

PERSONNEL

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The District is committed to a positive and productive education and working environment free from discrimination, including sexual harassment. The District prohibits sexual harassment of students, employees and others involved in school district activities.

Sexual harassment occurs when:

- A. Submitting to the harasser's sexual demands is a stated or implied condition of obtaining an education or work opportunity or other benefit;
- B. Submission to or rejection of sexual demands is a factor in an academic, work or other school-related decision affecting an individual; or
- C. Unwelcome sexual or gender-directed conduct or communication interferes with an individual's performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

Sexual harassment can occur adult-to-student, student-to-adult, student-to-student, adult-to-adult.

The District will take prompt, equitable, and remedial action within its authority on reports, complaints, and grievances alleging sexual harassment that come to the attention of the District, either formally or informally. Allegations of criminal misconduct will be reported to law enforcement and suspected child abuse will be reported to law enforcement or Child Protective Services. Persons found to have been subjected to sexual harassment will have appropriate school district services made reasonably available to them and adverse consequences of the harassment shall be reviewed and remedied, as appropriate.

Engaging in sexual harassment will result in appropriate discipline or other appropriate sanctions against offending students, staff, and contractors. Anyone else who engages in sexual harassment on school property or at school activities will have their access to school property and activities restricted, as appropriate.

Retaliation against any person who makes or is a witness in a sexual harassment complaint is prohibited and will result in appropriate discipline. The District will take appropriate actions to protect involved persons from retaliation.

It is a violation of this policy to knowingly report false allegations of sexual harassment. Persons found to knowingly report or corroborate false allegations will be subject to appropriate discipline.

The superintendent will develop and implement formal and informal procedures for receiving, investigating, and resolving complaints or reports of sexual harassment. The procedures will include reasonable and prompt time lines and delineate staff responsibilities under this policy. All staff are responsible for receiving informal complaints and reports of sexual harassment and informing appropriate District personnel of the complaint or report for investigation and resolution. All staff are also responsible for directing complainants to the formal complaint process.

The superintendent will develop procedures to provide age-appropriate information and education to district staff, students, parents/guardians and volunteers regarding this policy and the recognition and prevention of sexual harassment. At a minimum, sexual harassment recognition

and prevention and the elements of this policy will be included in staff, student, and regular volunteer orientation. This policy and the procedure, which includes the complaint process, will be posted in each district building in a place available to staff, students, parents/guardians, volunteers, and visitors. The policy and procedure will be reproduced in each student, staff, volunteer, and parent/guardian handbook.

The superintendent will make an annual report to the board reviewing the use and efficacy of this policy and related procedures. Recommendations for changes to this policy, if applicable, ~~shall~~ will be included in the report. The superintendent is encouraged to involve staff, students, ~~and~~ volunteers and parents/guardians in the review process.

Cross References:	Policy 3200	Student Rights and Responsibilities
	Policy 3207	Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying
	Policy 3210	Nondiscrimination
	Policy 3240	Student Conduct
	Policy 3421	Child Abuse and Neglect
	Policy 5010	Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action
	Policy 5281	Disciplinary Action and Discharge
Legal References:	RCW 28A.640.020	Regulations, guidelines to eliminate discrimination – Scope – Sexual harassment policies
	WAC 392-190-058	Sexual harassment
	Policy News	
Management Resources		October 2010 December 2014

Date: 6/17/93; 1/25/99; 2/12/01; 11/24/03; 1/24/11; 4/27/15; 4/20/23.

PORT TOWNSEND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 50