



Book	BHASD Policies
Section	600 Finances
Title	Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights
Number	621
Status	Active
Adopted	June 28, 2004
Last Revised	March 6, 2017
Last Reviewed	March 6, 2017

### **Purpose**

As a local taxing authority, the Board recognizes the school district's responsibility to comply with the requirements of the Tax Reform Act of 1998.[\[1\]](#)

### **Definition**

**Eligible taxes** shall be defined as all non-real estate taxes, including per capita; occupation, occupation assessment and occupation privilege; income and net profits; business gross receipts; privilege; amusements or admissions; and any other tax authorized by the Local Tax Enabling Law.[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

### **Authority**

The Board shall adopt a Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights that includes the following components:[\[4\]](#)

1. Taxpayer rights and the district's obligation during an audit or administrative review of the taxpayer's books or records.
2. Administrative and judicial procedures for a taxpayer to appeal or seek review of a tax decision.
3. Procedures for filing and processing refund claims and taxpayer complaints.
4. Enforcement procedures.

The Board shall ensure that taxpayers are notified about the district's Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights any time they are contacted regarding assessment, audit, determination, review and collection of any tax other than property taxes.[\[4\]](#)

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent, Business Manager, and/or other designated school district employee to develop procedures to implement this policy which shall include:

1. Preparation and dissemination of the required notice of availability of the Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights.
2. Preparation of a Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights.
3. Preparation of a procedure for the district to request information from a taxpayer.

4. Establishment of an administrative appeals process.
5. Development of the form, content, process and deadlines for taxpayers to file a tax appeal petition.
6. Formulation of rules of practice and procedure for hearings.

The district shall respond to taxpayer requests for the Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights by making copies available at the district offices or mailing at district expense.[\[4\]](#)

### **Guidelines**

Information obtained by the school district as a result of an audit, return, report, investigation, hearing or verification shall be confidential. If a violation of confidentiality is committed by an officer or employee of the District, s/he shall be subject to fines and dismissal from office or discharge from employment.[\[5\]](#)

### **Appeals Process**

The Board shall establish an administrative process to receive and make determinations on petitions from taxpayers relating to assessment, determination or refund of an eligible tax.

- Legal
- [1. 53 Pa. C.S.A. 8401 et seq](#)
  - [2. 53 P.S. 6924.101 et seq](#)
  - [3. 53 Pa. C.S.A. 8422](#)
  - [4. 53 Pa. C.S.A. 8423](#)
  - [5. 53 Pa. C.S.A. 8437](#)

Last Modified by Katharine Ege on April 10, 2017