

## **4015 – Prohibiting Harassment and Violence**

### General Statement of Policy

Independent School District 709 (ISD 709) is committed to creating and maintaining a learning and working environment where all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Every individual has the right to learn/work in an environment free of harassment and violence.

In this school district, harassment and violence, whether verbal, physical, or cyber which creates a hostile climate, is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Harassment and violence are unlawful, hurt all people, and have no legitimate educational purpose. Any employee or student who engages in such conduct shall be disciplined as provided by law, District policies, and applicable labor agreements.

Therefore, it is the policy of ISD 709 to maintain a work and learning environment that is free of harassment and violence based on: ~~sex, sexual orientation, race/ethnicity, religion or religious practices, disability,~~ Race, Color, Creed, Religion, National Origin, Sex, Marital Status, Disability, Status with Regard to Public Assistance, Sexual Orientation, Age, Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Any or All Other Protected Groups as identified by state and/or federal statute as well as other forms of harassment as defined in this policy.

Harassment based on: ~~sex, sexual orientation, race/ethnicity, and religious beliefs or practices~~ Race, Color, Creed, Religion, National Origin, Sex, Marital Status, Disability, Status with Regard to Public Assistance, Sexual Orientation, Age, Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Any or All Other Protected Groups as identified by state and/or federal statute are also forms of discrimination which violate either Section 703 of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1965, as amended, 42 U.S.C. Section 2000e, et seq. and or the Minnesota Human Rights Act, Minnesota Statute Sections 363.01 – 363.20, and may represent a criminal law violation.

Violence based on: ~~sex, sexual orientation, race/ethnicity, religion or disability~~ Race, Color, Creed, Religion, National Origin, Sex, Marital Status, Disability, Status with Regard to Public Assistance, Sexual Orientation, Age, Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Any or All Other Protected Groups as identified by state and/or federal statute is a physical act of aggression, intimidation, and/or degradation directed toward a person or group of persons because of their membership or perceived membership in a protected group. ~~sex, sexual orientation, race/ethnicity, religion or religious practices, or disability.~~

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student or school personnel of ISD 709 to harass a pupil or other school personnel through conduct or communication of a sexual nature or regarding: ~~sexual orientation, race/ethnicity, religion, or religious practices, disability,~~ Race, Color, Creed, Religion, National Origin, Sex, Marital Status, Disability, Status with Regard to Public Assistance, Sexual Orientation, Age, Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Any or All Other Protected Groups as identified by state and/or federal statute as well as other forms of harassment as defined by this Policy and Regulation 4015R. (For purposes of this policy, school personnel include: School Board members, administrators, teachers, all other school employees, agents, volunteers, contractors, or other persons subject to the supervision and control of ISD 709.)

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student or school personnel of ISD 709 to inflict, threaten to inflict, or attempt to inflict violence relating to: ~~sex, sexual orientation, race/ethnicity, religion or religious practices, disability~~ Race, Color, Creed, Religion, National

Origin, Sex, Marital Status, Disability, Status with Regard to Public Assistance, Sexual Orientation, Age, Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Any or All Other Protected Groups as identified by state and/or federal statute as well as any other forms of violence as defined by this policy upon any pupil or school personnel.

ISD 709 will act with reasonable diligence to take action to investigate, respond, remediate and discipline all complaints, either formal or informal, oral or written, of improper actions or statements which may constitute ~~sexual, sexual orientation, ethnic/racial, religious, disability, or other~~ harassment and violence as defined in this policy and Regulation 4015R. Furthermore, ISD 709 intends to provide support for students identified as the victims of these acts in compliance with Minn. Statute Sections 121A.0695.

A report will be given to the School Board at the regular meeting in June, a summary of the number of harassment complaints, types of complaints and the action taken to resolve the complaints. This will be done without releasing any case specifics, information or personnel data.

For more detailed information on this policy, including definitions for terms used in this policy and the reporting procedures for this policy, please see Regulation 4015R.

Adopted: 05-11-1982 ISD 709  
Revised: 06-10-1986  
12-10-1991  
10-19-1993  
06-20-1995  
02-15-2000  
09-17-2002  
05-21-2013  
08-19-2014 ISD 709