

Adopted: 3/5/2012

Yinghua Academy Policy 430

Revised: 12/18/2017

Reviewed: 5/6/2021

430: REPORTING UNETHICAL OR ILLEGAL ACTIVITY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to promote the reporting of suspected or actual unethical or illegal activity.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Yinghua Academy requires directors, officers and employees to observe high standards of professional and personal ethics in the conduct of their duties and responsibilities. As employees and representatives of the school, they must practice honesty and integrity in fulfilling their responsibilities and comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of all directors, officers and employees to comply with this policy and to report violations or suspected violations in accordance with this policy.

IV. NO RETALIATION

No director, officer or employee, who in good faith reports a violation, shall suffer harassment, retaliation or adverse employment consequence. An employee who retaliates against someone who has reported a violation in good faith is subject to discipline, up to and including, termination of employment. This policy is intended to enable employees and others to raise concerns within the school prior to seeking resolution outside the school.

V. REPORTING VIOLATIONS

The school promotes an open-door policy and suggests that employees share their questions, concerns, suggestions or complaints with someone who can address them properly. In most cases, either an employee's supervisor or Yinghua's Human Resource Manager is in the best position to address an area of concern. However, if an employee is not comfortable speaking with his/her supervisor or the HR Manager or is not satisfied with the response, the employee is encouraged to speak with the Board Chair or Treasurer. Supervisors and administration are encouraged to report suspected violations to the Board Chair or Treasurer.

VI. BOARD CHAIR AND TREASURER

The Board Chair and Treasurer are considered the school's Compliance Officers and are responsible for investigating and resolving all reported complaints and allegations concerning violations and shall advise the entire Board of Directors and the Executive Director. The Board Chair and Treasurer will report to the entire Board at least annually on compliance activity.

If the allegation is against the Board Chair or Treasurer, the complaint should be made to any other Board member who shall call a closed meeting, at which time the Board shall consider the allegations and designate responsibility for investigating the allegations.

VII. ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING MATTERS

The Finance Committee of the Board of Directors shall address all reported concerns or complaints regarding the school's accounting practices, internal controls or auditing. The Finance Committee will report all complaints or concerns to the entire Board of Directors.

VIII. ACTING IN GOOD FAITH

Anyone filing a complaint concerning a violation or suspected violation in accordance with this policy must be acting in good faith. Any allegations proven to have been made knowing them to be false or that they were in reckless disregard of the truth will be viewed as a serious disciplinary offense.

IX. PRIVACY

Violations or suspected violations may be submitted anonymously. However, non-anonymous reports are encouraged in light of the potential need to conduct an adequate investigation. Reports of violations or suspected violations will be kept private to the extent possible, consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act and the need to conduct an adequate investigation.

X. HANDLING OF REPORTED VIOLATIONS

The Board Chair or Treasurer will notify the sender (of a non-anonymous complaint) and acknowledge receipt of the reported violation or suspected violation within five business days. All reports will be promptly investigated when appropriate and appropriate corrective action will be taken if warranted by the investigation.