

Urban Pathways K-5 College Charter School

Board of Trustees Policy

HEARING OFFICER POLICY

The Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the Urban Pathways K-5 College Charter School (“Charter School”) recognizes the necessity of ensuring that all students subjected to disciplinary proceedings in the form of a formal hearing be afforded due process. To make certain that any member of the Board who is appointed to preside over a formal hearing is qualified to do so, the Board sets forth the following minimum standards for qualification.

Guidelines:

A member of the Board of the Charter School who is appointed to preside over any formal disciplinary hearing shall:

- Be impartial, disinterested and objective, including but not limited to:
 - Having no financial or personal interest in the outcome of the hearing; and
 - Having no prior involvement with the child, whether personally or professionally.
- Have the ability to communicate effectively;
- Understand the role of the hearing examiner in formal disciplinary proceedings;
- Be familiar with Federal and Pennsylvania law regarding discipline of both regular education students and special education students;
- Understand Charter School policies and the Student Code of Conduct as they relate to discipline;
- Have the ability to listen to and impartially analyze the evidence presented by all parties to the hearing;

- Have the ability to objectively analyze the evidence presented by all parties in accordance with Federal and Pennsylvania law, as well as relevant policies, to develop a recommendation for discipline that will be presented to the Board of Trustees; and
- Recite an Oath of Office reflecting their acceptance of the responsibilities of their role.

The Board recognizes all Board Members as qualified to serve as hearing examiners.

Each Member of the Board is hereby authorized to act as a hearing examiner at any disciplinary hearing for the duration of their term as a Member of the Board of Trustees.

TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS CONTROL. THIS POLICY IS NOT INTENDED TO CONFLICT WITH CHARTER REQUIREMENTS.