

Parent/Student Appeals

A NEW WAY TO REACH RESOLUTION

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What if I want to withdraw my appeal?

At any point in the appeal process, a parent or student may formally withdraw by filing a Notice to Withdraw Form with the Office of the Registrar, Student Appeals Branch. All forms are available at www.studentappeals.gov.bc.ca.

Who may appeal a decision of a Board of Education?

Either a student or a parent/guardian of a student can appeal a decision of a Board of Education under the new student appeal process.

Under what circumstances can I appeal a Board of Education decision?

Not all decisions made by a Board of Education can be appealed to a Superintendent of Achievement. The decision must have been made by an employee of a Board of Education and must significantly affect the education, health or safety of a student and fall within the allowable grounds as listed in Regulation 24/08 of the School Act. For more details please go to www.studentappeals.gov.bc.ca.

Office of the Registrar Student Appeals Branch

For more information please go to:

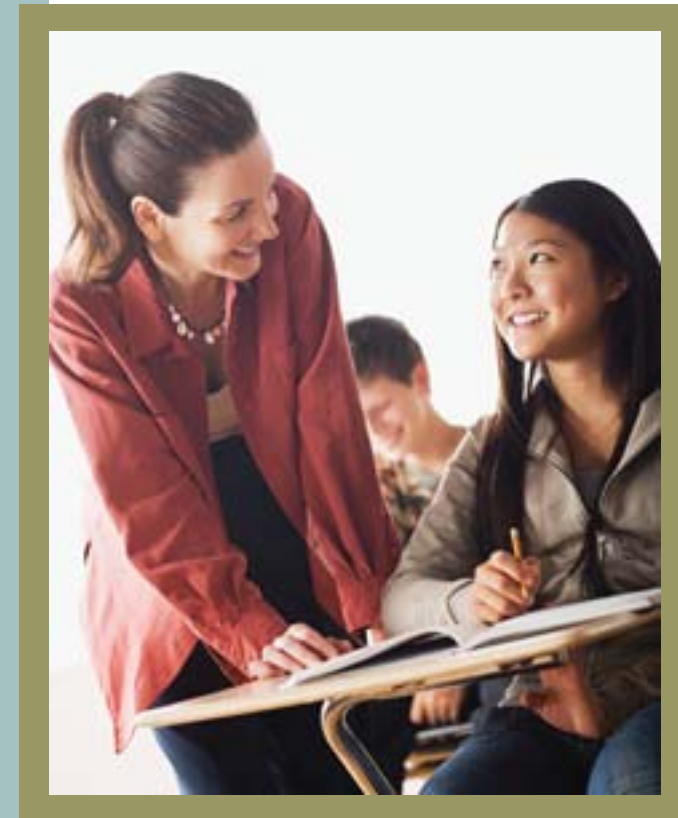
www.studentappeals.gov.bc.ca

EDUC.StudentAppeals@gov.bc.ca

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Ministry of
Education



WHAT ARE APPEALS
AND WHY SHOULD YOU
CARE ABOUT THEM?



DISPUTE RESOLUTION

When disputes occur between parents or students and a school, the best way to resolve those disputes is through an informal resolution at the school level. This includes problem solving, negotiation and discussions with those most directly involved in the dispute.

In some cases, a dispute cannot be resolved at the school level. If a decision of an employee of a Board of Education affects the health, safety or education of a student, the student or parent has the right to appeal the decision to the Board of Education.

Reasonable efforts must be taken to resolve issues with the Board of Education. Occasionally, however, a student or a parent is not satisfied with the outcome of a Board of Education decision.

THE APPEAL PROCESS

When can I appeal?

If a parent or a student is not satisfied after the appeal process at the Board of Education level has been completed and a decision given, the decision of the Board of Education can be appealed to a Superintendent of Achievement.

What is an appeal?

An appeal is a proceeding undertaken to have a decision reconsidered by an independent decision maker.

How can I appeal a decision?

To appeal a Board of Education decision, a Notice of Appeal Form must be submitted, with a copy of the Board of Education decision, to the Office of the Registrar, Student Appeals Branch. The Notice of Appeal Form is available at www.studentappeals.gov.bc.ca.

What does the Student Appeals Branch do?

The Student Appeals Branch provides general information on how the appeal process works and how to access forms and information online. Once an appeal has been filed, the Student Appeals Branch is responsible for all administrative procedures associated with the appeal process.

APPEAL RESOLUTION

What is the role of a superintendent of achievement?

A superintendent of achievement, in his/her role as a statutory decision-maker, may do one of three things upon receiving an appeal:

- refer the appeal to mediation;
- refer the appeal to adjudication;
- dismiss all or part of the appeal.

Upon request, a Superintendent of Achievement has the discretion to suspend a decision of a Board of Education while the appeal is being heard.

How much will an appeal cost me?

The Ministry of Education will cover the fee for mediation or adjudication, but will not cover travel or legal costs.

Who can help me with my appeal?

A student or parent may choose to get help from an advocate or other person. However, any costs to do this are paid for by the person making the appeal.