

SUBJECT: SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION

ORIGINATING OFFICE: ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, HUMAN RESOURCES

EFFECTIVE: OCTOBER 13, 2015

REVISED: OCTOBER 11, 2016
JUNE 13, 2017
MARCH 14, 2019
AUGUST 25, 2020
DECEMBER 16, 2021

The following policy shall apply to all district employees, interns, volunteers, contractors, job applicants, and other persons with an employment relationship with the district.

The Governing Board is committed to providing a safe work environment that is free of harassment and intimidation. The Board prohibits sexual harassment against district employees and retaliatory behavior or action against any person who complains, testifies, or otherwise participates in the complaint process established for the purpose of this policy.

Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, harassment that is based on the sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation of the victim and harassment based on pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions.

The Superintendent or designee shall take all actions necessary to ensure the prevention, investigation, and correction of sexual harassment, including but not limited to:

1. Providing training to employees in accordance with law and administrative regulation
2. Publicizing and disseminating the district's sexual harassment policy to employees and others to whom the policy may apply
3. Ensuring prompt, thorough, fair, and equitable investigation of complaints
4. Taking timely and appropriate corrective/remedial action(s), which may require interim separation of the complainant and the alleged harasser and subsequent monitoring of developments

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the district's strategies to prevent and address harassment. Such evaluation may involve conducting regular anonymous employee surveys to assess whether harassment is occurring or is perceived to be tolerated, partnering with researchers or other agencies with the needed expertise to evaluate the district's prevention strategies, and using any other effective tool for receiving feedback on systems and/or processes. As necessary, changes shall be made to the harassment policy,

complaint procedures, or training.

Sexual Harassment Reports and Complaints

Any district employee who feels that they have been sexually harassed in the performance of their district responsibilities or who have knowledge of any incident of sexual harassment by or against another employee shall immediately report the incident to their direct supervisor, a district administrator or the district's Title IX Coordinator. Employees may bypass their supervisor in filing a complaint if the supervisor is the subject of the complaint. A supervisor or administrator who receives a harassment complaint shall promptly notify the Title IX Coordinator.

Once notified, the Title IX Coordinator shall ensure the complaint is addressed through either AR 4119.12/4219.12/4319.12 – Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures for complaints meeting the Title IX definition of sexual harassment or AR 4030 – Nondiscrimination in Employment for complaints meeting the state definition, as applicable, and shall offer supportive measures to the complainant.

The Title IX Coordinator shall offer supportive measures to the complainant and respondent, as deemed appropriate under the circumstances.

Upon investigation of a sexual harassment complaint, any district employee found to have engaged or participated in sexual harassment or to have aided, abetted, incited, compelled, or coerced another to commit sexual harassment in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, in accordance with the law and the applicable collective bargaining agreement.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex

GOVERNMENT CODE

12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act, especially:

12940 Prohibited discrimination

12950 Sexual harassment; distribution of information

12950.1 Sexual harassment training

LABOR CODE

1101 Political activities of employees

1102.1 Discrimination: sexual orientation

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

11009 Employment discrimination

11021 Retaliation

11023 Harassment and discrimination prevention and correction

11024 Sexual harassment training and education

11034 Terms, conditions, and privileges of employment

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs receiving state financial assistance

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

*2000d-2000d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964
2000e-2000e-17 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

*106.1-106.9 Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities
106.51-106.82 Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in employment in education programs or activities*

COURT DECISIONS

*Department of Health Services v. Superior Court of California, (2003) 31 Cal.4th 1026
Faragher v. City of Boca Raton, (1998) 118 S.Ct. 2275
Burlington Industries v. Ellreth, (1998) 118 S.Ct. 2257
Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent School District, (1998) 118 S.Ct. 1989
Oncale v. Sundowner Offshore Serv. Inc., (1998) 118 S.Ct. 998
Meritor Savings Bank, FSB v. Vinson et al., (1986) 447 U.S. 57*

Management Resources:

U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS
Promising Practices for Preventing Harassment, November 2017

WEB SITES

*California Department of Fair Employment and Housing:
<http://www.dfeh.ca.gov> Equal Employment Opportunity Commission:
<http://www.eeoc.gov>
U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights:
<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html>*