

Acknowledgements

The first draft of the Model Code, circulated for comment in 2009, was developed by members of the Model Code Working Group from the Dignity in Schools Campaign, the Children’s Rights Litigation Committee of the American Bar Association Section on Litigation and various other individuals and organizations that contributed to the project. Members of the Model Code Working Group then reviewed drafts of the Code and gathered input at Dignity in Schools Campaign meetings and at a summit organized by the Children’s Rights Litigation Committee.

The first complete version of the Model Code was published in August 2012. Based on feedback and input from communities, educators and advocates across the country, the Dignity in Schools Campaign updated and re-released a second edition in 2013 and this third edition in 2019.

The following individuals drafted and edited sections of the Model Code as different editions have been published over time: Sarah Biehl, Brittany Brathwaite, Natalie Chap, Maisie Chin, Richard Cohen, Hillary Coustan, Stephanie Coyle, Matthew Cregor, Ruth Cusick, Julia Daniel, Chloe Dugger, Karla Estrada, Laura Faer, Nancy Franklin, Jim Freeman, Christina Gilbert, Chris Gowen, Dean Hill Rivkin, Rosa K. Hirji, Hashim Jabar, Gregory Johnson, Harold Jordan, Cierra Kaler Jones, Monica Llorente, Dan Losen, Tarek Maassarani, Denise Marshall, Kim McGill, Theshia Naidoo, Udi Ofer, Brent Pattison, John Pollock, Charlotte Pope, Marlene Sallo, Zakiya Sankara-Jabar, Benetta Standly, Liz Sullivan-Yuknis, Chris Tan, Marlyn Tillman, Julie Waterstone, Paul Weckstein and Melanie Zuch.

Early Review Process

The Code was initially reviewed by participants at the American Bar Association Section of Litigation Children’s Rights Litigation Committee Summit, Raising our Hands: Creating a National Strategy for Children’s Right to Education and Counsel, October 23, 2009, Northwestern University School of Law, Chicago, IL; and presented by a panel at the American Bar Association National Conference in August 2010.

2011-2012 Editorial Committee

The Editorial Committee collected and reviewed the feedback from editors and communities and completed the final draft in summer 2012. Members of the Editorial Committee include: Sarah Biehl, Ohio Poverty Law Center; Ruth Cusick, Public Counsel Law Center; Joyce Parker, Citizens for a Better Greenville; Liz Sullivan, National Economic and Social Rights Initiative.

2011-12 and 2018-19 Community Engagement Processes

In 2011, the Dignity in Schools Campaign launched a community engagement process to gather input from members in 8 states around the country—California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois Louisiana, Mississippi, New York and Pennsylvania—bringing together students, parents and educators to review the draft of the Model Code and provide comments and input. In 2018 and 2019, as we prepared for our updated Model Code to be released, member organizations participated in editing and providing feedback on drafts, primarily through our monthly Campaigns Call. Organizations that participated in either of those community engagement processes in 2011-12 and/or 2018-19 include: ACLU of PA, Access Living (IL), Action Communication and Education Reform (MS), Activists with a Purpose (MS), Advocates for Children of New York, Atlanta Community Engagement Team, Blocks Together (IL), Blue Ribbon Leadership Institute (NC), Children’s Defense Fund Los Angeles, Center for Civil Rights Remedies at UCLA (CA), Children’s Defense Fund New York, Citizens for a Better Greenville (MS), Citizens for Educational Awareness (MS), Community Asset Development Re-Defining Education (CADRE, CA), COFI/ POWER PAC (IL), Concerned Citizens for a Better Tunica County (MS), Desis Rising Up and Moving (DRUM, NY), Elite Education Consultants (VA), Families and Friends of Louisiana’s Incarcerated Children (FFLIC), Generation Y (IL), Girls for Gender Equity (NY), Gwinnett Parent Coalition to Dismantle the School to Prison Pipeline (GA), Labor/Community Strategy Center (CA), Law Office of Piper A. Paul (CT), Mississippi Delta Catalyst Roundtable, New York Civil Liberties Union, Nollie Citizens for Quality Education (MS), Parents and Youth United for a Better Webster County (MS), Parents Across America (NC), Philadelphia Student Union, Philadelphia Teacher Action Group, POWER U (FL), Public Counsel (CA), Racial Justice NOW! (OH and MD), Restorative-DC, Restorative Schools Vision Project (CA Southern Echo (MS), Sunflower County Parents and Students Organization (MS), Teachers Unite (NY), Village of Wisdom (NC) Youth Innovation Movement Solutions (MS), Youth Justice Coalition (CA) and Youth on the Move (NY) and many others.

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