

Sexual Harassment

The Board is committed to the elimination of sexual harassment in district schools and activities. Sexual harassment is strictly prohibited and shall not be tolerated. This includes sexual harassment of students, staff or third parties by other students, staff, Board members or third parties. "Third parties" include, but are not limited to, school volunteers, parents, school visitors, service contractors or others engaged in district business, such as employees of businesses or organizations participating in cooperative work programs with the district and others not directly subject to district control at interdistrict and intradistrict athletic competitions or other school events. "District" includes: district facilities; district premises and nondistrict property if the student or employee is at any district-sponsored, district-approved or district-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events, where students are under the control of the district; or where the employee is engaged in district business. The prohibition also includes off duty conduct which is incompatible with district job responsibilities.

Sexual harassment of students, staff or third parties shall include, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal, nonverbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. The conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of demanding sexual favors in exchange for benefits;
2. Submission to or rejection of the conduct or communication is used as the basis for educational decisions affecting a student or employment or assignment of staff;
3. The conduct or communication is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's educational performance or with an employee's ability to perform his/her job; or creates an intimidating, offensive or hostile educational or working environment. Relevant factors to be considered will include, but not be limited to, did the individual view the environment as hostile; was it reasonable to view the environment as hostile; the nature of the conduct; how often the conduct occurred and how long it continued; age and sex of the complainant; whether the alleged harasser was in a position of power over the student or staff member subjected to the harassment; number of individuals involved; age of the alleged harasser; where the harassment occurred; and other incidents of sexual harassment at the school involving the same or other students or staff.

Examples of sexual harassment may include, but not be limited to, physical touching or graffiti of a sexual nature; displaying or distributing of sexually explicit drawings; pictures and written materials; sexual gestures or obscene jokes; touching oneself sexually or talking about one's sexuality in front of others; or spreading rumors about or rating other students or others as to appearance, sexual activity or performance.

All complaints about behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. Any student, employee or third party who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy or feels he/she is a victim of sexual harassment must immediately report his/her concerns to the principal, compliance officer or superintendent, who has overall responsibility for all investigations. A student may also report concerns to a teacher, counselor or school nurse, who will promptly notify the appropriate district official. The student and the student's parents or staff member who initiated the complaint shall be notified of the findings of the investigation and, if appropriate, that remedial action has been taken.

The initiation of a complaint in good faith about behavior that may violate this policy shall not adversely affect the educational assignments or study environment of a student complainant or any terms or conditions of employment or work environment of the staff complainant. There shall be no retaliation by the district against any person who, in good faith, reports, files a complaint or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry of sexual harassment.

It is the intent of the Board that appropriate corrective action will be taken by the district to stop the sexual harassment, prevent its recurrence and address negative consequences. Students in violation of this policy shall be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion and/or counseling or sexual harassment awareness training, as appropriate. The age and maturity of the student(s) involved and other relevant factors will be considered in determining appropriate action. Employees in violation of this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal and/or additional sexual harassment awareness training, as appropriate. Other individuals 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 Board.

Additionally, the district may report individuals in violation of this policy to law enforcement officials. Licensed staff, staff registered with the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) and those participating in practicum programs, as specified by Oregon Administrative Rules, shall be reported to TSPC.

The superintendent shall ensure appropriate periodic sexual harassment awareness training or information is provided to all supervisors, staff and students and that annually, the name and position of district officials responsible for accepting and managing sexual harassment complaints, business phone numbers, addresses or other necessary contact information is readily available. This policy as well as the complaint procedure will be made available to all students, parents of students and staff. The district's policy shall be posted in all grade 6 through 12 schools. Such posting shall be by a sign of at least 8 1/2" by 11".

The superintendent will establish a process of reporting incidents of sexual harassment.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 243.706
ORS 342.700
ORS 342.704
ORS 342.708
ORS 342.850

ORS 342.865
ORS 659.850
ORS 659A.006
ORS 659A.029
ORS 659A.030

OAR 581-021-0038
OAR 584-020-0040
OAR 584-020-0041

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d (2006).

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e (2006).

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1683 (2006); Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance, 34 C.F.R. Part 106 (2006).

Bartsch v. Elkton School District, FDA-13-011 (March 27, 2014).

Oregon School Boards Association

Selected Sample Policy

Code: GBN/JBA
Adopted:

Sexual Harassment

The Board is committed to the elimination of sexual harassment in district schools and activities. Sexual harassment is strictly prohibited and shall not be tolerated. This includes sexual harassment of students, ~~or staff or third parties~~ by other students, staff, Board members or third parties. "Third parties" include, but are not limited to, school volunteers, parents, school visitors, service contractors or others engaged in district business, such as employees of businesses or organizations participating in cooperative work programs with the district and others not directly subject to district control at interdistrict and intradistrict athletic competitions or other school events. "District" includes: district facilities; district premises and nondistrict property if the student or employee is at any district-sponsored, district-approved or district-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events, where students are under the control of the district; or where the employee is engaged in district business. The prohibition also includes off duty conduct which is incompatible with district job responsibilities.

Sexual harassment of students and staff shall include, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal, nonverbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. The conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of demanding sexual favors in exchange for benefits;
2. Submission to or rejection of the conduct or communication is used as the basis for educational decisions affecting a student or employment or assignment of staff;
3. The conduct or communication is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's educational performance or with an employee's ability to perform his/her job; or creates an intimidating, offensive or hostile educational or working environment. Relevant factors to be considered will include, but not be limited to, did the individual view the environment as hostile; was it reasonable to view the environment as hostile; the nature of the conduct; how often the conduct occurred and how long it continued; age and sex of the complainant; whether the alleged harasser was in a position of power over the student or staff member subjected to the harassment; number of individuals involved; age of the alleged harasser; where the harassment occurred; and other incidents of sexual harassment at the school involving the same or other students or staff.

Examples of sexual harassment may include, but not be limited to, physical touching or graffiti of a sexual nature; displaying or distributing of sexually explicit drawings; pictures and written materials; sexual gestures or obscene jokes; touching oneself sexually or talking about one's sexuality in front of others; or spreading rumors about or rating other students or others as to appearance, sexual activity or performance.

All complaints about behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. Any student or employee who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy or feels he/she is a victim of sexual harassment must immediately report his/her concerns to the principal, compliance officer or superintendent, who has overall responsibility for all investigations. A student may also report concerns to a teacher, counselor or school nurse, who will promptly notify the appropriate district official. The student and the student's parents or staff member who initiated the complaint shall be notified of the findings of the investigation and, if appropriate, that remedial action has been taken.

The initiation of a complaint in good faith about behavior that may violate this policy shall not adversely affect the educational assignments or study environment of a student complainant or any terms or conditions of employment or work environment of the staff complainant. There shall be no retaliation by the district against any person who, in good faith, reports, files a complaint or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry of sexual harassment.

It is the intent of the Board that appropriate corrective action will be taken by the district to stop the sexual harassment, prevent its recurrence and address negative consequences. Students in violation of this policy shall be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion and/or counseling or sexual harassment awareness training, as appropriate. The age and maturity of the student(s) involved and other relevant factors will be considered in determining appropriate action. Employees in violation of this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal and/or additional sexual harassment awareness training, as appropriate. Other individuals 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 Board.

Additionally, the district may report individuals in violation of this policy to law enforcement officials. Licensed staff, staff registered with the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) and those participating in practicum programs, as specified by Oregon Administrative Rules, shall be reported to TSPC.

The superintendent shall ensure appropriate periodic sexual harassment awareness training or information is provided to all supervisors, staff and students and that annually, the name and position of district officials responsible for accepting and managing sexual harassment complaints, business phone numbers, addresses or other necessary contact information is readily available. This policy as well as the complaint procedure will be made available to all students, parents of students and staff [in student/parent and staff handbooks]. The district's policy shall be posted in all [grade 6 through 12] schools. Such posting shall be by a sign of at least 8 1/2" by 11".

The superintendent will establish a process of reporting incidents of sexual harassment.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 243.706
ORS 342.700
ORS 342.704
ORS 342.708
ORS 342.850

ORS 342.865
ORS 659.850
ORS 659A.006
ORS 659A.029
ORS 659A.030

OAR 581-021-0038
OAR 584-020-0040
OAR 584-020-0041

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Bartsch v. Elkton School District, FDA-13-011 (March 27, 2014).

Pendleton School District 16R

Code: **GBN/JBA**
Adopted: 5/10/99
Readopted: 5/10/10
Orig. Code(s): GBM/JFCJ

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment of students by staff and other students and employees by students and other staff is prohibited and shall not be tolerated in the district. This includes sexual harassment by Board members, parents, vendors and others doing business with the district. District includes district facilities, district premises and non-district property if the student or employee is at any district-sponsored, district-approved or district-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the control of the district or where the employee is engaged in district business.

Sexual harassment of students means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a student's education or of a student's participation in district programs or activities;
2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by a student is used as the basis for decisions affecting the student or employment or assignment of staff;
3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the student's educational performance or creates an intimidating, offensive or hostile educational environment;
4. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of demanding sexual favors in exchange for benefits.

Sexual harassment of staff shall include, but not be limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. The employee's submission to the conduct or communication is made a term or condition of employment;
2. The employee's submission to, or rejection of, the conduct or communication is the basis for decisions affecting employment and assignment;
3. The conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the employee's ability to perform the job;
4. The conduct or communication has the effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment;

5. The conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of demanding sexual favors in exchange for benefits.

Sexual harassment as set forth above may include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Verbal or written harassment or abuse;
2. Pressure for sexual activity;
3. Remarks to a person with sexual or demeaning implications;
4. Unwelcome touching;
5. Suggesting or demanding sexual involvement, accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, achievements, evaluations, job assignments, etc.

All complaints about behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. Any student or employee who has knowledge of or feels he/she is a victim of sexual harassment should immediately report his/her concerns to the building principal, compliance officer, or superintendent. Staff who witness sexual harassment are expected to take immediate action to address it and report it. The student and the student's parents or staff member who initiated the complaint shall be notified when the investigation is concluded.

The initiation of a complaint in good faith about behavior that may violate this policy shall not adversely affect the educational assignments or study environment of a student complainant or any terms or conditions of employment or work environment of the staff complainant. There shall be no retaliation by the district against any person who, in good faith, reports sexual harassment.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion. Employees shall be subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal. Other individuals 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 Board.

The district may report individuals in violation of this policy to law enforcement officials. Licensed staff and those participating in practicum programs as specified by Oregon Administrative Rules, shall also be reported to the Teachers Standards And Practices Commission.

This policy as well as the complaint procedure will be made available to all students, parents of students and staff in student/parent and staff handbooks. The district's policy shall be posted in all grade 6 through 12 schools. Such posting shall be by a sign of at least 8.5 by 11 inches.

The superintendent will establish a process of reporting incidents of sexual harassment.

All staff, students, and others doing business with the district shall be subject to this policy.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

<u>ORS 243.706</u>	<u>ORS 342.865</u>	<u>OAR 581-021-0038</u>
<u>ORS 342.700</u>	<u>ORS 659.850</u>	<u>OAR 584-020-0040</u>
<u>ORS 342.704</u>	<u>ORS 659A.006</u>	<u>OAR 584-020-0041</u>
<u>ORS 342.708</u>	<u>ORS 659A.029</u>	
<u>ORS 342.850</u>	<u>ORS 659A.030</u>	

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d (2006).

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e (2006).

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1683 (2006); Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance, 34 C.F.R. Part 106 (2006).

Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ., 526 U.S. 629 (1999).

Gebser v. Lago Vista Indep. Sch. Dist., 524 U.S. 274 (1998).

Cross Reference(s):

GBNA - Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing – Staff

JBA/GBN - Sexual Harassment

JFCF - Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing – Student