

## FRAUD REPORTING SYSTEM INFORMATION

**Annual Notice Acknowledgment** 

## **SECTION 1**

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 117.103(B)(1), a public office shall provide information about the Ohio fraud-reporting system and the means of reporting fraud to each employee employed within a public office.

If in the course of your employment with Mayfield Schools, you become aware of a violation of state or federal statutes, rules or regulations or the misuse of public resources, you may file a written report identifying the violation or misuse with your supervisor, who has the authority to correct the violation or misuse.

The Ohio Auditor of State's Office maintains a system for the reporting of fraud, including misuse of public money by any official or office. The system allows all Ohio citizens, including public employees, the opportunity to make anonymous complaints through a toll free number, the Auditor of State website, or the U.S. Mail.

Telephone: 1-866-FRAUD OH (1-866-372-8364) US Mail: Ohio Auditor of State's Office

Special Investigation Unit

Web: www.ohioauditor.gov 88 East Broad Street

PO Box 1140

Columbus, OH 43215

By reviewing this information annually, you are acknowledging that Mayfield Schools provided you with information about the fraud reporting system as described by Section 117.103(A) of the Ohio Revised Code and that you have read and understand the information provided. You also are acknowledging that you have received and read the information regarding Section 124.341 of the Ohio Revised Code and the protections you are provided as a certified or classified employee if you use the before-mentioned fraud reporting system. See below for specific information about the two relevant statutes.

## SECTION 2

## Ohio Revised Code Section 117.103 and Section 124.341

Section 117.103. (A)The auditor of state shall establish and maintain a system for the reporting of fraud, including misuse and misappropriation of public money, by any public office or public official. The system shall allow Ohio residents and the employees of any public office to make anonymous complaints through a toll-free telephone number, the auditor of state's website or the United States mail to the auditor of state's office. The auditor of state shall review all complaints in a timely manner.

The auditor of state shall keep a log of all complaints filed under this section, which is a public record under section 149.43 of the Revised Code. The log shall include the date the complaint was received, a general description of the nature of the complaint, the name of the public office or agency with regard to which the complaint is directed and a general description of the status of the review by the auditor of state. If section 149.43 of the Revised Code or another statute provides for an applicable exemption from the definition of public record for the information recorded on the log, that information may be redacted.

- (B)(1) A public office shall provide information about the Ohio fraud-reporting system and the means of reporting fraud to each new employee upon employment with the public office. Each new employee shall confirm receipt of this information within 30 days after beginning employment. The auditor of state shall provide a model form on the auditor of state's website to be printed and used by new public employees to sign and verify their receipt of information as required by this section. The auditor of state shall confirm, when conducting an audit under section 117.11 of the Revised Code, that new employees have been provided information as required by this division.
- (2) On the effective date of this section, each public office shall make all its employees aware of the fraud-reporting system required by this section.
- (3) Divisions (B)(1) & (2) of the section are satisfied if a public office provides information about the fraud-reporting system and the means of reporting fraud in the employee handbook or manual for the public office. An employee shall sign and verify the employee's receipt of such a handbook or manual.

Section 124.341. (A)If an employee in the certified or classified civil service becomes aware in the course of employment of a violation of state or federal statutes, rules and regulations or misuse of public resources, and the employee's supervisor or appointing authority has authority to correct the violation or misuse, the employee may file a written report identifying the violation or misuse with the supervisor or appointing authority. In addition to or instead of filing a written report with the supervisor or appointing authority, the employee may file a written report with the office of internal auditing created under section 126.45 of the Revised Code or file a complaint with the auditor of state's fraud-reporting system under section 117.103 of the Revised Code.

If the employee reasonably believes that a violation or misuse of public resources is a criminal offense, the employee, in addition to or instead of filing a written report or complaint with the supervisor, appointing authority or office of internal auditing, or the auditor of state's fraud reporting system, may report it to a prosecuting attorney, director of law, village solicitor or similar chief legal officer of a municipal corporation, peace officer, as defined in section 2935.01 of the Revised Code or, the violation or misuse of public resources is within the jurisdiction of the inspector general, to the inspector general in accordance with section 121.46 of the Revised Code. In addition to that report, if the employee reasonably believes the violation or misuse is also a violation of Chapter 102 section 2921.42, or section 2921.43 of the Revised Code, the employee may report it to the appropriate ethics commission.

- (B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) of this section, no officer or employee in the classified or certified civil service shall take any disciplinary action against an employee in the classified or certified civil service for making any report or filing a complaint as authorized by division (A) of this section, including, without limitation, doing any of the following:
  - (1) Removing or suspending the employee from employment;
  - (2) Withholding from the employee salary increases or employee benefits to which the employee is otherwise entitled:
  - (3) Transferring or reassigning the employee;
  - (4) Denying the employee promotion that otherwise would have been received;
  - (5) Reducing the employee in pay or position
- (C) An employee in the classified or certified civil service shall make a reasonable effort to determine the accuracy of any information reported under division (A) of this section. The employee is subject to disciplinary action, including suspension or removal, as determined by the employee's appointing authority, for purposely, knowingly or recklessly reporting false information under division (A) of this section.
- (D) If an appointing authority takes any disciplinary or retaliatory action against a classified or certified employee as a result of the employee's having filed a report or complaint under division (A) of this section, the employee's sole and exclusive remedy, notwithstanding any other provision of law, is to file an appeal with the state personnel board of review within 30 days after receiving actual notice of the appointing authority's action. If the employee files such an appeal, the board shall immediately notify the employee's appointing authority and shall hear the appeal. The board may affirm or disaffirm the action of the appointing authority or may issue any other order as is appropriate. The order of the board is appealable in accordance with Chapter 119 of the Revised Code.