

## **Sexual Harassment**

The Board is committed to the prevention 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 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.

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 should immediately report his/her concerns to the building 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.

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 schools.

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

END OF POLICY

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Legal Reference(s):

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. Section 2000(d).

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. Section 2000(e).

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sections 1681-1683; 34 CFR Part 106 (2000).

Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education, 526 U.S. 629 (1999).

Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent School District, 524 U.S. 274 (1998).

Code: **JBA/GBN-AR**  
Adopted:

## **Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedure**

Building principals, the compliance officer and the superintendent have responsibility for investigations concerning sexual harassment. The investigator(s) shall be a neutral party having had no involvement in the complaint presented.

- Step I** Any sexual harassment information (complaints, rumors, etc.) shall be presented to the building principal, compliance officer or superintendent. All such information shall be reduced to writing and will include the specific nature of the sexual harassment and corresponding dates.
- Step II** The district official receiving the information or complaint shall promptly initiate an investigation. He/She will arrange such meetings as may be necessary to discuss the issue with all concerned parties within [five] working days after receipt of the information or complaint. All findings of the investigation, including the response of the alleged harasser, shall be reduced to writing. The district official(s) conducting the investigation shall notify the complainant [in writing] when the investigation is concluded. The parties will have an opportunity to submit evidence and a list of witnesses.

[A copy of the notification letter] [The date and details of notification to the complainant], together with any other documentation related to the sexual harassment incident, including disciplinary action taken or recommended, shall be forwarded to the superintendent.

- Step III** If a complainant is not satisfied with the decision at Step II, he/she may submit a written appeal to the superintendent or designee. Such appeal must be filed within [10] working days after receipt of the Step II decision. The superintendent or designee will arrange such meetings with the complainant and other affected parties as deemed necessary to discuss the appeal. The superintendent or designee shall provide a written decision to the complainant within [10] working days.
- Step IV** If a complainant is not satisfied with the decision at Step III, he/she may submit a written appeal to the Board. Such appeal must be filed within [10] working days after receipt of the Step III decision. The Board shall, within [20] working days, conduct a hearing at which time the complainant shall be given an opportunity to present the appeal. The Board shall provide a written decision to the complainant within [10] working days following completion of the hearing.

Direct complaints related to employment may be filed with the U.S. Department of Labor, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or Nevada Bureau of Labor and Industries. Direct complaints related to educational programs and services may be made to the Regional Civil Rights Director, U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, Region X, 915 2nd Ave., Room 3310, Seattle, WA 98174-1099. Additional information regarding filing of a complaint may be obtained through the building principal, compliance officer or superintendent.

All documentation related to sexual harassment complaints may become part of the student's education record or employee's personnel file, as appropriate. Additionally, a copy of all sexual harassment complaints and documentation will be maintained as a confidential file and stored in the district office.

### SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT FORM

Name of complainant: \_\_\_\_\_

Position of complainant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of complaint: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of alleged harasser: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and place of incident or incidents: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Description of misconduct: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of witnesses (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Evidence of sexual harassment, i.e., letters, photos, etc. (attach evidence if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Any other information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I agree that all of the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESS DISCLOSURE FORM

Name of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Position of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Testimony/Interview: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Instance Witnessed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Any Other Information: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

I agree that all the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_