



2017-2018 Annual Notification of the Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP)

For students, employees, parents or guardians of its students, school and district advisory committees, appropriate private school officials or representatives, and other interested parties:

The Desert Sands Charter High School has the primary responsibility to insure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations and has established procedures to address allegations of unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying, unauthorized charging of pupil fees, and complaints alleging violation of state or federal laws governing educational programs.

The Antelope Valley Union High School shall investigate and seek to resolve complaints using policies and procedures known as the Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP). Unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying complaints may be based on actual or perceived age, ancestry, color, ethnic group identification, gender expression, gender identity, gender, mental or physical disability, nationality, national origin, race or ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or on a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, in any program or activity that receives or benefits from state financial assistance.

The UCP shall also be used when addressing complaints alleging failure to comply with state and/or federal laws in Consolidated Categorical Aid Programs, Migrant Education, Career Technical and Technical Education and Training Programs, Child Care and Developmental Programs, Child Nutrition Programs, Special Education Programs, and Safety Planning Requirements.

Complaints must be filed in writing with the following compliance officer:

Compliance Officer: **Jeff Martineau, Regional VP of Educational Programs**

Address: **177 Holston Dr. | Lancaster, CA 93535**

Telephone Number: **(661) 942-3357**

Any individual with a disability or is unable to prepare a written complaint can receive assistance by contacting the compliance officer at the phone number listed above.

Complaints alleging discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying must be filed within six (6) months from the date the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying occurred or the date the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying, unless the time for filing is extended by the superintendent or his designee.

Our school assures confidentiality to the fullest extent possible. Complaints will be investigated and a written decision or report will be sent to the complainant within sixty (60) days from the receipt of the complaint. This sixty (60) day time period may be extended by written agreement of the complainant.

The LEA person responsible for investigating the complaint shall conduct and complete the investigation.

The complainant has a right to appeal the LEA's decision to the California Department of Education (CDE) by filing a written appeal within 15 days of receiving the LEA's decision. The appeal must include a copy of the complaint filed with the LEA and a copy of the LEA's decision.

Civil law remedies may be available under state or federal discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying laws, if applicable. In appropriate cases, an appeal may be filed pursuant to Education Code Section 262.3. A complainant may pursue available civil law remedies outside of the LEA'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.

A copy of the Desert Sands Charter High School's UCP policy and complaint procedures shall be available free of charge on the schools website: <http://dschs.org/>