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### **HEARING OFFICER HOURLY RATE AND TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT POLICY**

In accordance with the Education Law and Commissioner's Regulations, the maximum compensation rate for impartial hearing officers is \$100 per hour. There is no maximum per diem on the number of hours for compensation. The hourly rate adopted by the Board of Education is \$100.00 until otherwise changed.

The activities associated with impartial hearings which are reimbursable under this compensation rate are:

- prehearing activities such as scheduling the hearing and determining the location, conducting prehearing conference calls, arranging for interpreters, witnesses, subpoenas and a stenographer and writing letters to the parties involved in the hearing;
- hearing activities such as conducting the hearing, handling settlement agreements placed on the record and arranging for subsequent hearing dates;
- posthearing activities such as researching information pertinent to the hearing issue(s) and writing the decision.

In addition, travel reimbursement is not considered to be an activity associated with the compensation rate set by the Commissioner. Accordingly, the School District agrees to reimburse an impartial hearing officer for travel at the IRS per mile rate for travel, as well as reimbursement for reasonable overnight and meal expenses upon timely presentation of appropriate receipts for such expenses. The time spent in traveling shall be compensated at the same hourly rate as the compensation rate stated above.

Adopted 4/24/17