

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT # 097  
POLICY**

**CODE: B 5**

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING: 12/17/2020  
2<sup>ND</sup> READING: 01/14/2021  
ADOPTED: 01/14/2021**

**EMPLOYEE UNLAWFUL HARASSMENT**

**1. POLICY**

Harassment is a form of unlawful discrimination that will not be tolerated in the Barre Unified Union School District (BUUSD). Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, written or physical conduct constituting harassment as defined herein and by state and federal law violate this policy. Retaliation against any person raising good faith allegations of unlawful harassment or against any witness cooperating in an investigation by the BUUSD pursuant to this policy is prohibited.

**2. DEFINITIONS**

**Employee:** For purposes of this policy, any person who may be permitted, required or directed by the BUUSD, in consideration of direct or indirect gain or profit, to perform services for the BUUSD or a member district.

**Unlawful Harassment:** Verbal, written or physical conduct based on an employee's race, religion, color, national origin, marital status, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, age, political affiliation, ancestry, place of birth, genetic information or disability which has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an employee's work or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

**Sexual Harassment:** Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- a. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment; or
- b. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a component of the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or
- c. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment.

**Retaliation:** Retaliation is adverse action taken against a person for making a complaint of unlawful harassment or for participating in or cooperating with an investigation.

### 3. EXAMPLES

Unlawful harassment can include any unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct which offends, denigrates, or belittles an employee because of the employee's race, religion, color, national origin, marital status, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, age, ancestry, place of birth, genetic information or disability. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to: unsolicited derogatory remarks, jokes, demeaning comments or behavior, slurs, mimicking, name calling, graffiti, innuendo, gestures, physical contact, stalking, threatening, bullying, extorting or the display or circulation of written materials or pictures.

#### **Sex**

Sexual harassment may include unwelcome touching, crude jokes or pictures, discussions of sexual experiences, teasing related to sexual characteristics, pressure for sexual activity, display or sending of pornographic pictures or objects, obscene graffiti, and spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities.

*Please be aware that any sexual harassment allegations must be considered and processed pursuant to the District's Title IX policy.*

#### **Race and Color**

Racial or color harassment may include unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct directed at the characteristics of a person's race or color such as nicknames emphasizing stereotypes, racial slurs, and negative references to racial customs.

#### **Religion**

Harassment on the basis of religion includes unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct directed at the characteristics of a person's religion or creed such as derogatory comments regarding surnames, religious tradition, or religious clothing, or religious slurs.

#### **National Origin and Place of Birth**

Harassment on the basis of national origin includes unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct directed at the characteristics of a person's national origin or place of birth such as negative comments regarding surnames, manner of speaking, customs, language or ethnic slurs.

#### **Age**

Age harassment includes unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct directed at someone (an applicant or employee) age 40 or older, such as offensive remarks about a person's ability to perform certain tasks because of his or her age.

#### **Marital Status**

Harassment on the basis of marital status includes unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct directed at the characteristics of a person's marital status, such as comments regarding pregnancy or being an unwed mother or father.

**Sexual Orientation**

Harassment on the basis of sexual orientation includes unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct directed at the characteristics of a person's sexual orientation.

**Gender Identity**

Harassment on the basis of gender identity includes unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct directed at an individual's actual or perceived gender identity, or gender-related characteristics intrinsically related to an individual's gender or gender identity, regardless of the individual's assigned sex at birth.

**Disability**

Disability harassment includes any unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct directed at the characteristics of a person's disabling mental or physical condition such as imitating manner of speech or movement, or interference with necessary equipment.

**Genetic Information**

Genetic information harassment can include, for example, making offensive or derogatory remarks about an applicant or employee's genetic information, or about the genetic information of a relative of the applicant or employee. Genetic information includes information about an individual's genetic tests and the genetic tests of an individual's family members, as well as information about family medical history.

**Training**

The District shall implement a reasonable training program to make employees aware of the District's sexual harassment policies and procedures.