

"Inspire-Challenge-Prepare...Every Person...Every Day"



10109 Slee Rd. Onsted, MI 49265 Telephone (517) 467-2173 Fax (517) 467-5600 Steve Head, Superintendent

Prohibited Behavior

A. Conduct constituting sexual harassment may take different forms, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Verbal:

The making of offensive written or oral sexual innuendoes, suggestive comments, jokes of a sexual nature, sexual propositions, threats, or propositions toward or by a fellow staff member, student, or other person associated with the District, or third parties.

2. Nonverbal:

Causing the placement of offensive sexually suggestive objects, pictures, or graphic commentaries in the school environment or the making of offensive sexually suggestive or insulting gestures, sounds, leering, whistling, and the like to or by a fellow staff member, student, or other person associated with the District, or third parties.

3. Physical Contact:

Threatening or causing unwanted touching, contact, or attempts at same, including patting, pinching, brushing the body, or coerced sexual activity with or by a fellow staff member, student, or other person associated with the District, or third parties. With respect to students, the question of whether or not physical contact is unwanted or consensual is irrelevant where inappropriate contact is engaged in the District employees or other adult members of the School District community.

B. Conduct constituting harassment on the basis of a Protected Class may take different forms, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Verbal:

The making of offensive written or oral innuendoes, comments, jokes, insults, threats, or disparaging remarks concerning a person's race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, age, religious beliefs, height, weight, marital or family status, military status, or ancestry.

2. Nonverbal:

Placing offensive objects, pictures, or graphic commentaries in the school environment or making insulting or threatening gestures based upon a person's race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, age, religious beliefs, height, weight, marital or family status, military status, or ancestry.

3. Physical:



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Any intimidating or disparaging action such as hitting, pushing, shoving, hissing, or spitting on or by a fellow staff member, student, or other person associated with the District, or third parties, based upon the person's race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, age, religious beliefs, height, weight, marital or family status, military status, or ancestry.

- C. Examples of inappropriate boundary invasions include, but are not limited to the following:
 - 1. hugging, kissing, or other physical contact with a student
 - 2. telling sexual jokes to students
 - 3. engaging in talk containing sexual innuendo or banter with students
 - 4. talking about sexual topics that are not related to curriculum
 - 5. showing pornography to a student
 - 6. taking an undue interest in a student (i.e. having a "special friend" or a "special relationship")
 - 7. initiating or extending contact with students beyond the school day for personal purposes
 - 8. using e-mail, text-messaging, websites or other social media services to discuss personal topics or interests with students
 - 9. giving students rides in the staff member's personal vehicle or taking students on personal outings without administrative approval
 - 10. invading a student's privacy (e.g. walking in on the student in the bathroom, locker-room, asking about bra sizes or previous sexual experiences)
 - 11. going to a student's home for non-educational purposes
 - 12. inviting students to the staff member's home without proper chaperones (i.e. another staff member or parent of student)
 - 13. giving gifts or money to a student for no legitimate educational purpose
 - 14. accepting gifts or money from a student for no legitimate educational purpose
 - 15. being overly "touchy" with students
 - 16. favoring certain students by inviting them to come to the classroom at non-class times
 - 17. getting a student out of class to visit with the staff member



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18. providing advice to or counseling a student regarding a personal problem (i.e. problems related to sexual behavior, substance abuse, mental or physical health, and/or family relationships, etc.), unless properly licensed and authorized to do so

- 19. talking to a student about problems that would normally be discussed with adults (i.e. marital issues)
- 20. being alone with a student behind closed doors without a legitimate educational purpose
- 21. telling a student "secrets" and having "secrets" with a student
- 22. other similar activities or behavior

Investigation and Complaint Procedure (see Form 5517 F1)

In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes a violation of Policy 5517, the following factors will be considered:

- A. the nature of the behavior;
- B. how often the conduct occurred;
- C. whether there were past incidents or past continuing patterns of behavior;
- D. the relationship between the parties involved;
- E. the race, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, age, religious beliefs, height, weight, marital or family status, military status, and ancestry of the victim and in case of genetic information harassment, the genetic information of the student victim;
- F. the identity of the perpetrator, including whether the perpetrator was in a position of power over the person allegedly subjected to harassment;
- G. the number of alleged harasser(s);
- H. the age of the alleged harasser(s);
- I. where the harassment occurred;
- J. whether there have been other incidents in the school involving the same or other individuals;
- K. whether the conduct adversely affected the person's work or education performance or environment;
- L. the context in which the alleged incidents occurred;
- M. whether or not speech or expression that is alleged to constitute harassment is protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution; and



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N. whether a particular action or incident constitutes a violation of Policy 5517 requires a determination based on all the facts and surrounding circumstances.

Content of Compliance Officer's Written Report to the Superintendent

The Compliance Officer's written report to the Superintendent should contain the following information/documentation:

- A. name of the alleged victim, and any pertinent information concerning the individual as it relates to the Protected Class(es) involved in the alleged misconduct (e.g., the individual's race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, religion, ancestry or genetic information), and the same information concerning the person who reported the alleged misconduct (if the reporter was not the alleged victim);
- B. the nature of the allegation, a description of the incident, and the date and time (if known) of the alleged incident;
- C. the name of all persons alleged to have committed the alleged unlawful harassment or retaliation, if known, and relevant information concerning them as it relates to the Protected Class(es) involved in the alleged misconduct;
- D. the names of all known witnesses to the alleged incident, and relevant information concerning them as it relates to the Protected Class(es) involved in the alleged misconduct;
- E. any written statements prepared by or on behalf of the reporter, the alleged victim (if different), the accused individuals, and any known witnesses;
- F. the outcome of the investigation; and
- G. the response of school personnel, and, if applicable, District-level officials, including the date any incident was reported to local law enforcement or children services.

Adopted: August 1, 2006 Amended: April 16, 2010

> November 18, 2013 December 3, 2018