

Mesa Public Schools
Notice of Appeal Rights
Complaint of Discrimination/Harassment Based on
Race, Color, National Origin, Religion, Sex, or Disability

You are receiving this Notice of Appeal Rights because you have filed a complaint of discrimination as defined and prohibited by Mesa Public Schools Policy JB or a complaint of harassment as defined and prohibited by Mesa Public Schools Policy JFD. You have the right to appeal any aspect of the Investigation Findings or Resolution (including any disciplinary or remedial actions).

You may submit an appeal by delivering a written notice by personal delivery, U.S. mail, or email message to:

Mesa Public Schools
Associate Superintendent
63 E. Main Street #101
Mesa, AZ 85201-7422
Email: associate-supt@mpsaz.org

You must submit a request for appeal within 10 school days after receipt of this Notice of Appeal Rights. A request for appeal submitted after the 10-day period will be declined.

The Associate Superintendent or a designee may review your appeal and issue a decision within 10 school days unless the Associate Superintendent notifies you of the need for additional time. Alternatively, the Associate Superintendent may refer your appeal for investigation or hearing by an independent hearing officer selected from a list of hearing officers approved by the Governing Board.

If the Associate Superintendent or designee issues a decision, you will receive this Notice of Appeal Rights and may submit to the Associate Superintendent a request for investigation or hearing by an independent hearing officer with 5 school days after you receive the decision. If you do not submit a timely appeal of the decision of the Associate Superintendent or designee, the decision will be final.

If at any time an independent hearing officer is used, the hearing officer will offer you the choice between either of two alternatives:

- An independent investigation conducted by the hearing officer, who will privately interview witnesses and issue a written report of findings and a resolution; or
- An independent hearing conducted by the hearing officer, who will allow you to be represented by an attorney at your cost, allow sworn witnesses to be questioned by you, and issue a written report of findings and a resolution.

The written report of findings and resolution issued by the hearing officer is a final decision.

You may file a complaint regarding discrimination/harassment based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or disability or the manner in which the District has investigated and resolve your complaint by notifying the Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education, 1244 Speer Blvd. Suite 300, Denver, CO 80204-3582.