

Effectively Navigating Investigations



Student Discipline



Featuring:

Kevin Sutton

Miller Johnson Attorneys

Once upon a time, it seemed so straightforward and simple. Investigate, issue discipline. But the myriad changes in the law, the rise of restorative practices, the introduction of the rebuttable presumption, and shifting due process considerations now seem to be in tension with the reality of challenging and troubling student behaviors, occurring both on and off campus. In this seminar, Mr. Sutton will address the hallmarks of effective and comprehensive investigations into student (mis)conduct in order to reach measured and defensible outcomes. Mr. Sutton will also navigate attendees through the tumultuous waters of the student discipline process, to ensure compliance with the law.

Learning Objectives:

- *Recognition of the legal and practical importance of conducting investigations*
- *The key elements to any investigation into student conduct*
- *Properly handling search issues that may arise in the investigative process*
- *Consideration of the relevant due process elements of student discipline*
- *Properly weighing and applying the various legal requirements attached to student discipline*
- *Documenting the investigative and discipline processes to ensure defensibility if challenged*

Targeted Audience: Building Administrators, Central Office Administrators, School Resource Officers

Date: Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Time: Registration / Continental Breakfast: 8:30 am, Presentation: 9:00 am to 12:15 pm

Location: Farmington Public Schools
Maxfield Education Center
32789 W. 10 Mile Road, Farmington, MI 48336

Cost: \$50.00 per person, member district
\$150.00 per person, nonmember district

Use the attached registration form or
[register online](#)



About the Presenter

Mr. Sutton is a graduate of Michigan State University, and the Case Western Reserve University School of Law. Mr. Sutton also completed the prestigious International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC) Trial Academy at Stanford University, a program focused on the development of trial advocacy skills for defense litigators.

In addition to his efforts in the courtroom and with administrative agencies, Mr. Sutton regularly investigates allegations of employee/student harassment and conduct; advises his clients regarding their statutory obligations under Michigan's Revised School Code and federal law, applicable special education laws, and other school-related statutes; and counsels his clients on labor and employment issues. Mr. Sutton also focuses extensively on the development of organizational policies for his clients.

Mr. Sutton often presents on topics relevant to his school clients, including transgender student rights, Title IX, social media in schools, student/staff investigations, student privacy rights/FERPA, and student/staff discipline. On the issue of transgender student rights, Mr. Sutton is recognized as a legal expert, having been invited by the Michigan Department of Education to help develop guidance for supporting LGBTQ students. Mr. Sutton has presented to education groups across the State of Michigan on this important topic.

Mr. Sutton serves as an Adjunct Professor at Oakland University, teaching Education Law to students pursuing their Ed.S. degree through OU's Department of Educational Leadership.

For years, Mr. Sutton has been actively involved with the nonprofit organization [Winning Futures](#), a goal setting, mentoring, and scholarship program for high school students. Mr. Sutton served as a mentor to students at Warren Mott High School and was recognized as "Mentor of the Year" for the 2011-2012 school year. Mr. Sutton also served on the Board of Directors for the organization. Following the tragic passing of his first mentee, Melvin Akins, Mr. Sutton and his wife formed the **Melvin Akins Memorial Scholarship**, to be awarded annually to an outstanding Winning Futures student. In July 2015 Mr. Sutton was recognized, along with seven other Michigan residents, as a RARE Everyday Hero for his many contributions to the community.

The Metro Bureau presents
Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Effectively Navigating Investigations and Student Discipline

Farmington Public Schools, Maxfield Education Center, 32789 W. 10 Mile Road, Farmington, MI 48336

This workshop is open to the entire district management team. Please complete and return the registration form below to the Metro Bureau by **Wednesday, December 6, 2023**.

Cost for attendance is \$50.00 per person for Metro Bureau members and \$150.00 per person for non-member districts.

CANCELLATION POLICY: A \$25 service fee will be retained for all cancellations made one week or less prior to the event. All cancellations on the day of the event will be charged the full amount.

The Metro Bureau may offer 3 SCECHs credit for attendance at this seminar at no added cost. The SCECHs credit will be received following the seminar.

REGISTRATION FORM – or register at www.metrobureau.org

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Effectively Navigating Investigations and Student Discipline

Farmington Public Schools, Maxfield Education Center, 32789 W. 10 Mile Road, Farmington, MI 48336

School District: _____ Contact phone number: _____

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Pay by check – mail to address below (must be received by December 4, 2023)

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Authorization

By checking this box you give the Metropolitan Detroit Bureau of School Studies, Inc. permission to debit your account for the amount indicated above and for the event indicated above. This is permission for a single transaction only, and does not provide authorization for any additional unrelated debits or credits to your account.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Return registration form to: **Metropolitan Detroit Bureau of School Studies, Inc.**

391 College of Education-Wayne State University - Detroit, Michigan 48202

OR Fax 313-577-8278 (For security purposes, please do not e-mail credit card information)

For questions dial 313-577-1611