

5.10.062-P Sexual Harassment – Staff To Student

(1) Sexual Harassment.

- (a) It is the policy of the Portland school district to maintain a school environment free of sexual harassment of students. No student shall be subjected to sexual harassment by its staff and volunteers or its contractors.
- (b) Sexual harassment is a form of sexual discrimination. Sexual discrimination and thus sexual harassment are distinct from sexual abuse and sexual assault.
- (c) Sexual harassment includes conduct, verbal or nonverbal, which denigrates or shows hostility to a student or students by reason of their gender. Examples of sexual harassment include:
 - (A) Language or action demeaning to students on the basis of gender;
 - (B) Ridicule and abuse on the basis of gender;
 - (C) Penalties or disadvantages imposed by reason of gender.
- (d) No employee or volunteer in the Portland school district shall subject any student to sexual harassment or require any student to submit to sexual harassment.
- (e) The district has an obligation to provide training to employees and volunteers in order to prevent sexual harassment of students.
- (f) The superintendent shall establish by regulation an effective complaint process, which shall be referenced in the "Handbook on Student Responsibilities, Rights and Discipline."
 - (A) District staff shall promptly respond to complaints of sexual harassment.
 - (B) District staff shall conduct a thorough, fair and impartial investigation of complaints. The investigation shall examine the instance alleged to determine if it constitutes a crime, professional misconduct, student discipline or need for supervisory action. An investigation shall respect all rights of all parties to a complaint.
 - (C) If investigation determines that corrective action is necessary, the district shall take such action.
 - (D) The district may take appropriate disciplinary action against individual members of the staff or volunteers if there is a true finding of misconduct. Actions taken shall be appropriate to the

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severity of the misconduct and designed for the purpose of ending misconduct and protecting the learning environment.

(2) Additional Protections.

- (a) It is the policy of the Portland school district that each school shall take affirmative steps to assure that students are not subjected to any form of sexual harassment by staff or volunteers in any school, in any school program or at any time by any district staff or volunteer of their school.
- (b) Sexual harassment for the purposes of this section shall include any attempt by action or words to establish with a student an amorous, sexual, lascivious or lewd relationship, knowingly using lascivious or lewd language or gestures in the presence of a student, or permitting a student to continue acts or statements which can be reasonably perceived as attempting to establish an amorous or sexual relationship with the staff member or volunteer. Staff and volunteers shall promptly report any attempt by a student to establish an amorous or sexual relationship with a staff member or volunteer.
- (c) Staff or volunteers becoming aware of a violation of this section shall report the information to the principal. Principals shall immediately report to the school police for investigation every such incident, which comes to their attention. If staff or volunteers by action or words have attempted to establish with a student an amorous, sexual, lascivious or lewd relationship or permitted a student to continue to pursue such a relationship, it shall be clear grounds for dismissal, and a copy of the school police report documenting the circumstances shall be referred to the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission and the Personnel Office for appropriate action. Making an intentionally false report of sexual harassment shall also be grounds for dismissal. Failure of a staff member or volunteer to promptly report a student's romantic advances shall be handled by the principal.

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Legal References: ORS 243.706; ORS 659.010 (14); OAR 584-020-0040; ORS 342.700; ORS 659.020; OAR 584-020-0041; ORS 342.704; ORS 659.029; ORS 342.708; ORS 659.030; ORS 342.850; ORS 659.040; ORS 342.865; ORS 659.150; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C.A., Section 2000(e) et seq. (West 1985); Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, 29 U.S.C.A., Section 621 (West 1985); Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, 42 U.S.C.A., Section 6101 (West 1985); Equal Pay Act of 1963, as amended, 29 U.S.C.A., Section 206(d) (West 1985); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C.A., Sections 1681, 1682 and 1683 (West 1985); Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C.A. Sections 504, 791, 793 and 794 (West 1985); Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. Section 12101 et seq. 29 CFR Part 1630

History: Adpt. 8/11/94

