Sexual Harassment of Students

The policy of this school district forbids discrimination against, or harassment of any student on the basis of sex. The Board of Education will not tolerate sexual harassment by any of its employees or students. This policy applies to all students and employees including non-employee volunteers whose work is subject to the control of school personnel. A separate policy applies to sexual harassment of employees.

1. Sexual Harassment

- A. For the purpose of this policy, sexual harassment includes verbal or physical sexual advances, including subtle pressure for sexual activity; touching, pinching, patting, or brushing against; comments regarding physical or personality characteristics of a sexual nature; and sexually-oriented "kidding" "teasing," double meanings, and jokes.
- B. For the purpose of this policy, demeaning comments about a girl's ability to excel in a class historically considered a "boy's" subject, privately talking inappropriately to a student about sexual matters, hugging or touching a student inappropriately will constitute sexual harassment.
- C. Writing graffiti which names a student or otherwise identifies a student is potentially slanderous and constitutes sexual harassment. Graffiti of any kind will not be tolerated on school property. The superintendent is directed to cause any graffiti or unauthorized writings to be removed immediately.

2. Specific Prohibitions

- A. Administrators and Supervisors
 - 1. It is sexual harassment for an administrator, supervisor, support employee, or teacher to use his or her authority to solicit sexual favors or attention from students.
 - Administrators, supervisors, support personnel, or teachers who either engage in sexual harassment of a students or tolerate such conduct by other employees shall be subject to sanctions, as described below.
 - 3. The school district is not concerned with the "off-duty" conduct of school personnel unless the conduct has or will have a negative impact on the educational process of the school. Any romantic or sexual affiliation between school personnel and students, including students who have reached the age of majority (18) during school hours will have a negative impact on the educational process and shall constitute a violation of school policy. Such violations may result in suspension of the student and suspension or termination for the employee.
- 3. Report, Investigation, and Sanctions
 - A. It is the express policy of the board of education to encourage student victims of sexual harassment to come forward with such claims. This may be done through the Sexual Discrimination Grievance Policy.
 - 1. Students who feel that administrators, supervisors, support

personnel, teachers, or other students are subjecting them to sexual harassment are encouraged to report these conditions to the appropriate administrator or teacher. If the student's immediate administrator or teacher is the alleged offending person, the report will be made to the next higher level of administration or supervision or to any responsible adult person.

- 2. Confidentiality will be maintained and no reprisals or retaliation will be allowed to occur as a result of the good faith reporting of charges of sexual harassment.
- In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes sexual harassment, the totality of the circumstances, the nature of the conduct, and the context in which the alleged conduct occurred will be investigated. The superintendent has the responsibility of investigating and resolving complaints of sexual harassment.
- C. Any employee found to have engaged in sexual harassment of students shall be subject to sanctions, including, but not limited to warning, suspension, or termination subject to applicable procedural and due process requirements.
- D. Any student found to have engaged in sexual harassment of other students shall be subject to sanctions, including, but not limited to warning, suspension or other appropriate punishment subject to applicable procedural and due process requirements.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 REFERENCE: 42 U.S.C. §2000e-2

29 C.F.R. §1604.1, et seq.

Adopted this 6th day of June 1994.

Board of Education

Clerk, Board of

Member, Board of Education

Vice-President, Board of Education

Deputy Clerk, Board of Education