Morrow County School District

Code: GBEA
1st Reading: 2/10/2020
Adopted: 3/9/2020

Workplace Harassment *

Workplace harassment is prohibited and shall not be tolerated. This includes workplace harassment that occurs between district employees or between a district employee and the district in the workplace or at a work-related event that is off district premises and coordinated by or through the district, or between a district and a district employee off district premises. Elected school board members, volunteers and interns are subject to this policy.

Any district employee who believes they have been a victim of workplace harassment may file a report with the district employee designated in the administrative regulation GBEA-AR - Workplace Harassment Reporting and Procedure, may file a report through the Bureau of Labor and Industries' (BOLI) complaint resolution process or under any other available law. The reporting of such information is voluntary. The district employee making the report is advised to document any incidents of workplace harassment.

"Workplace harassment" means conduct that constitutes discrimination prohibited by Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 659A.030 (discrimination in employment based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, age, or expunged juvenile record), including conduct that constitutes sexual assault[1] or that constitutes conduct prohibited by ORS 659A.082 (discrimination against person in uniformed service) or 659A.112 (discrimination in employment based on disability).

The district, upon receipt of a report from a district employee who believes they are a victim of workplace harassment, shall provide information about legal resources and counseling and support services, including any available employee assistance services. The district employee receiving the report, whether a supervisor of the employer or the district employee designated to receive reports, is advised to document any incidents of workplace harassment, and shall provide a copy of this policy and accompanying administrative regulation to the victim upon their disclosure about alleged workplace harassment.

All incidents of behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated.

Any person who reports workplace harassment has the right to be protected from retaliation.

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[1] **"Sexual assault" means unwanted conduct of a sexual nature that is inflicted upon a person or compelled through the use of physical force, manipulation, threat or intimidation.**

The district may not require or coerce a district employee to enter into a nondisclosure[2] or nondisparagement[3] agreement.

The district may not enter into an agreement with an employee or prospective employee, as a condition of employment, continued employment, promotion, compensation, or the receipt of benefits, that contains a nondisclosure provision, a nondisparagement provision or any other provision that has the purpose or effect of preventing the employee from disclosing or discussing workplace harassment that occurred between district employees or between a district employee and the district, in the workplace or at a work-related event that is off district premises and coordinated by or through the district, or between a district employee and employer off district premises.

The district may enter into a settlement agreement, separation or severance agreement that includes one or more of the following provisions only when a district employee claiming to be aggrieved by workplace harassment requests to enter into the agreement: 1) a nondisclosure or nondisparagement provision; 2) a provision that prevents disclosure of factual information relating to the claim of workplace harassment; or 3) a no-rehire provision that prohibits the employee from seeking reemployment with the district as a term or condition of the agreement. The agreement must provide the district employee at least seven days after signing the agreement to revoke it.

If the district determines in good faith that an employee has engaged in workplace harassment, the district may enter into a settlement, separation or severance agreement that includes one or more of the provisions described in the previous paragraph.

It is the intent of the Board that appropriate corrective action will be taken by the district to stop workplace harassment, prevent its recurrence and address negative consequences. Staff members in violation of this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal and/or additional workplace harassment awareness training, as appropriate. Other individuals (e.g., board members, witnesses, and volunteers) whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to appropriate sanctions as determined and imposed by the superintendent or the Board.

The district shall make this policy available to all district employees and shall be made a part of district orientation materials provided and copied to new district employees at the time of hire.

The superintendent will establish a process of reporting incidents of workplace harassment and the prompt investigation.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 659A.001   **ORS 659A.003**   **ORS 659A.006**

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[2] A "nondisclosure" agreement or provision prevents either party from disclosing the contents of or circumstances surrounding the agreement.

[3] A "nondisparagement" agreement or provision prevents either party from making disparaging statements about the other party.

ORS 659A.029   ORS 659A.820   OAR 584-020-0041

ORS 659A.030   ORS 659A.875

ORS 659A.082   ORS 659A.885   Senate Bill 479 (2019)

ORS 659A.112   OAR 584-020-0040

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d (2012).
Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e (2012).
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1683 (2018); Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance, 34 C.F.R. Part 106 (2019).
Bartsch v. Elkton School District, FDA-13-011 (March 27, 2014).