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the School to amend a record should write to the

Executive Director or designee, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing. If the Charter School decides to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the Executive Director must order the correction or the removal and destruction of the information and inform the parent or eligible student of the amendment in writing. The right to provide written consent before the School discloses personally identifiable information (“PII”) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to School officials with legitimate educational interests. A School official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the School board. A School official also may include a volunteer, consultant, vendor, or contractor outside of the School who performs an institutional service or function for which the School would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist, or contracted provider of digital educational platforms and/or service; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another School official in performing his or her tasks. A School official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student’s enrollment or transfer.

Note that Charter School will not release information to third parties for immigration-enforcement purposes, except as required by law or court order.

3. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Student Privacy Policy Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue,  
SW Washington, DC 20202

4. The right to request that the Charter School not release student names, addresses and telephone listings to military recruiters or institutions of higher education without prior written parental consent.

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from student's education records, without consent of the parent or eligible student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in §99.31 of the FERPA regulations.

Except for disclosures to School officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the parent or eligible student, §99.32 of the FERPA regulations requires the School to record the disclosure. Parents and eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A School may disclose PII from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the parents or the eligible student to the following parties:

1. Charter School officials who have a legitimate educational interest as defined by 34 C.F.R. Part 99;
2. Other schools to which a student seeks or intends to enroll so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. When a student transfers schools, the Charter School will mail the original or a copy of a student's cumulative file to the receiving district or private school within ten (10) school days following the date the request is received from the public school or private school where the pupil intends to enroll. Charter School will make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or eligible student of the request for records at the parent or eligible student's last known address, unless the disclosure is initiated by the parent or eligible student. Additionally, Charter School will give the parent or eligible student, upon request, a copy of the record that was disclosed and give the parent or eligible student, upon request, an opportunity for hearing;
3. Certain government officials listed in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1) in order to carry out lawful functions;
4. Appropriate parties in connection with a student's application for, or receipt of, financial aid if it is necessary to determine eligibility, amount of aid, conditions for aid or enforcing the terms and conditions of the aid;
5. Organizations conducting certain studies for the Charter School in accordance with 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(F);
6. Accrediting organizations in order to carry out their accrediting functions;
7. Parents of a dependent student as defined in section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;
8. Individuals or entities, in compliance with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena.

Subject to the exceptions found in 34 C.F.R. § 99.31(a)(9)(i), reasonable effort must be made to notify the parent or eligible student of the order or subpoena in advance of compliance, so that the parent or eligible student may seek a protective order;

9. Persons who need to know in cases of health and safety emergencies;
10. State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law;
11. A foster family agency with jurisdiction over a currently enrolled or former student, a short-term residential treatment program staff responsible for the education or case management of a student, and a caregiver (regardless of whether the caregiver has been appointed as the pupil's educational rights holder) who has direct responsibility for the care of the student, including a certified or licensed foster parent, an approved relative or non related extended family member, or a resource family, may access the current or most recent records of grades, transcripts, attendance, discipline, and online communication on platforms established by Charter School for student and parents, and any individualized education program ("IEP") or Section 504 plan that may have been developed or maintained by Charter School; and/or
12. A victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense. The disclosure may only include the final results of the disciplinary proceedings conducted by Charter School with respect to that alleged crime or offense. Charter School discloses the final results of the disciplinary proceeding regardless of whether Charter School concluded a violation was committed.

Parents have the right to inspect and review their child's records and to question anything they feel is inaccurate or misleading or an invasion of privacy. Parents have the right to a timely response from the School about their questions.

## **DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

"Directory information" is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released. Charter School may disclose the personally identifiable information that it has designated as directory information without a parent's or eligible student's prior written consent. The Charter School has designated the following information as directory information:

- \* Student's name
- \* Student's Address
- \* Parent/guardian's Address
- \* Telephone listing
- \* Student's electronic mail address
- \* Parent/guardian's electronic mail address

- \* Photograph/video
- \* Date and place of birth
- \* Dates of attendance
- \* Grade level
- \* Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- \* Degrees, honors, and awards received
- \* The most recent educational agency or institution attended
- \* Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems that cannot be used to access education records without a PIN, password, etc. (A student's SSN, in whole or in part, cannot be used for this purpose.)

If you do not want EBIA to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify EBIA in writing at the time of enrollment or re-enrollment. Please notify the main office. A copy of the complete Policy is available upon request at the main office.

#### **Use of Student Information Learned from Social Media**

The Charter School complies with all federal, state, and local guidelines regarding the gathering and/or maintenance of information about any enrolled student obtained from social media in the student's educational record. The Charter School gathers student information from social media. Such information shall be maintained in the Charter School's records with regard to the student and shall be destroyed within one (1) year after a student turns 18 years of age or within one (1) year after the student is no longer enrolled in the Charter School, whichever occurs first.

A non-minor student or a student's parent or guardian may access the student's records for examination of the information, request the removal of information or corrections made to information gathered or maintained by the Charter School by contacting the Executive Director.

## **EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH ANNUAL NOTICE**

East Bay Innovation Academy ("EBIA" or the "School") Governing Board desires to ensure that homeless children and youth are provided with equal access to its educational program, have an opportunity to meet the same challenging State academic standards, are provided a free and appropriate public education, are not stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless, and to establish safeguards that protect homeless students from discrimination on the basis of their homelessness.

The term "homeless children and youth" means individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. It includes children and youths who (42 U.S.C. section 11434a):

1. Are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
2. Have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings;
3. Are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and/or
4. Migratory children and unaccompanied youth (youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) may be considered homeless if they meet the above definition of "homeless."

Homeless status is determined in cooperation with the parent or guardian. In the case of unaccompanied youth, status is determined by the Homeless Student Liaison.

## **HOMELESS STUDENT LIAISON**

The Executive Director or designee designates the following staff person as the Charter School/Program Homeless Student Liaison for homeless students attending the Charter School (42 USC 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)):

Homeless Liaison: Bonita Herrera, Senior Director of Operations  
East Bay Innovation Academy  
3400 Malcolm Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94605  
(510) 577-9557

The Homeless Student Liaison shall ensure that the following requirements are fulfilled by the School (42 USC 11432(g)(6)):

1. Homeless students are identified by school personnel and through outreach and coordination activities with other entities and agencies, and through the annual housing questionnaire administered by the Charter School
2. Homeless students enroll in and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed at Charter School.
3. Homeless students and families receive educational services for which they are eligible, including services through Head Start programs (including Early Head Start programs) under the Head Start Act, early intervention services under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA"), any other preschool programs administered by EBIA, if any, and referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health services and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services.
4. Parents/guardians are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.

5. Public notice of the educational rights of homeless children is disseminated at places frequented by parents or guardians of such youths and unaccompanied youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, and in a manner and form understandable to the parents and guardians of homeless youth and unaccompanied youth.
6. Enrollment/admissions disputes are mediated in accordance with law, the Charter School charter, and Board policy.
7. Parents/guardians and any unaccompanied youth are fully informed of all transportation services, as applicable.
8. Charter School personnel providing services receive professional development and other support.
9. The Homeless Student Liaison collaborates with State coordinators and community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youths.
10. Unaccompanied youth are enrolled in school; have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards as the State establishes for other children and youth; and are informed of their status as independent students under section 480 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and that the youths may obtain assistance from the Homeless Student Liaison to receive verification of such status for the purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid described in section 483 of the Act.

The California Department of Education publishes a list of the contact information for the Homeless Education Liaisons in the state, which is available at: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs/>

## **HOUSING QUESTIONNAIRE**

EBIA shall administer a housing questionnaire for purposes of identifying homeless children and youth. Charter School shall ensure that the housing questionnaire is based on the best practices developed by the CDE. Charter School shall annually provide the housing questionnaire to all parents/guardians of students and to all unaccompanied youths at Charter School. The housing questionnaire shall include an explanation of the rights and protections a student has as a homeless child or youth or as an unaccompanied youth. The housing questionnaire shall be available in paper form. The housing questionnaire shall be available in English, and if fifteen (15) percent or more of the students enrolled at Charter School speak a single primary language other than English, it shall also be written in the primary language. The questionnaire shall be translated into other languages upon request of a student's parent/guardian or an unaccompanied youth. Charter School shall collect the completed housing questionnaires and annually report to the CDE the number of homeless children and youths and unaccompanied youths enrolled. (Education Code Section 48851.)



## **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS**

Homeless students who transfer to the Charter School any time after the completion of their second year of high school shall be exempt from any of the Charter School's graduation requirements that are in excess of the California minimum graduation requirements specified in Education Code section 51225.3 ("additional graduation requirements") unless the Charter School makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements by the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

To determine whether a homeless student is in their third or fourth year of high school, either the number of credits the student has earned to the date of transfer or the length of the student's school enrollment may be used, whichever will qualify the student for the exemption.

Within thirty (30) calendar days of the date that a student who may qualify for exemption under the above requirements transfers into the Charter School, the Charter School shall notify the student, the student's educational rights holder, and the School Liaison of the availability of the exemption and whether the student qualifies for an exemption.

The Charter School shall notify students who are exempted from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements and the student's educational rights holder of how any of the requirements that are waived will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution and provide information about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.

The Charter School shall not require any student who would otherwise be entitled to remain in attendance at the Charter School to accept the exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements or deny the student enrollment in, or the ability to complete, courses for which the student is otherwise eligible. The Charter School shall not revoke an exemption and shall grant an eligible student's request for the exemption at any time if the student qualifies, regardless of whether the student previously declined the exemption. An eligible student's exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements will continue to apply while the student is enrolled in the Charter School or if the student transfers to another school even after the student no longer meets the definition of a homeless child.

The Charter School shall not require or request that a student transfer schools in order to qualify the student for the exemption. Nor shall a student, a student's parent/guardian or educational rights holder, or a student's social worker or probation officer request a transfer solely to qualify for an exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements.

If a student who is exempted from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements completes the California minimum coursework requirements specified in Education Code section 51225.3 before the end of the student's fourth year of high school and would otherwise be entitled to remain in attendance at the Charter School, the Charter School shall not require or request that

the student graduate before the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

If the Charter School determines the student is reasonably able to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements by the end of the student's fifth year of high school, the Charter School shall do the following:

1. Inform the student of the student's option to remain at the Charter School for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements.
2. Inform the student, and the educational rights holder for the student, about how remaining in school for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution.
3. Provide information to the student about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.
4. Permit the student to stay at the Charter School for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements upon agreement with the student, if the student is 18 years of age or older, or, if the student is under 18 years of age, upon agreement with the educational rights holder for the student.

## **ACCEPTANCE OF COURSE WORK FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS**

The Charter School will accept any coursework satisfactorily completed at any public school, a juvenile court school, a school in a country other than the United States, and/or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency by a homeless student.

The Charter School will provide homeless students credit for the partial completion of courses taken while attending a public school, a juvenile court school, a school in a country other than the United States, and/or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency. If the student did not complete the entire course, the Charter School shall not require the student to retake the portion of the course the student completed unless the Charter School, in consultation with the holder of educational rights for the student, finds that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate from high school. When partial credit is awarded in a particular course, the homeless student shall be enrolled in the same or equivalent course, if applicable, so that the student may continue and complete the entire course. These students shall not be prevented from taking or retaking a course to meet California State University or the University of California admission eligibility requirements.

For any homeless student who enrolls at the EBIA, a copy of the complete policy shall be provided at the time of enrollment. A complete copy of this Policy is available at the Office at the Lower Campus, 3400 Malcolm Avenue, Oakland, CA 94605 or the Office at the Upper Campus, 3800 Mountain Boulevard, Oakland, CA 94619.

# EDUCATION OF FOSTER AND MOBILE YOUTH ANNUAL NOTICE

## DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this annual notice the terms are defined as follows:

- *“Foster youth”* means any of the following:
  1. A child who has been removed from their home pursuant to Section 309 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
  2. A child who is the subject of a petition filed pursuant to California Welfare and Institutions Code (“WIC”) section 300 or 602 (whether or not the child has been removed from the child’s home by juvenile court).
  3. A child who is the subject of a petition filed pursuant WIC section 602, has been removed from the child’s home by the juvenile court, and is in foster care.
  4. A nonminor under the transition jurisdiction of the juvenile court, as described in WIC section 450, who satisfies all of the following criteria:
    - a. The nonminor has attained 18 years of age while under an order of foster care placement by the juvenile court.
    - b. The nonminor is in foster care under the placement and care responsibility of the county welfare department, county probation department, Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization.
    - c. The nonminor is participating in a transitional independent living case plan.
  5. A dependent child of the court of an Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization who is the subject of a petition filed in the tribal court.<sup>2</sup>
  6. A child who is the subject of a voluntary placement agreement, as defined in WIC section 11400.
- *“Former juvenile court school student”* means a student who, upon completion of the student’s second year of high school, transfers from a juvenile court school to the Charter School, excluding a school district operated by the Division of Juvenile Justice of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, from a juvenile court school.

---

<sup>2</sup> The Charter School shall not require an Indian tribe or tribal court representative to certify that any student is a dependent of an Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization.

- *“Child of a military family”* refers to a student who resides in the household of an active duty military member.
- *“Currently Migratory Child”* refers to a child who, within the last 12-months, has moved with a parent, guardian, or other person having custody to the Charter School from another Local Educational Agency (“LEA”), either within California or from another state, so that the child or a member of the child’s immediate family might secure temporary or seasonal employment in an agricultural or fishing activity, and whose parents or guardians have been informed of the child’s eligibility for migrant education services. This includes a child who, without the parent/guardian, has continued to migrate annually to secure temporary or seasonal employment in an agricultural or fishing activity.
- *“Student participating in a newcomer program”* means a student who is participating in a program designed to meet the academic and transitional needs of newly arrived immigrant students that has as a primary objective the development of English language proficiency.

Within this notice, foster youth, former juvenile court school students, a child of a military family, a currently migratory child, and a student participating in the newcomer program will be collectively referred to as “Foster and Mobile Youth.” Within this notice, a parent, guardian, or other person holding the educational rights for a Foster and Mobile Youth will be referred to as a “parent/guardian.”

## **FOSTER AND MOBILE YOUTH LIAISON**

The Executive Director or designee designates the following staff person as the Liaison for Foster and Mobile Youth:

Liaison for Foster and Mobile Youth:  
 Bonita Herrera, Senior Director of Operations  
 East Bay Innovation Academy  
 3400 Malcolm Avenue  
 Oakland, CA 94605  
 (510) 577-9557

The Foster and Mobile Youth Liaison’s responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

1. Ensuring and facilitating the proper educational placement, enrollment in school, and checkout from school of foster children.
2. Assisting foster children when transferring from one school to another school in ensuring proper transfer of credits, records and grades.

## **SCHOOL STABILITY**

The Charter School will work with foster youth and their parent/guardian to ensure that each pupil is placed in the least restrictive educational programs, and has access to the academic resources, services, and extracurricular and enrichment activities that are available to all pupils, including, but not necessarily limited to, interscholastic sports. All decisions regarding a foster youth's education and placement will be based on the best interest of the child and shall consider, among other factors, educational stability and the opportunity to be educated in the least restrictive educational setting necessary to achieve academic progress.

Foster youth, currently migratory children and children of military families have the right to remain in their school of origin if it is in their best interest. The Charter School will immediately enroll a foster youth, currently migratory child or child of a military family seeking re enrollment in the Charter School as the student's school of origin (subject to the Charter School's capacity and pursuant to the procedures stated in the Charter School's charter and Board policy). If a dispute arises regarding a foster youth's request to remain in the Charter School as the school of origin, the foster youth has the right to remain in the Charter School pending the resolution of the dispute. The Charter School will also immediately enroll any foster youth, currently migratory child or child of a military family seeking to transfer to the Charter School (subject to the Charter School's capacity and pursuant to the procedures stated in the Charter School's charter and Board policy) regardless of the student's ability to meet normal enrollment documentation or uniform requirements (e.g., producing medical records or academic records from a previous school).

Foster youth, currently migratory children, and children of military families have the right to remain in their school of origin following the termination of the child's status as a foster youth, currently migratory child or child of a military family, as follows:

1. For students in Kindergarten through eighth grade, inclusive, the student will be allowed to continue in the school of origin through the duration of the academic year in which the student's status changed.
2. For students enrolled in high school, the student will be allowed to continue in the school of origin through graduation.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR FOSTER AND MOBILE YOUTH**

Foster and Mobile Youth who transfer to the Charter School any time after the completion of their second year of high school, and pupils participating in a newcomer program who are in their third or fourth year of high school, shall be exempt from any of the Charter School's graduation requirements that are in excess of the California minimum graduation requirements specified in Education Code section 51225.3 ("additional graduation requirements") unless the Charter School makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements by the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

To determine whether a Foster and Mobile Youth is in their third or fourth year of high school, either the number of credits the student has earned to the date of transfer or the length of the student's school enrollment may be used, whichever will qualify the student for the exemption. In the case of a pupil participating in a newcomer program, enrollment in grade 11 or 12 based on the average age of students in the third or fourth year of high school may be used to determine whether the student is in their third or fourth year of high school.

Within thirty (30) calendar days of the date that a student who may qualify for exemption under the above requirements transfers into the Charter School, the Charter School shall notify the student, the parent/guardian, and where applicable, the student's social worker or probation officer, of the availability of the exemption and whether the student qualifies for an exemption.

The Charter School shall notify and consult with students who are exempted from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements and the student's parent/guardian/educational rights holder. The consultation shall include all of the following:

1. Discussion regarding how any of the requirements that are waived may affect the pupil's postsecondary education or vocation plans, including the ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution.
2. Discussion and information about other options available to the pupil, including, but not limited to, a fifth year of high school, possible credit recovery, and any transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.
3. Consideration of the pupil's academic data and any other information relevant to making an informed decision on whether to accept the exemption.

The Charter School shall not require any student who would otherwise be entitled to remain in attendance at the Charter School to accept the exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements or deny the student enrollment in, or the ability to complete, courses for which the student is otherwise eligible. The Charter School shall not revoke an exemption and shall grant an eligible student's request for the exemption at any time if the student qualifies, regardless

of whether the student previously declined the exemption.

If a Foster and Mobile Youth who was eligible for an exemption and 1) was not properly notified of the availability of the exemption, or 2) previously declined the exemption pursuant to this Policy, the Charter School shall exempt the student within thirty (30) days of the exemption request, if an exemption is requested by the youth and the youth at one time qualified for the exemption, even if the pupil is no longer a Foster and Mobile Youth or the court's jurisdiction of the pupil has terminated.

An eligible student's exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements will continue to apply while the student is enrolled in the Charter School or if the student transfers to another school even after the court's jurisdiction terminates or the student no longer meets the definition of a child of a military family, a currently migratory child or a pupil participating in a newcomer program.

The Charter School shall not require or request that a student transfer schools in order to qualify the student for the exemption. Nor shall a student, a student's parent/guardian or educational rights holder, or a student's social worker or probation officer request a transfer solely to qualify for an exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements.

If a student who is exempted from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements completes the California minimum coursework requirements specified in Education Code section 51225.3 before the end of the student's fourth year of high school and would otherwise be entitled to remain in attendance at the Charter School, the Charter School shall not require or request that the student graduate before the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

If the Charter School determines the student is reasonably able to complete the Charter School's additional graduation requirements by the end of the student's fifth year of high school, the Charter School shall do the following:

1. Consult with the student of the student's option to remain at the Charter School for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements.
2. Consult with the student, and the educational rights holder for the student, about how remaining in school for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution.
3. Consult with and provide information to the student about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.
4. Permit the student to stay at the Charter School for a fifth year to complete the Charter

School's graduation requirements upon agreement with the student, if the student is 18 years of age or older, or, if the student is under 18 years of age, upon agreement with the educational rights holder for the student.

Through January 1, 2028, upon making a finding that a Foster and Mobile Youth **is not reasonably able to complete the Charter School's additional graduation requirements but is reasonably able to complete state coursework requirements specified in Education Code Section 51225.3** within the student's fifth year of high school, the Executive Director or designee shall exempt the pupil from Charter School's graduation requirements and provide pupil the option of remaining in school for a fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) year to complete the statewide coursework requirements. Charter School shall consult with the Foster and Mobile Youth and the educational rights holder regarding all of the following:

1. The pupil's option to remain in school for a fifth year to complete the statewide coursework requirements.
2. How waiving the local educational requirements and remaining in school for a fifth year may affect the pupil's postsecondary education or vocation plans, including the ability to gain admission to a institution of higher education.
3. Whether any other options are available to the pupil, including, but not limited to, possible credit recovery, and any transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.
4. The pupil's academic data and any other information relevant to making an informed decision on whether to accept the exemption and option to remain in school for a fifth year to complete the statewide coursework requirements.

If a Foster and Mobile Youth is not eligible for an exemption in the year in which the pupil transfers between schools, because Charter School makes a finding that the pupil is reasonably able to complete Charter School's additional graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the pupil's fourth year of high school, then Charter School shall do the following:

- 1) Within the first 30 calendar days of the **following** academic year, Charter School shall reevaluate eligibility;
- 2) Provide written notice to the pupil, the educational rights holder, and the pupil's social worker or probation officer, if applicable, whether the pupil qualifies for an exemption , based on the course completion status of the pupil at the time of reevaluation, to determine if the pupil continues to be reasonably able to complete Charter School's additional graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the pupil's fourth year of high school.



- 3) If, given their course completion status at that time the reevaluation is conducted, the pupil is not reasonably able to complete Charter School additional graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the pupil's fourth year of high school, the Charter School shall:
  - i. provide the pupil with the option to receive an exemption from all coursework and other requirements adopted by the governing board body of Charter School that are in addition to the statewide coursework requirements specified in Section 51225.3, or
  - ii. to stay in school for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's additional graduation requirements.

Charter School shall provide notification of the availability of these options. The pupil (if not a minor) or the educational rights holder shall have sole discretion whether to accept the exemption, based on the pupil's best educational interests.

## **ACCEPTANCE OF COURSEWORK**

The Charter School will accept any coursework satisfactorily completed at any public school, a juvenile court school, a school in a country other than the United States, and/or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency by a Foster and Mobile Youth.

The Charter School will provide Foster and Mobile Youth credit for the partial completion of courses taken while attending a public school, a juvenile court school, a school in a country other than the United States, and/or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency. If the student did not complete the entire course, the Charter School shall not require the student to retake the portion of the course the student completed unless the Charter School, in consultation with the holder of educational rights for the student, finds that the pupil is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate from high school. When partial credit is awarded in a particular course, the Foster and Mobile Youth shall be enrolled in the same or equivalent course, if applicable, so that the student may continue and complete the entire course. These students shall not be prevented from taking or retaking a course to meet California State University or the University of California admission eligibility requirements.

## **STUDENT RECORDS**

When the Charter School receives a transfer request and/or student records request for the educational information and records of a foster youth from a new local educational agency ("LEA"),

the Charter School shall provide these student records within two (2) business days. The Charter School shall compile the complete educational record of the student, including but not limited to a determination of seat time, full or partial credits earned, current classes and grades, immunization and other records, and, if applicable, a copy of the student's special education records including assessments, IEPs, and/or 504 plans. All requests for student records will be shared with the Foster and Mobile Youth Liaison, who shall be aware of the specific educational record keeping needs of Foster and Mobile Youth.

The Charter School shall not lower a foster youth's grades as a result of the student's absence due to a verified court appearance, related court ordered activity, or a change in the placement of the student made by a county or placing agency. If a foster youth is absent from school due to a decision to change the placement of the student made by a county or placing agency, the grades and credits of the pupil will be calculated as of the date the student left the Charter School.

In accordance with the Charter School's Educational Records and Student Information Policy, under limited circumstances, the Charter School may disclose student records or personally identifiable information contained in those records to certain requesting parties including but not limited to a foster family agency and state and local authorities within a juvenile justice system, without parent/guardian consent. Students who are 16 years of age or older or have finished 10th grade may access their own school records.

### **DISCIPLINE DETERMINATIONS**

If the Charter School intends to extend the suspension of any foster youth pending a recommendation for expulsion, the Charter School will invite the student's attorney and an appropriate representative from the relevant county agency to participate in the meeting at which the extension of the suspension will be discussed.

If the Charter School intends to suspend for more than ten (10) consecutive school days or expel a student with a disability who is also a foster youth due to an act for which the recommendation for expulsion is discretionary, the Charter School will invite the student's attorney and an appropriate representative from the relevant county agency to participate in the Manifestation Determination Review meeting.

### **COMPLAINTS OF NONCOMPLIANCE**

A complaint of noncompliance with any of the requirements outlined above may be filed through the Charter School's Uniform Complaint Procedures. A copy of the Uniform Complaint Policy and Procedures is available upon request at the main office.

## **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Charter School shall report to the California Department of Education (“CDE”) annually on the number of pupils who, for the prior school year, graduated with an exemption from the Charter School’s graduation requirements that are in addition to the statewide coursework requirements. This data shall be reported for pupils graduating in the fourth year and fifth year cohorts, and shall be disaggregated by cohort, pupil category, race, and disability status. The CDE shall make this data publicly available on an annual basis aligned with other reporting timelines for the California dashboard graduation data. For purposes of this subdivision, “pupil category” means the categories of pupils identified in the “Definitions” section of this Policy, above.

## **AVAILABILITY OF COMPLETE POLICY**

For any Foster and Mobile Youth who enrolls at the Charter School, a copy of the Charter School’s complete foster youth policy shall be provided at the time of enrollment. A copy of the complete Policy is available upon request at the main office.

## **SECTION 504**

EBIA recognizes its legal responsibility to ensure that no qualified person with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program of EBIA. Any student who has an objectively identified disability which substantially limits a major life activity, including, but not limited to learning, is eligible for accommodations by EBIA. The parent of any student suspected of needing or qualifying for accommodations under Section 504 may make a referral for an evaluation to the Executive Director. A copy of EBIA’s Section 504 policies and procedures is available upon request at the main office.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION / STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

We are dedicated to the belief that all students can learn and must be guaranteed equal opportunity to become contributing members of the academic environment and society. EBIA provides special education instruction and related services in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Improvement Act (“IDEA”), Education Code requirements, and applicable policies and procedures of the El Dorado County SELPA. These services are available for special education

students enrolled at EBIA. We offer high quality educational programs and services for all our students in accordance with the assessed needs of each student. EBIA collaborates with parents, the student, teachers, and other agencies, as may be indicated, in order to appropriately serve the educational needs of each student.

Pursuant to the IDEA and relevant state law, EBIA is responsible for identifying, locating, and evaluating children enrolled at EBIA with known or suspected disabilities to determine whether a need for special education and related services exists. This includes children with disabilities who are homeless or foster youth. EBIA shall not deny nor discourage any student from enrollment solely due to a disability. If you believe your child may be eligible for special education services, please contact:

Director of Student Support Services: Robert Moore  
3400 Malcolm Avenue, Oakland, CA 94605  
Phone: 510-577-9557

## **UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

The Charter School is the local agency primarily responsible for compliance with federal and state laws and regulations governing educational programs. The Charter School shall investigate and seek to resolve complaints using policies and procedures known as the Uniform Complaint Procedure (“UCP”) adopted by our Governing Board for the following types of complaints:

1. Complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against any protected group on the basis of the actual or perceived characteristics of age, ancestry, color, mental disability, physical disability, ethnic group identification, immigration status, citizenship, gender expression, gender identity, gender, genetic information, nationality, national origin, race or ethnicity, religion, medical condition, marital status, sex, or sexual orientation, or on the basis of a person’s association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics in any Charter School program or activity.
2. Complaints alleging a violation of state or federal law or regulation governing the following programs:
  - Accommodations for Pregnant, Parenting or Lactating Students;
  - Adult Education;
  - Career Technical and Technical Education;

- Career Technical and Technical Training;
- Child Care and Development Programs;
- Consolidated Categorical Aid;
- Education of Students in Foster Care, Students who are Homeless, former Juvenile Court Students now enrolled in a public school, Migratory Children and Children of Military Families;
- Every Student Succeeds Act;
- Migrant Education Programs;
- Regional Occupational Centers and Programs;
- School Safety Plans; and/or
- State Preschool Programs.

3. Complaints alleging noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees. A student enrolled in a public school shall not be required to pay a pupil fee for participation in an educational activity. A pupil fee includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

- A fee charged to a pupil as a condition for registering for school or classes, or as a condition for participation in a class or an extracurricular activity, regardless of whether the class or activity is elective or compulsory or is for credit.
- A security deposit, or other payment, that a pupil is required to make to obtain a lock, locker, book, class apparatus, musical instrument, clothes, or other materials or equipment.
- A purchase that a pupil is required to make to obtain materials, supplies, equipment, or clothes associated with an educational activity.

Complaints of noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees may be filed with the Executive Director or the Compliance Officer identified below.

4. Complaints alleging noncompliance with the requirements governing the Local Control Funding Formula ("LCFF") or Local Control and Accountability Plans ("LCAP") under Education Code sections 47606.5 and 47607.3, as applicable. If the Charter School adopts a School Plan for Student Achievement ("SPSA") in addition to its LCAP, complaints of noncompliance with the requirements of the SPSA under Education Code sections 64000, 64001, 65000, and 65001 shall also fall under the UCP.

Complaints alleging noncompliance regarding child nutrition programs established pursuant to

Education Code sections 49490-49590 are governed by Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (“C.F.R.”) sections 210.19(a)(4), 215.1(a), 220.13(c), 225.11(b), 226.6(n), and 250.15(d) and Title 5, California Code of Regulations (“C.C.R.”) sections 15580 - 15584.

Complaints alleging noncompliance regarding special education programs established pursuant to Education Code sections 56000-56865 and 59000-59300 are governed by the procedures set forth in 5 C.C.R. sections 3200-3205 and 34 C.F.R. sections 300.151-300.153.

Complaints regarding state preschool health and safety issues in local educational agencies exempt from licensing are governed by 5 C.C.R. sections 4690-4694, except as otherwise indicated.

Complaints other than complaints relating to pupil fees must be filed in writing with the following Compliance Officer:

Compliance Officer: Bonita Herrera, Senior Director of Operations  
East Bay Innovation Academy  
3400 Malcolm Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94605  
(510) 577-9557

Only complaints regarding pupil fees or LCAP compliance may be filed anonymously and only if the anonymous complainant provides evidence or information leading to evidence to support an allegation of noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees or LCAP.

Complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, must be filed within six (6) months from the date the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, occurred or the date the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying. All other complaints under the UCP shall be filed not later than one (1) year from the date the alleged violation occurred. For complaints relating to the LCAP, the date of the alleged violation is the date on which the Charter School’s Board of Directors approved the LCAP or the annual update was adopted by the Charter School.

The Compliance Officer responsible for investigating the complaint shall conduct and complete the investigation in accordance with California regulations and the Charter School’s UCP Policy. The Compliance Officer shall provide the complainant with a final written investigation report (“Decision”) within sixty (60) calendar days from the Charter School’s receipt of the complaint. This

sixty (60) calendar day time period may be extended by written agreement of the complainant.

The complainant has a right to appeal the Charter School's Decision to the California Department of Education ("CDE") by filing a written appeal within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of the Charter School's written Decision, except if the Charter School has used its UCP to address a complaint that is not subject to the UCP requirements. The appeal must include a copy of the complaint filed with the Charter School, a copy of the Charter School's Decision, and the complainant must specify and explain the basis for the appeal of the Decision, including at least one of the following:

1. The Charter School failed to follow its complaint procedures.
2. Relative to the allegations of the complaint, the Charter School's Decision lacks material findings of fact necessary to reach a conclusion of law.
3. The material findings of fact in the Charter School's Decision are not supported by substantial evidence.
4. The legal conclusion in the Charter School's Decision is inconsistent with the law.
5. In a case in which the Charter School's Decision found noncompliance, the corrective actions fail to provide a proper remedy.

A complainant who appeals the Charter School's Decision on a UCP complaint to the CDE shall receive a written appeal decision within sixty (60) calendar days of the CDE's receipt of the appeal, unless extended by written agreement with the complainant or the CDE documents exceptional circumstances and informs the complainant.

Within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of the CDE's appeal Decision pursuant to 5 C.C.R. section 4633(f)(2) or (3), either party may request reconsideration by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction ("SSPI") or the SSPI's designee. The request for reconsideration shall specify and explain the reason(s) for contesting the findings of fact, conclusions of law, or corrective actions in the CDE's appeal Decision.

If a UCP complaint is filed directly with the CDE and the CDE determines that it merits direct

intervention, the CDE shall complete an investigation and provide a written decision to the complainant within sixty (60) calendar days of receipt of the complaint, unless the parties have agreed to extend the timeline or the CDE documents exceptional circumstances and informs the complainant.

If the Charter School finds merit in a UCP complaint, or the CDE finds merit in an appeal, the Charter School shall take corrective actions consistent with the requirements of existing law that will provide a remedy to the affected student and/or parent/guardian as applicable.

A complainant may pursue available civil law remedies outside of the Charter School's complaint procedures. Complainants may seek assistance from mediation centers or public/private interest attorneys. Civil law remedies that may be imposed by a court include, but are not limited to, injunctions and restraining orders. For unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying complaints arising under state law, however, a complainant must wait until sixty (60) calendar days have elapsed from the filing of an appeal with the CDE before pursuing civil law remedies. The moratorium does not apply to injunctive relief and is applicable only if the Charter School has appropriately, and in a timely manner, apprised the complainant of the complainant's right to file a complaint in accordance with 5 C.C.R. § 4622.

A copy of the UCP shall be available upon request free of charge in the main office. For further information on any part of the complaint procedures, including filing a complaint or requesting a copy of the UCP, please contact the Executive Director.

## **APPENDIX: COMPLETE POLICIES**

### **TITLE IX, HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, DISCRIMINATION, AND BULLYING POLICY**

Discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, and bullying are all disruptive behaviors, which interfere with students' ability to learn and negatively affect student engagement, diminish school safety, and contribute to a hostile school environment. As such, the East Bay Innovation Academy ("EBIA" or the "Charter School") prohibits any acts of discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, and bullying altogether. This policy is inclusive of instances that occur on any area of the school campus, at school-sponsored events and activities, regardless of location, through school-owned technology, and through other electronic means.

As used in this policy, discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, and bullying are described as the intentional conduct, including verbal, physical, written communication or cyber-bullying, including cyber sexual bullying, based on the actual or perceived characteristics of mental or



physical disability, sex, (including pregnancy and related conditions, and parental status) gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality (including national origin and country of origin), , race or ethnicity (including ancestry, color, ethnic group identification, ethnic background, and traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twist), immigration and citizenship status, religion (including agnosticism and atheism), religious affiliation, sexual orientation, childbirth or related medical conditions, genetic information, marital status, age, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics or based on any other characteristic protected under applicable federal, state, local law, ordinance or regulation. Hereafter, such actions are referred to as “misconduct prohibited by this Policy.”

To the extent possible, EBIA will make reasonable efforts to prevent students from being discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, and/or bullied, and will take action to investigate, respond, address and report on such behaviors in a timely manner. EBIA school staff who witness acts of misconduct prohibited by this Policy will take immediate steps to intervene when safe to do so.

Moreover, EBIA will not condone or tolerate misconduct prohibited by this Policy by any employee, independent contractor or other person with which EBIA does business, or any other individual, student, or volunteer. This policy applies to all employee, student, or volunteer actions and relationships, regardless of position or gender. EBIA promptly and thoroughly investigates and responds to any complaint of misconduct prohibited by this Policy in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent and will take appropriate corrective action, if warranted. EBIA complies with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations and local ordinances in its investigation of and response to reports of misconduct prohibited by this Policy

Title IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination and Bullying Coordinator (“Coordinator”):

Title IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination, and Bullying  
Coordinator: Bonita Herrera, Senior Director of Operations  
East Bay Innovations Academy  
3400 Malcolm Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94605

## DEFINITIONS

### *Prohibited Unlawful Harassment*

- Verbal conduct such as epithets, derogatory jokes or comments or slurs
- Physical conduct including assault, unwanted touching, intentionally blocking normal movement or interfering with work or school because of sex, race or any other protected

basis

- Retaliation for reporting or threatening to report harassment
- Deferential or preferential treatment based on any of the protected characteristics listed above

### *Prohibited Unlawful Harassment under Title IX*

Title IX (20 U.S.C. § 1681 et. seq; 34 C.F.R. § 106.1 et. seq) and California state law prohibit discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex. Under Title IX, “sexual harassment” means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

- An employee of the recipient conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the recipient on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
- Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the recipient's education program or activity; or
- “Sexual assault” as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(v), “dating violence” as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10), “domestic violence” as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8), or “stalking” as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30).

In accordance with Title IX and California laws, discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex in education institutions, including in the education institution’s admissions and employment practices, is prohibited. All persons, regardless of sex, are afforded equal rights and opportunities and freedom from unlawful discrimination and harassment in education programs or activities conducted by EBIA.

EBIA is committed to providing a work and educational environment free of sexual harassment and considers such harassment to be a major offense, which may result in disciplinary action. Inquiries about the application of Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106 may be referred to the Coordinator, the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education, or both.

Sexual harassment consists of conduct on the basis of sex, including but not limited to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct on the basis of sex, regardless of whether or not the conduct is motivated by sexual desire when: (a) Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or a condition of an individual's employment, education, academic status, or progress; (b) submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis of employment, educational or academic decisions affecting the individual; (c) the conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's work or academic performance, or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or educational environment; and/or (d) submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting the individual regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the educational institution.

It is also unlawful to retaliate in any way against an individual who has articulated a good faith concern about sexual harassment against themselves or against another individual.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:

- Physical assaults of a sexual nature, such as:
  - o Rape, sexual battery, molestation or attempts to commit these assaults and
  - o Intentional physical conduct that is sexual in nature, such as touching, pinching, patting, grabbing, brushing against another's body, or poking another's body
- Unwanted sexual advances, propositions or other sexual comments, such as:
  - o Sexually oriented gestures, notices, remarks, jokes, or comments about a person's sexuality or sexual experience
  - o Preferential treatment or promises of preferential treatment to an individual for submitting to sexual conduct, including soliciting or attempting to solicit any individual to engage in sexual activity for compensation or reward or deferential treatment for rejecting sexual conduct
  - o Subjecting or threats of subjecting a student or employee to unwelcome sexual attention or conductor intentionally making the student's or employee's performance more difficult because of the student's or the employee's sex
- Sexual or discriminatory displays or publications anywhere in the work or educational environment, such as:
  - o Displaying pictures, cartoons, posters, calendars, graffiti, objections, promotional materials, reading materials, or other materials that are sexually suggestive, sexually demeaning or pornographic or bringing or possessing any such material to read, display or view in the work or educational environment.
  - o Reading publicly or otherwise publicizing in the work or educational environment materials that are in any way sexually revealing, sexually suggestive, sexually demeaning or pornographic.
  - o Displaying signs or other materials purporting to segregate an individual by sex in an area of the work or educational environment (other than restrooms or similar rooms)

The illustrations of harassment and sexual harassment above are not to be construed as an all-inclusive list of prohibited acts under this Policy.

## **PROHIBITED BULLYING**

*Bullying* is defined as any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act. Bullying includes one or more acts committed by a student or group of students that may constitute as sexual harassment, hate violence, or creates an intimidating and/or hostile educational environment, directed toward one or more students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the

following:

1. Placing a reasonable pupil\* or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil's or those pupils' person or property.
2. Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.
3. Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantial interference with his or her academic performance.
4. Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by EBIA.

\* "Reasonable pupil" is defined as a pupil, including, but not limited to, an exceptional needs pupil, who exercises care, skill and judgment in conduct for a person of his or her age, or for a person of his or her age with his or her exceptional needs.

*Cyberbullying* is an electronic act that includes the transmission of harassing communication, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images on the Internet, social media, or other technologies using a telephone, computer, or any wireless communication device. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage that person's reputation.

*Electronic act* means the creation and transmission originated on or off the schoolsite, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

1. A message, text, sound, video, or image.
2. A post on a social network Internet Web site including, but not limited to:
  - a. Posting to or creating a burn page. A "burn page" means an Internet Web site created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects as listed in the definition of "bullying," above.
  - b. Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in the definition of "bullying," above. "Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.
  - c. Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in the definition of "bullying," above. "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile. An act of "Cyber sexual bullying" including, but not limited to:
  - d. The dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph

or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in definition of “bullying,” above. A photograph or other visual recording, as described above, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act.

- e. “Cyber sexual bullying” does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.
3. Notwithstanding the definitions of “bullying” and “electronic act” above, an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the Internet or is currently posted on the Internet.

**Formal Complaint of Sexual Harassment** means a written document filed and signed by a complainant who is participating in or attempting to participate in EBIA’s education program or activity or signed by the Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a respondent and requesting that EBIA investigate the allegation of sexual harassment. At the time of filing a formal complaint of sexual harassment, a complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in EBIA’s education program or activity.

**Respondent** means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

### **Bullying and Cyberbullying Prevention Procedures**

EBIA has adopted the following procedures for preventing acts of bullying, including cyberbullying.

## **1. CYBERBULLYING PREVENTION PROCEDURES**

EBIA advises students:

- a. To never share passwords, personal data, or private photos online.
- b. To think about what they are doing carefully before posting and by emphasizing that comments cannot be retracted once they are posted.
- c. That personal information revealed on social media can be shared with anyone including parents, teachers, administrators, and potential employers. Students should never reveal information that would make them uncomfortable if the world had access to it.
- d. To consider how it would feel receiving such comments before making comments about others online.

EBIA informs Charter School employees, students, and parents/guardians of EBIA’s policies

regarding the use of technology in and out of the classroom. EBIA encourages parents/guardians to discuss these policies with their children to ensure their children understand and comply with such policies. Education

EBIA employees may not always be present when bullying incidents occur, so educating students about bullying is a key prevention technique to limit bullying from happening. EBIA advises students that hateful and/or demeaning behavior is inappropriate and unacceptable in our society and at EBIA and encourages students to practice compassion and respect each other.

Charter School educates students to accept all student peers regardless of protected characteristics (including but not limited to actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identification, physical or cognitive disabilities, race, ethnicity, religion, and immigration status) and about the negative impact of bullying other students based on protected characteristics.

EBIA's bullying prevention education also discusses the differences between appropriate and inappropriate behaviors and includes sample situations to help students learn and practice appropriate behavior and to develop techniques and strategies to respond in a non-aggressive way to bullying-type behaviors. Students will also develop confidence and learn how to advocate for themselves and others, and when to go to an adult for help.

EBIA informs EBIA employees, students, and parents/guardians of this Policy and encourages parents/guardians to discuss this Policy with their children to ensure their children understand and comply with this Policy.

## **2. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

EBIA annually makes available the online training module developed by the California Department of Education pursuant Education Code section 32283.5(a) to its certificated employees and all other EBIA employees who have regular interaction with students.

EBIA informs certificated employees about the common signs that a student is a target of bullying including:

- Physical cuts or injuries
- Lost or broken personal items
- Fear of going to school/practice/games
- Loss of interest in school, activities, or friends
- Trouble sleeping or eating
- Anxious/sick/nervous behavior or distracted appearance

- Self-destructiveness or displays of odd behavior
- Decreased self-esteem
- Charter School also informs certificated employees about the groups of students determined by EBIA, and available research, to be at elevated risk for bullying. These groups include but are not limited to:
  - Students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth (“LGBTQ”) and those youth perceived as LGBTQ; and
  - Students with physical or learning disabilities.

EBIA encourages its employees to demonstrate effective problem-solving, anger management, and self-confidence skills for EBIA’s students.

## **Grievance Procedures**

### **1. SCOPE OF GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

EBIA will comply with its Uniform Complaint Procedures (“UCP”) policy when investigating and responding to complaints alleging unlawful harassment, discrimination, intimidation or bullying against a protected group or on the basis of a person’s association with a person or group with one or more of the protected characteristics set forth in the UCP that:

- a. Are written and signed;
- b. Filed by an individual who alleges that that individual has personally suffered unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying, or by one who believes any specific class of individuals has been subjected to discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying based on a protected characteristic, or by a duly authorized representative who alleges that an individual student has been subjected to discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying; and
- c. Submitted to the EBIA UCP Compliance Officer not later than six (6) months from the date the alleged unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying occurred, or the date the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying.

The following grievance procedures shall be utilized for reports of misconduct prohibited by this Policy that do not comply with the writing, timeline, or other formal filing requirements of a uniform complaint. For formal complaints of sexual harassment, EBIA will utilize the following grievance procedures in addition to its UCP when applicable.

### **2. REPORTING**

All staff are expected to provide appropriate supervision to enforce standards of conduct and, if they observe or become aware of misconduct prohibited by this Policy, to intervene when safe to do so, call for assistance, and report such incidents. The Board requires staff to follow the procedures in this policy for reporting alleged acts of misconduct prohibited by this Policy.

Any student who believes they have been subject to misconduct prohibited by this Policy or has witnessed such prohibited misconduct is encouraged to immediately report such misconduct to the Coordinator:

Bonita Herrera, Senior Director of Operations  
East Bay Innovation Academy  
3400 Malcolm Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94605  
(510) 577-9557

Complaints regarding such misconduct may also be made to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights. Civil law remedies, including, but not limited to, injunctions, restraining orders, or other remedies or orders may also be available to complainants.

While submission of a written report is not required, the reporting party is encouraged to submit a written report to the Coordinator. EBIA will investigate and respond to all oral and written reports of misconduct prohibited by this Policy in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent. Reports may be made anonymously, but formal disciplinary action cannot be based solely on an anonymous report.

Students are expected to report all incidents of misconduct prohibited by this Policy or other verbal, or physical abuses. Any student who feels they are a target of such behavior should immediately contact a teacher, counselor, the Coordinator, a staff person or a family member so that the student can get assistance in resolving the issue in a manner that is consistent with this Policy.

EBIA acknowledges and respects every individual's right to privacy. All reports shall be investigated in a manner that protects the confidentiality of the parties and the integrity of the process to the greatest extent possible. This includes keeping the identity of the reporter confidential, as appropriate, except to the extent necessary to comply with the law, carry out the investigation and/or to resolve the issue, as determined by the Coordinator or administrative designee on a case-by-case basis.

EBIA prohibits any form of retaliation against any individual who files a report or complaint, testifies, assists, participates, or refuses to participate in any investigation or proceeding related to misconduct prohibited by this Policy. Such participation or lack of participation shall not in any way affect the status, grades, or work assignments of the individual. Individuals alleging retaliation in violation of this Policy may file a grievance using the procedures set forth in this Policy. Knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action.



All supervisors of staff will receive sexual harassment training within six (6) months of their assumption of a supervisory position and will receive further training once every two (2) years thereafter. All staff, and any individual designated as a coordinator, investigator or decision-maker will receive sexual harassment training and/or instruction concerning sexual harassment as required by law.

### **3. SUPPORTIVE MEASURES**

Upon the receipt of an informal or formal complaint of sexual harassment, the Coordinator will promptly contact the complainant to discuss the availability of supportive measures. The Coordinator will consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures, inform the complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint of sexual harassment, and explain the process for filing a formal complaint of sexual harassment.

Supportive measures are non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the complainant or the respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint of sexual harassment or where no formal complaint of sexual harassment has been filed. Such measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to EBIA's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or EBIA's educational environment, or deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures available to complainants and respondents may include but are not limited to counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, campus escort services, mutual restrictions on contact between the parties, changes in work locations, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus, and other similar measures. EBIA will maintain as confidential any supportive measures provided to the complainant or respondent, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of EBIA to provide the supportive measures.

### **4. INVESTIGATION AND RESPONSE**

Upon receipt of a report of misconduct prohibited by this Policy from a student, staff member, parent, volunteer, visitor or affiliate of EBIA, the Coordinator (or administrative designee) will promptly initiate an investigation. In most cases, a thorough investigation will take no more than twenty-five (25) school days. If the Coordinator (or administrative designee) determines that an investigation will take longer than twenty-five (25) school days and needs to be delayed or extended due to good cause, the Coordinator (or administrative designee) will inform the complainant of the reasons for the delay or extension and provide an approximate date when the investigation will be complete.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the Coordinator (or administrative designee) will meet with the complainant and, to the extent possible with respect to confidentiality laws, provide the complainant with information about the investigation, including any actions necessary to resolve the incident/situation. However, the Coordinator (or administrative designee) will not reveal confidential information related to other students or employees.

For investigations of and responses to formal complaints of sexual harassment, the following grievance procedures will apply:

- Notice of the Allegations
  - Upon receipt of a formal complaint of sexual harassment, the Coordinator will give all known parties written notice of its grievance process, including any voluntary informal resolution process. The notice will include: A description of the allegations of sexual harassment at issue and to the extent known, the identities of the parties involved in the incident, the conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment, and the date and location of the alleged incident;
    - A statement that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct until a final decision is reached;
    - A statement that the parties may have an advisor of their choice, who may be an attorney, and may inspect and review evidence; and
    - A statement that EBIA prohibits an individual from knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process.
- Emergency Removal
  - EBIA may place a non-student employee respondent on administrative leave during the pendency of a formal complaint of sexual harassment grievance process in accordance with EBIA's policies.
  - EBIA may remove a respondent from EBIA's education program or activity on an emergency basis, in accordance with EBIA's policies, provided that EBIA undertakes an individualized safety and risk analysis, determines that an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of sexual harassment justifies removal, and provides the respondent with notice and an opportunity to challenge the decision immediately following the removal.
  - This provision may not be construed to modify any rights under the IDEA, Section 504, or the ADA.
- Informal Resolution
  - If a formal complaint of sexual harassment is filed, EBIA may offer a voluntary informal resolution process, such as mediation, to the parties at any time prior to reaching a determination regarding responsibility. If EBIA offers such a process, it will do the following:
    - Provide the parties with advance written notice of:
      - The allegations;
      - The requirements of the voluntary informal resolution process including the circumstances under which the parties are precluded from resuming a formal

- complaint of sexual harassment arising from the same allegations;
  - The parties' right to withdraw from the voluntary informal resolution process and resume the grievance process at any time prior to agreeing to a resolution; and
  - Any consequences resulting from participating in the voluntary informal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained or could be shared; and
- Obtain the parties' advance voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution process.
- EBIA will not offer or facilitate an informal resolution process to resolve allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student.
- Investigation Process
  - The decision-maker will not be the same person(s) as the Coordinator or the investigator. EBIA shall ensure that all decision-makers and investigators do not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents.
  - In most cases, a thorough investigation will take no more than twenty-five (25) school days. If the investigator determines that an investigation will take longer than twenty-five (25) school days and needs to be delayed or extended due to good cause, the investigator will inform the complainant and any respondents in writing of the reasons for the delay or extension and provide an approximate date when the investigation will be complete.
  - The parties will be provided with an equal opportunity to present witnesses, to inspect and review any evidence obtained that is directly related to the allegations raised, and to have an advisor present during any investigative meeting or interview.
  - The parties will not be prohibited from discussing the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence.
  - A party whose participation is invited or expected at an investigative meeting or interview will receive written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of the meeting or interview with sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate.
  - Prior to completion of the investigative report, EBIA will send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, a copy of the evidence subject to inspection and review, and the parties will have at least ten (10) days to submit a written response for the investigator's consideration prior to the completion of the investigation report.
  - The investigator will complete an investigation report that fairly summarizes all relevant evidence and send a copy of the report to each party and the party's advisor, if any, at least ten (10) days prior to the determination of responsibility.
- Dismissal of a Formal Complaint of Sexual Harassment
  - If the investigation reveals that the alleged harassment did not occur in EBIA's educational program in the United States or would not constitute sexual harassment even if proved, the formal complaint with regard to that conduct must be dismissed. However, such a dismissal does not preclude action under another applicable EBIA policy.
  - EBIA may dismiss a formal complaint of sexual harassment if:
    - The complainant provides a written withdrawal of the complaint to the Coordinator;
    - The respondent is no longer employed or enrolled at EBIA; or

- The specific circumstances prevent EBIA from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a decision on the formal complaint or the allegations therein.
  - If a formal complaint of sexual harassment or any of the claims therein are dismissed, EBIA will promptly send written notice of the dismissal and the reason(s) for the dismissal simultaneously to the parties.
- Determination of Responsibility
  - The standard of evidence used to determine responsibility is the preponderance of the evidence standard.
  - Determinations will be based on an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence and credibility determinations will not be based on a person's status as a complainant, respondent, or witness.
  - EBIA will send a written decision on the formal complaint to the complainant and respondent simultaneously that describes:
    - The allegations in the formal complaint of sexual harassment;
    - All procedural steps taken including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, and methods used to gather other evidence;
    - The findings of facts supporting the determination;
    - The conclusions about the application of EBIA's code of conduct to the facts;
    - The decision and rationale for each allegation; Any disciplinary sanctions the recipient imposes on the respondent, and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the education program or activity will be provided to the complainant; and
    - The procedures and permissible bases for appeals.

## 5. CONSEQUENCES

Students or employees who engage in misconduct prohibited by this Policy, knowingly make false statements or knowingly submit false information during the grievance process may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from EBIA or termination of employment. The Coordinator is responsible for effective implementation of any remedies ordered by EBIA in response to a formal complaint of sexual harassment.

## 6. RIGHT OF APPEAL

Should the reporting individual find EBIA's resolution unsatisfactory, the reporting individual may, within five (5) business days of notice of EBIA's decision or resolution, submit a written appeal to the Chair of the EBIA Board, who will review the investigation and render a final decision.

The following appeal rights and procedures will also apply to formal complaints of sexual harassment:

- The complainant and the respondent shall have the same appeal rights and EBIA will implement appeal procedures equally for both parties.
- Within five (5) business days of EBIA's written decision or dismissal of the complaint, the complainant or respondent may submit a written appeal to the Coordinator.
- The decision-maker(s) for the appeal will not be the same person(s) as the Coordinator, the investigator or the initial decision-maker(s).
- The complainant and respondent may appeal from a determination regarding responsibility, and from EBIA's dismissal of a formal complaint or any allegations therein, on the following bases:
  - Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
  - New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; and
  - The Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that affected the outcome of the matter.
- EBIA will notify the other party in writing when an appeal is filed.
- The decision-maker for the appeal will give both parties a reasonable, equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome; issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result; and provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties.

## 7. RECORDKEEPING

All records related to any investigation of complaints under this Policy are maintained in a secure location. EBIA will maintain the following records for at least seven (7) years:

- Records of each sexual harassment investigation, including any determination of responsibility; any audio or audiovisual recording or transcript; any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent; and any remedies provided to the complainant.
- Records of any appeal of a formal sexual harassment complaint and the results of that appeal.
- Records of any informal resolution of a sexual harassment complaint and the results of that

informal resolution.

- All materials used to train Title IX coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process.
- Records of any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment.

#### TITLE IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination & Bullying COMPLAINT FORM

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Alleged Incident(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person(s) you have a complaint against: \_\_\_\_\_

List any witnesses that were present: \_\_\_\_\_

Where did the incident(s) occur? \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the events or conduct that are the basis of your complaint by providing as much factual detail as possible (i.e., specific statements; what, if any, physical contact was involved; any verbal statements; what did you do to avoid the situation, etc.) (Attach additional pages, if needed):

I hereby authorize EBIA to disclose the information I have provided as it finds necessary in pursuing its investigation. I hereby certify that the information I have provided in this complaint is true and correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further understand that providing false information in this regard could result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

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

Signature of Complainant

Print Name

**To be completed by the Charter School:**

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Follow up Meeting with Complainant held

# **EMPLOYEE INTERACTIONS WITH STUDENTS POLICY (FROM EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK)**

For the purposes of this policy the term “boundaries” is defined as acceptable professional behavior by staff members while interacting with a student. Trespassing beyond the boundaries of a student- teacher relationship is deemed an abuse of power and a betrayal of public trust.

Some activities may seem innocent from a staff member’s perspective, but some of these activities can be perceived as flirtation or sexual insinuation from a student or parental point of view. The purpose of the following lists of unacceptable and acceptable behaviors is not to restrain innocent, positive relationships between staff and students but to prevent relationships that could lead to, or may be perceived as, sexual misconduct.

Staff members must understand their own responsibilities for ensuring that they do not cross the boundaries as written in this policy. Disagreeing with the wording or intent of the established boundaries will be considered irrelevant for any required disciplinary purposes. Thus, it is critical that all employees study this policy thoroughly and apply its spirit and intent in their daily activities.

## **Unacceptable Behaviors**

These lists, and any subsequent lists, are not meant to be all-inclusive, but rather illustrative of the types of behavior addressed by this policy.

- Giving gifts to an individual student that are of a personal and intimate nature
- Kissing of ANY kind
- Any type of unnecessary physical contact with a student in a private situation
- Intentionally being alone with a student away from school
- Making, or participating in, sexually inappropriate comments
- Sexual jokes, or jokes/comments with sexual overtones or double-entendres
- Seeking emotional involvement (which can include intimate attachment) with a student beyond the normative care and concern required of an educator.
- Listening to or telling stories that are sexually oriented
- Discussing inappropriate personal troubles or intimate issues with a student in an attempt to gain their support and understanding



- Becoming involved with a student so that a reasonable person may suspect inappropriate behavior
- Giving students a ride to/from school or school activities without parental permission

- Being alone in a room with a student at school with the door closed
- Allowing students in your home without signed parental permission for a pre-planned and pre-communicated educational activity which must include another educator, parent, or other responsible adult
- Remarks about the physical attributes or physiological development of anyone
- Excessive attention toward a particular student
- Sending emails, text messages, Facebook responses, or letters to students or connecting through any social media channel if the content is not age appropriate and/or about school activities.

### **Acceptable and Recommended Behaviors**

- Obtaining parent's written consent for any after-school activity on or off campus (exclusive of tutorials).
- Obtaining formal approval (site and parental) to take students off school property for activities such as field trips or competitions.
- Emails, text-messages, phone conversations, and other communications to and with students, if permitted, must be professional and pertain to school activities or classes (communication should be initiated via school-based technology and equipment).
- Keeping the door open when alone with a student.
- Keeping reasonable and appropriate space between you and the student.
- Stopping and correcting students if they cross your own personal boundaries.
- Keeping parents informed when a significant issue develops about a student.
- Keeping after-class discussions with a student professional and brief.
- Asking for advice from senior-staff or administration if you find yourself in a difficult situation related to "boundaries."
- Involving your direct supervisor about situations that have the potential to become more severe.
- Making detailed notes about an incident that could evolve into a more serious situation later.
- Recognizing the responsibility to stop unacceptable behavior of students and/or co-workers.

- Asking another staff member to be present if you will be alone with any student who may have severe social or emotional challenges (and you are not the assigned case educator).
- Asking another staff member to be present, or within close supervisory distance, when you must be alone with a student after regular school hours.
- Giving students praise and recognition without touching them in questionable areas; appropriate pats on the back, high-fives, and handshakes are appropriate.
- Keeping your professional conduct a high priority during all moments of student contact.
- Asking yourself if any of your actions, which are contrary to these provisions, are worth sacrificing your job and career.

## 8. PUPIL SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION POLICY

The Suspension and Expulsion Policy and Procedures have been established in order to promote learning and protect the safety and well-being of all students at the Charter School. In creating this policy, the Charter School has reviewed Education Code Section 48900 *et seq.* which describe the offenses for which students at noncharter schools may be suspended or expelled and the procedures governing those suspensions and expulsions in order to establish its list of offenses and procedures for suspensions, expulsions and involuntary removal. The language that follows is largely consistent with the language of Education Code Section 48900 *et seq.* The Charter School is committed to annual review of policies and procedures surrounding suspensions, expulsions, and involuntary removals, and, as necessary, modification of the lists of offenses for which students are subject to suspension, expulsion, or involuntary removal.

Consistent with this Policy, it may be necessary to suspend or expel a student from regular classroom instruction. This shall serve as the Charter School's policy and procedures for student suspension, expulsion, and involuntary removal, and it may be amended from time to time without the need to seek a material revision of the charter so long as the amendments comport with legal requirements. Charter School staff shall enforce disciplinary policies and procedures fairly and consistently among all students. This policy and its procedures will be printed and distributed annually as part of the Family-Student Handbook which will clearly describe discipline expectations.

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. Corporal punishment includes the willful infliction of or willfully causing the infliction of physical pain on a student. For purposes of this policy, corporal punishment does not include an employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to protect the employee, students, staff or other persons or to prevent damage to school property.

The Charter School administration shall ensure that students and their parents/guardians<sup>3</sup> are notified in writing upon enrollment of all discipline and involuntary removal policies and procedures. The notice shall state that this policy and its procedures are available in the Family-Student Handbook and is available online and printed in the office of the Executive Director, Miranda Thorman.

Suspended or expelled students shall be excluded from all school and school-related activities unless otherwise agreed during the period of suspension or expulsion.

A student identified as an individual with disabilities or for whom the Charter School has a basis of knowledge of a suspected disability pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 ("IDEA") or who is qualified for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504") is subject to the same grounds for suspension and expulsion and is accorded the same due process procedures applicable to general education students except when federal and state law requires additional or different procedures. The

---

<sup>3</sup> The Charter School shall ensure that a homeless child or youth's educational rights holder; a foster child or youth's educational rights holder, attorney, and county social worker; and an Indian child's tribal social worker and, if applicable, county social worker have the same rights as a parent or guardian to receive a suspension notice, expulsion notice, manifestation determination notice, involuntary transfer notice, involuntary removal notice, and other documents and related information. For purposes of this Policy and its Procedures, the term "parent/guardian" shall include these parties.

Charter School will follow all applicable federal and state laws including but not limited to the applicable provisions of the California Education Code, when imposing any form of discipline on a student identified as an individual with disabilities or for whom the Charter School has a basis of knowledge of a suspected disability or who is otherwise qualified for such services or protections in according due process to such students.

No student shall be involuntarily removed by the Charter School for any reason unless the parent/guardian of the student has been provided written notice of intent to remove the student no less than five (5) school days before the effective date of the action. The written notice shall be in the native language of the student or the student's parent/guardian, and shall inform the student, and the student's parent/guardian, of the basis for which the pupil is being involuntarily removed and the student's parent/guardian's, right to request a hearing to challenge the involuntary removal. If a student's parent/ guardian requests a hearing, the Charter School shall utilize the same hearing procedures specified below for expulsions, before the effective date of the action to involuntarily remove the student. If the student's parent/ guardian requests a hearing, the student shall remain enrolled and shall not be removed until the Charter School issues a final decision. As used herein, "involuntarily removed" includes disenrolled, dismissed, transferred, or terminated, but does not include removals for misconduct which may be grounds for suspension or expulsion as enumerated below. Students may be involuntarily removed for reasons including, but not limited to, failure to comply with the terms of the student's independent study Master Agreement pursuant to Education Code Section 51747(c)(4).

#### A. GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION OF STUDENTS

A student may be suspended or expelled for prohibited misconduct if the act is related to school activity or school attendance occurring at any time, including but not limited to: a) while on school grounds; b) while going to or coming from school; c) during the lunch period, whether on or off the school campus; d) during, going to, or coming from a school-sponsored activity.

#### B. ENUMERATED OFFENSES

1. Discretionary Suspension and Expulsion Offenses: Students may be suspended and/or recommended for expulsion when it is determined the pupil:
  - a) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, other school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties. Only students in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, may be suspended for this offense. No student in any grade may be expelled for this offense.
  - b) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
  - c) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except self-defense.
  - d) Unlawfully possessed, used or otherwise furnished, or was under the influence of any controlled substance, as defined in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind.
  - e) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code Sections 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid substance or material and represented same as controlled substance, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant.

- f) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- g) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property, which includes but is not limited to, electronic files and databases.
- h) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property, which includes but is not limited to, electronic files and databases.
- i) Possessed or used tobacco or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including but not limited to cigars, cigarettes, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets and betel. This section does not prohibit the use of his or her own prescription products by a pupil.
- j) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- k) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 11014.5.
- l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property, which includes but is not limited to, electronic files and databases.
- m) Possessed an imitation firearm, i.e.: a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.
- n) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of preventing that student from being a witness and/or retaliating against that student for being a witness.
- o) Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
- p) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in hazing. For the purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" means a method of initiation or pre-initiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this section, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.
- q) Made terroristic threats against school officials and/or school property, which includes but is not limited to, electronic files and databases. For purposes of this section, "terroristic threat" shall include any statement, whether written or oral, by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death, great bodily injury to another person, or property damage in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out, which, on its face and under the circumstances in which it is made, is so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate, and specific as to convey to the person threatened, a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of execution of the threat, and thereby causes that person reasonably to be in sustained fear for his or her own safety or for his or her immediate family's safety, or for the protection of school property, which includes but is not limited to, electronic files and databases, or the personal property of the person threatened or his or her immediate family.

- r) Committed sexual harassment, as defined in Education Code Section 212.5. For the purposes of this section, the conduct described in Section 212.5 must be considered by a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim to be sufficiently severe or pervasive to have a negative impact upon the individual's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- s) Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause or participated in an act of hate violence, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 233 of the Education Code. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- t) Intentionally harassed, threatened or intimidated school personnel or volunteers and/or a student or group of students to the extent of having the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting class work, creating substantial disorder and invading the rights of either school personnel or volunteers and/or student(s) by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- u) Engaged in an act of bullying, including, but not limited to, bullying committed by means of an electronic act.
  - 1) "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a student or group of students which would be deemed hate violence or harassment, threats, or intimidation, which are directed toward one or more students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:
    - i. Placing a reasonable student (defined as a student, including, but is not limited to, a student with exceptional needs, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of his or her age, or for a person of his or her age with exceptional needs) or students in fear of harm to that student's or those students' person or property.
    - ii. Causing a reasonable student to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.
    - iii. Causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance.
    - iv. Causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the Charter School.
  - 2) "Electronic Act" means the creation of transmission originated on or off the school site, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
    - i. A message, text, sound, video or image.

ii. A post on a social network Internet Web site including, but not limited to:

- (a) Posting to or creating a burn page. A “burn page” means an Internet Web site created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects as listed in subparagraph (1) above.
- (b) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in subparagraph (1) above. “Credible impersonation” means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.
- (c) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in subparagraph (1) above. “False profile” means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.

iii. An act of cyber sexual bullying.

- (a) For purposes of this clause, “cyber sexual bullying” means the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in subparagraphs (i) to (iv), inclusive, of paragraph (1). A photograph or other visual recording, as described above, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act.
- (b) For purposes of this clause, “cyber sexual bullying” does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.

3) Notwithstanding subparagraphs (1) and (2) above, an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the Internet or is currently posted on the Internet.

- v) A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may be subject to suspension, but not expulsion, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to subdivision (1)(a)-(b).
- w) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any knife or other dangerous object of no reasonable use to the pupil unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the student had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the Executive Director or designee’s concurrence.

2. Non-Discretionary Suspension and Expellable Offenses: Students must be suspended and



recommended for expulsion for any of the following acts when it is determined the pupil:

- a) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, explosive, or other destructive device unless, in the case of possession of any device of this type, the students had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the Executive Director or designee's concurrence.
- b) Brandishing a knife at another person.
- c) Unlawfully selling a controlled substance listed in Health and Safety Code Section 11053, et seq.
- d) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Penal Code Sections 261, 266c, 286, 287, 288, or 289 or former Section 288a of the Penal Code, or committed a sexual battery as defined in Penal Code Section 243.4

If it is determined by the Board of Directors that a student has brought a fire arm or destructive device, as defined in Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code, on to campus or to have possessed a firearm or destructive device on campus, the student shall be expelled for one year, pursuant to the Federal Gun Free Schools Act of 1994. In such instances, the pupil shall be provided due process rights of notice and a hearing as required in this policy.

The term "knife" means any dirk, dagger, or other weapon with a fixed, sharpened blade fitted primarily for stabbing, a weapon with a blade fitted primarily for stabbing, a weapon with a blade longer than 3½ inches, a folding knife with a blade that locks into place, or a razor with an unguarded blade.

The term "firearm" means (A) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (B) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (C) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (D) any destructive device. Such term does not include an antique firearm.

The term "destructive device" means (A) any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, including but not limited to: (i) bomb, (ii) grenade, (iii) rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, (iv) missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, (v) mine, or (vi) device similar to any of the devices described in the preceding clauses.

#### C. SUSPENSION PROCEDURE

Suspensions shall be initiated according to the following procedures:

1. Conference

Suspension shall be preceded, if possible, by a conference conducted by the Executive Director or the Executive Director's designee with the student and his or her parent and, whenever practical, the teacher, supervisor or Charter School employee who referred the student to the Executive Director or designee.<sup>1</sup>

The conference may be omitted if the Executive Director or designee determines that an emergency situation exists. An "emergency situation" involves a clear and present danger to the lives, safety or health of students or Charter School personnel. If a student is suspended without this conference, both the parent/guardian and student shall be notified of the student's right to return to school for the purpose of a conference.

At the conference, the pupil shall be informed of the reason for the disciplinary action and the evidence against him or her and shall be given the opportunity to present his or her version and evidence in his or her defense, in accordance with Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(J)(i). This conference shall be held within two (2) school days, unless the pupil waives this right or is physically unable to attend for any reason including, but not limited to, incarceration or hospitalization. No penalties may be imposed on a pupil for failure of the pupil's parent or guardian to attend a conference with Charter School officials. Reinstatement of the suspended pupil shall not be contingent upon attendance by the pupil's parent or guardian at the conference.

## 2. Notice to Parents/Guardians

At the time of the suspension, an administrator or designee shall make a reasonable effort to contact the parent/guardian by telephone or in person. Whenever a student is suspended, the parent/guardian shall be notified in writing of the suspension and the date of return following suspension. This notice shall state the specific offense(s) committed by the student as well as the date the student may return to school following the suspension. In addition, the notice may also state the time when the student may return to school. If Charter School officials wish to ask the parent/guardian to confer regarding matters pertinent to the suspension, the notice may request that the parent/guardian respond to such requests without delay.

## 3. Suspension Time Limits/Recommendation for Expulsion

Suspensions, when not including a recommendation for expulsion, shall not exceed five (5) consecutive school days per suspension. Upon a recommendation of Expulsion by the Executive Director or Executive Director's designee, the pupil and the pupil's guardian or representative will be invited to a conference to determine if the suspension for the pupil should be extended pending an expulsion hearing. This determination will be made by the Executive Director or designee upon either of the following: 1) the pupil's presence will be disruptive to the education process; or 2) the pupil poses a threat or danger to others. Upon either determination, the pupil's suspension will be extended pending the results of an expulsion hearing. In such instances when the Charter School has determined a suspension period shall

<sup>1</sup> "Designee," as used in this suspension/expulsion policy includes the Principal or Dean of Students.

be extended, such extension shall be made only after a conference is held with the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian, unless the pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian fail to attend the conference.

#### 4. Homework Assignments During Suspension

In accordance with Education Code Section 47606.2(a), , upon the request of a parent, a legal guardian or other person holding the right to make education decisions for the pupil, or the affected pupil, a teacher shall provide to a pupil in any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, who has been suspended from school for two (2) or more schooldays, the homework that the pupil would otherwise have been assigned.

In accordance with Education Code Section 47606.2(b), if a homework assignment that is requested pursuant to Section 47606.2(a), and turned into the teacher by the pupil either upon the pupil's return to school from suspension or within the timeframe originally prescribed by the teacher, whichever is later, is not graded before the end of the academic term, that assignment shall not be included in the calculation of the pupil's overall grade in the class.

#### D. AUTHORITY TO EXPEL

As required by Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(J)(ii), students recommended for expulsion are entitled to a hearing adjudicated by a neutral officer to determine whether the student should be expelled. The procedures herein provide for such a hearing and the notice of said hearing, as required by law.

A student may be expelled either by the neutral and impartial Charter School Board following a hearing before it or by the Charter School Board upon the recommendation of a neutral and impartial Administrative Panel, to be assigned by the Board as needed. The Administrative Panel should consist of at least three (3) members who are certificated and neither a teacher of the pupil nor a Board member of the Charter School's governing board. The Administrative Panel may recommend expulsion of any student found to have committed an expellable offense, and the Charter School Board of Directors shall make the final determination.

#### E. EXPULSION PROCEDURES

Students recommended for expulsion are entitled to a hearing to determine whether the student should be expelled. Unless postponed for good cause, the hearing shall be held within thirty (30) school days after the Executive Director or designee determines that the Pupil has committed an expellable offense and recommends the student for expulsion.

In the event an Administrative Panel hears the case, it will make a recommendation to the Board for a final decision whether to expel. The hearing shall be held in closed session (complying with all pupil confidentiality rules under FERPA) unless the Pupil makes a written request for a public hearing three (3) days prior to the date of the scheduled hearing.

Written notice of the hearing shall be forwarded to the student and the student's parent/guardian at least ten (10) calendar days before the date of the hearing. Upon mailing the notice, it shall be deemed served upon the pupil. The notice shall include:

1. The date and place of the expulsion hearing;
2. A statement of the specific facts, charges and offenses upon which the proposed expulsion is based;
3. A copy of the Charter School's disciplinary rules which relate to the alleged violation;
4. Notification of the student's or parent/guardian's obligation to provide information about the student's status at the Charter School to any other school district or school to which the student seeks enrollment;
5. The opportunity for the student or the student's parent/guardian to appear in person or to employ and be represented by counsel or a non-attorney advisor;
6. The right to inspect and obtain copies of all documents to be used at the hearing;
7. The opportunity to confront and question all witnesses who testify at the hearing;
8. The opportunity to question all evidence presented and to present oral and documentary evidence on the student's behalf including witnesses.

#### F. SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR EXPULSION HEARINGS INVOLVING SEXUAL ASSAULT OR BATTERY OFFENSES

The Charter School may, upon a finding of good cause, determine that the disclosure of either the identity of the witness or the testimony of that witness at the hearing, or both, would subject the witness to an unreasonable risk of psychological or physical harm. Upon this determination, the testimony of the witness may be presented at the hearing in the form of sworn declarations that shall be examined only by the Charter School or the hearing officer. Copies of these sworn declarations, edited to delete the name and identity of the witness, shall be made available to the pupil.

1. The complaining witness in any sexual assault or battery case must be provided with a copy of the applicable disciplinary rules and advised of his/her right to (a) receive five (5) days notice of his/her scheduled testimony, (b) have up to two (2) adult support persons of his/her choosing present in the hearing at the time he/she testifies, which may include a parent, guardian, or legal counsel, and (c) elect to have the hearing closed while testifying.
2. The Charter School must also provide the victim a room separate from the hearing room for the complaining witness' use prior to and during breaks in testimony.
3. At the discretion of the entity conducting the expulsion hearing, the complaining witness shall be allowed periods of relief from examination and cross-examination during which he or she may leave the hearing room.
4. The entity conducting the expulsion hearing may also arrange the seating within the hearing room to facilitate a less intimidating environment for the complaining witness.
5. The entity conducting the expulsion hearing may also limit time for taking the testimony of the complaining witness to the hours he/she is normally in school, if there is no good cause to take the testimony during other hours.

6. Prior to a complaining witness testifying, the support persons must be admonished that the hearing is confidential. Nothing in the law precludes the body presiding over the hearing from removing a support person whom the presiding chairperson finds is disrupting the hearing. The entity conducting the hearing may permit any one of the support persons for the complaining witness to accompany him or her to the witness stand.
7. If one or both of the support persons is also a witness, the Charter School must present evidence that the witness's presence is both desired by the witness and will be helpful to the Charter School. The person presiding over the hearing shall permit the witness to stay unless it is established that there is a substantial risk that the testimony of the complaining witness would be influenced by the support person, in which case the presiding official shall admonish the support person or persons not to prompt, sway, or influence the witness in any way. Nothing shall preclude the presiding officer from exercising his or her discretion to remove a person from the hearing whom he or she believes is prompting, swaying, or influencing the witness.
8. The testimony of the support person shall be presented before the testimony of the complaining witness and the complaining witness shall be excluded from the courtroom during that testimony.
9. Especially for charges involving sexual assault or battery, if the hearing is to be conducted in public at the request of the pupil being expelled, the complaining witness shall have the right to have his/her testimony heard in a closed session when testifying at a public meeting would threaten serious psychological harm to the complaining witness and there are no alternative procedures to avoid the threatened harm. The alternative procedures may include videotaped depositions or contemporaneous examination in another place communicated to the hearing room by means of closed-circuit television.
10. Evidence of specific instances of a complaining witness' prior sexual conduct is presumed inadmissible and shall not be heard absent a determination by the body conducting the hearing that extraordinary circumstances exist requiring the evidence be heard. Before such a determination regarding extraordinary circumstances can be made, the witness shall be provided notice and an opportunity to present opposition to the introduction of the evidence. In the hearing on the admissibility of the evidence, the complaining witness shall be entitled to be represented by a parent, legal counsel, or other support person. Reputation or opinion evidence regarding the sexual behavior of the complaining witness is not admissible for any purpose.

#### G. RECORD OF HEARING

A record of the hearing shall be made and may be maintained by any means, including electronic recording, as long as a reasonably accurate and complete written transcription of the proceedings can be made.

#### H. PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE

While technical rules of evidence do not apply to expulsion hearings, evidence may be admitted and used as proof only if it is the kind of evidence on which reasonable persons can rely in the conduct of serious affairs. A recommendation by the Administrative Panel to expel must be supported by substantial evidence that the

student committed an expellable offense. Findings of fact shall be based solely on the evidence at the hearing. While hearsay evidence is admissible, no decision to expel shall be based solely on hearsay. Sworn declarations may be admitted as testimony from witnesses of whom the Board or Administrative Panel determines that disclosure of their identity or testimony at the hearing may subject them to an unreasonable risk of physical or psychological harm.

If, due to a written request by the expelled pupil, the hearing is held at a public meeting, and the charge is committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault or committing a sexual battery as defined in Education Code Section 48900, a complaining witness shall have the right to have his or her testimony heard in a session closed to the public.

The decision of the Administrative Panel shall be in the form of written findings of fact and a written recommendation to the Board who will make a final determination regarding the expulsion. The Board shall make the final determination regarding the expulsion within ten (10) school days following the conclusion of the hearing. The Decision of the Board is final.

If the Administrative Panel decides not to recommend expulsion, or the Board of Directors ultimately decides not to expel, the pupil shall immediately be returned to his/her previous educational program.

The Board of Directors may also determine to suspend the enforcement of the expulsion order for a period of not more than one (1) calendar year from the date of the expulsion hearing and return the student to the student's previous educational program under a probationary status and rehabilitation plan to be determined by the Board. During the period of the suspension of the expulsion order, the student is deemed to be on probationary status. The Board of Directors may revoke the suspension of an expulsion order under this section if the student commits any of the enumerated offenses listed above or violates any of the Charter School's rules and regulations governing student conduct. If the Board revokes the suspension of an expulsion order, the student may be expelled under the terms of the original expulsion order. The Board of Directors shall apply the criteria for suspending the enforcement of the expulsion order equally to all students, including individuals with exceptional needs as defined in Education Code Section 56026. The Board of Directors shall further comply with the provisions set forth under Education Code Section 48917, except as otherwise expressly set forth herein.

#### I. WRITTEN NOTICE TO EXPEL

The Executive Director or designee, following a decision of the Board to expel, shall send written notice of the decision to expel, including the Board's adopted findings of fact, to the student and student's parent/guardian. This notice shall also include the following: (a) Notice of the specific offense committed by the student; and (b) Notice of the student's or parent/guardian's obligation to inform any new district in which the student seeks to enroll of the student's status with the Charter School.

The Executive Director or designee shall send a copy of the written notice of the decision to expel to the authorizer. This notice shall include the following: (a) The student's name; and (b) The specific expellable offense committed by the student.

J. DISCIPLINARY RECORDS

The Charter School shall maintain records of all student suspensions and expulsions at the Charter School. Such records shall be made available to the authorizer upon request.

K. NO RIGHT TO APPEAL

The pupil shall have no right of appeal from expulsion from the Charter School as the Charter School Board's decision to expel shall be final.

---

#### L. EXPELLED PUPILS/ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

The parents or guardians of pupils who are expelled shall be responsible for seeking alternative education programs including, but not limited to, programs within the County or their school district of residence. The Charter School shall work cooperatively with parents/guardians as requested by parents/guardians or by the school district of residence to assist with locating alternative placements during expulsion.

#### M. REHABILITATION PLANS

Students who are expelled from the Charter School shall be given a rehabilitation plan upon expulsion as developed by the Board at the time of the expulsion order, which may include, but is not limited to, periodic review as well as assessment at the time of review for readmission. The rehabilitation plan should include a date not later than one year from the date of expulsion when the pupil may reapply to the Charter School for readmission.

#### N. READMISSION OR ADMISSION OF PREVIOUSLY EXPELLED STUDENT

The decision to readmit a pupil after the end of the pupil's expulsion term or to admit a previously expelled pupil from another school district or charter school who has not been readmitted/admitted to another school or school district after the end of the pupil's expulsion term, shall be in the sole discretion of the Board following a meeting with the Executive Director or designee and the pupil and pupil's parent/guardian or representative to determine whether the pupil has successfully completed the rehabilitation plan and to determine whether the pupil poses a threat to others or will be disruptive to the school environment. The Executive Director or designee shall make a recommendation to the Board following the meeting regarding his or her determination. The Board shall then make a final decision regarding readmission or admission of the pupil during the closed session of a public meeting, reporting out any action taken during closed session consistent with the requirements of the Brown Act. The pupil's readmission is also contingent upon the Charter School's capacity at the time the student seeks readmission or admission to the Charter School.

#### O. NOTICE TO TEACHERS

The Charter School shall notify teachers of each pupil who has engaged in or is reasonably suspected to have engaged in any of the acts listed in Education Code section 49079 and the corresponding enumerated offenses set forth above.

#### P. INVOLUNTARY REMOVAL FOR TRUANCY

As charter schools are schools of choice and as a charter school pupil who fails to attend school is potentially depriving another student of their opportunity to enroll, a student may be involuntarily removed as



described within the Charter School's Board adopted Attendance Policy for truancy and only after the Charter School follows the requirements of the Attendance Policy and only in accordance with the policy described above which requires notice and an opportunity for a parent, guardian, educational rights holder to request a hearing prior to any involuntary removal.

Q. SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

1. Notification of SELPA

The Charter School shall immediately notify the SELPA and coordinate the procedures in this policy with the SELPA of the discipline of any student with a disability or student who the Charter School or SELPA would be deemed to have knowledge that the student had a disability.

2. Services During Suspension

Students suspended for more than ten (10) school days in a school year shall continue to receive services so as to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting (which could constitute a change of placement and the student's IEP would reflect this change), and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the child's IEP/504 Plan; and receive, as appropriate, a functional behavioral assessment or functional analysis, and behavioral intervention services and modifications, that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur. These services may be provided in an interim alternative educational setting.

3. Procedural Safeguards/Manifestation Determination

Within ten (10) school days of a recommendation for expulsion or any decision to change the placement of a child with a disability because of a violation of a code of student conduct, the Charter School, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP/504 Team shall review all relevant information in the student's file, including the child's IEP/504 Plan, any teacher observations, and any relevant information provided by the parents to determine:

- a. If the conduct in question was caused by, or had a direct and substantial relationship to, the child's disability; or
- b. If the conduct in question was the direct result of the local educational agency's failure to implement the IEP/504 Plan.

If the Charter School, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP/504 Team determine that either of the above is applicable for the child, the conduct shall be determined to be a manifestation of the child's disability.

If the Charter School, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP/504 Team make the determination that the conduct was a manifestation of the child's disability, the IEP/504 Team shall:

- a. Conduct a functional behavioral assessment and implement a behavioral intervention plan for such child, provided that the Charter School had not conducted such assessment prior to such determination before the behavior that resulted in a change in placement;
- b. If a behavioral intervention plan has been developed, review the behavioral intervention plan if the child already has such a behavioral intervention plan, and modify it, as necessary, to address the behavior; and
- c. Return the child to the placement from which the child was removed, unless the parent and the Charter School agree to a change of placement as part of the modification of the behavioral intervention plan.

If the Charter School, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP/504 Team determine that the behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability and that the conduct in question was not a direct result of the failure to implement the IEP/504 Plan, then the Charter School may apply the relevant disciplinary procedures to children with disabilities in the same manner and for the same duration as the procedures would be applied to students without disabilities.

#### 4. Due Process Appeals

The parent of a child with a disability who disagrees with any decision regarding placement, or the manifestation determination, or the Charter School believes that maintaining the current placement of the child is substantially likely to result in injury to the child or to others, may request an expedited administrative hearing through the Special Education Unit of the Office of Administrative Hearings or by utilizing the dispute provisions of the 504 Policy and Procedures.

When an appeal relating to the placement of the student or the manifestation determination has been requested by either the parent or the Charter School, the student shall remain in the interim alternative educational setting pending the decision of the hearing officer in accordance with state and federal law, including 20 U.S.C. Section 1415(k), until the expiration of the forty-five (45) day time period provided for in an interim alternative educational setting, unless the parent and the Charter School agree otherwise.

In accordance with 20 U.S.C. Section 1415(k)(3), if a parent/guardian disagrees with any decision regarding placement, or the manifestation determination, or if the Charter School believes that maintaining the current placement of the child is substantially likely to result in injury to the child or to others, the parent/guardian or Charter School may request a hearing.

In such an appeal, a hearing officer may: (1) return a child with a disability to the placement from which the child was removed; or (2) order a change in placement of a child with a disability to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for not more than 45 school days if the hearing officer determines that maintaining the current placement of such child is substantially likely to result in injury to the child or to others.

#### 5. Special Circumstances

Charter School personnel may consider any unique circumstances on a case-by-case basis when determining whether to order a change in placement for a child with a disability who violates a code of student conduct.

The Executive Director or designee may remove a student to an interim alternative educational setting for not more than forty-five (45) school days without regard to whether the behavior is determined to be a manifestation of the student's disability in cases where a student:

- a. Carries or possesses a weapon, as defined in 18 U.S.C. Section 930, to or at school, on school premises, or to or at a school function;
- b. Knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs, or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance, while at school, on school premises, or at a school function; or
- c. Has inflicted serious bodily injury, as defined by 20 U.S.C. Section 1415(k)(7)(D), upon a person while at school, on school premises, or at a school function.

#### 6. Interim Alternative Educational Setting

The student's interim alternative educational setting shall be determined by the student's IEP/504 Team.

#### 7. Procedures for Students Not Yet Eligible for Special Education Services

A student who has not been identified as an individual with disabilities pursuant to IDEIA and who has violated the Charter School's disciplinary procedures may assert the procedural safeguards granted under this administrative regulation only if the Charter School had knowledge that the student was disabled before the behavior occurred.

The Charter School shall be deemed to have knowledge that the student had a disability if one of the following conditions exists:

- a. The parent/guardian has expressed concern in writing, or orally if the parent/guardian does not know how to write or has a disability that prevents a written statement, to Charter School supervisory or administrative personnel, or to one of the child's teachers, that the student is in need of special education or related services.
- b. The parent has requested an evaluation of the child.
- c. The child's teacher, or other Charter School personnel, has expressed specific concerns about a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the child, directly to the director of special education or to other Charter School supervisory personnel.

If the Charter School knew or should have known the student had a disability under any of the three (3) circumstances described above, the student may assert any of the protections available to IDEIA-eligible children with disabilities, including the right to stay-put.

If the Charter School had no basis for knowledge of the student's disability, it shall proceed with the proposed discipline. The Charter School shall conduct an expedited evaluation if requested by the parents; however

the student shall remain in the education placement determined by the Charter School pending the results of the evaluation.

The Charter School shall not be deemed to have knowledge that the student had a disability if the parent has not allowed an evaluation, refused services, or if the student has been evaluated and determined to not be eligible.

## PARENT AND STUDENT HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge, by our signatures below, that we have read, discussed, understand and agree to abide by the expectations outlined in the "EBIA 2023-24 Family-Student Handbook," including the attached Appendices.

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

---

---

Parent Name Printed

---

Student's Signature

Date

---

---

Student Name Printed

---

**PARENT/GUARDIAN AND STUDENT, PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN TO SCHOOL**

**within 21 days of the first day of school.**

**THANK YOU!!**