

Twin Valley School District

No. 247

SECTION(S): Pupils
 TITLE: Hazing
 ADOPTED: March 19, 2001
 REVISED: September 19, 2016

1		No. 247 Hazing	1
2			2
3	1. Purpose	The opportunity for students to participate on athletic teams	3
4		and in athletic, extracurricular or co-curricular events	4
5		sponsored by the school district is a privilege extended to the	5
6		students of the district, which privilege may be suspended or	6
7		revoked under certain circumstances. The Twin Valley School	7
8		Board strives to provide a safe, positive, education and	8
9		extracurricular climate for its students and participants in	9
10		athletic, extracurricular or co-curricular activities and events.	10
11		Hazing, as hereinafter defined, regardless of the form in which it	11
12		takes, shall not be tolerated, and activities which constitute	12
13		hazing shall be disciplined and governed by the provisions	13
14		hereinafter set forth.	14
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16	2. Definitions	The term hazing is hereafter defined as follows:	16
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18	24 P.S.	Any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally	18
19	Sec. 5352	endangers, the mental or physical health or safety of a student	19
20		or which willfully destroys or removes public or private property	20
21		for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with,	21
22		or as a condition for continued membership in, any organization	22
23		operating under the sanction of or sponsored as an organization	23
24		by the school district. The term shall include, but not be limited	24
25		to, any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating,	25
26		branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the elements, forced	26
27		consumption of any food, liquor, drug or other substance, or any	27
28		other forced physical activity which could adversely affect the	28
29		physical health and safety of the individual, and shall include	29
30		any activity which would subject the individual to extreme	30
31		mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from	31
32		social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme	32
33		embarrassment, or any other forced activity which could	33
34		adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual, or	34
35		any willful destruction or removal of public or private property.	35
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37		For purposes of this policy, any activity as described in this	37
38		definition upon which the initiation or admission into or	38
39		affiliation with or continued membership in an organization is	39
40		directly or indirectly conditioned shall be presumed to be	40
41		"forced" activity, the willingness of an individual to participate in	41
42		such activity notwithstanding.	42
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44		For purposes of this policy, student activity or organization is	44
45		defined as any organization, team, club, society, or group	45
46		operating under the sanction of or sponsored as an organization	46
47		by the district.	47
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1	3. Authority	The Board prohibits hazing in connection with any student	1
2	SC 511	activity or organization regardless of whether the conduct occurs	2
3	24 P.S.	on or off school property or outside of school hours.	3
4	Sec. 5354		4
5		No student, parent/guardian, coach, sponsor, volunteer or	5
6		district employee shall engage in, condone or ignore any form of	6
7		hazing.	7
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9		The Board encourages students who have been subjected to	9
10		hazing to promptly report such incidents to the coach, sponsor,	10
11		or building principal.	11
12			12
13	4. Delegation of	It shall be the responsibility of all employees, including without	13
14	Responsibility	limitation, coaches, assistant coaches and athletic,	14
15		extracurricular or co-curricular sponsors to protect the rights,	15
16		safety and welfare of the students and athletes and to ensure an	16
17		atmosphere free from all forms of hazing. Students, parents/	17
18		guardians, coaches, sponsors, volunteers, and district	18
19		employees shall be alert to incidents of hazing and shall report	19
20		any and all information received by such individuals and all	20
21		knowledge or reports of hazing, or anticipated hazing, shall be	21
22		reported to the principal or athletic director.	22
23			23
24		District administrators shall investigate promptly all complaints	24
25		of hazing and administer appropriate discipline to any individual	25
26		or student activity or organization found to be in violation of this	26
27		policy.	27
28			28
29		1. If a student, athlete, extracurricular or co-curricular activity	29
30	5. Guidelines	participant obtains information or hears about an actual or	30
31	SC 511	potential "hazing" incident, such student shall immediately	31
32	24 P.S.	report this information to his/her coach, sponsor or principal.	32
33	Sec. 5354		33
34		2. The coach or sponsor shall immediately notify the principal	34
35		and/or athletic director, all of whom shall take immediate	35
36		measures to address the situation, as hereinafter set forth.	36
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38		3. Students or athletes or extra-curricular or co-curricular	38
39		activity participants who become aware of a "hazing" incident, or	39
40		if they are personally confronted with a hazing situation, the	40
41		student should immediately make it known to the hazing	41
42		participants that this behavior is unwelcome and that she/he	42
43		refuses to take part in it. Any retaliation for a student's refusal	43
44		to participate in a hazing event shall be immediately reported to	44
45		the coach, sponsor or principal. A student who willingly	45
46		participated in a hazing event, regardless of whether she/he	46
47		initiated it shall have violated this policy and shall be subject to	47
48		disciplinary action.	48
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1		4. Upon receipt of information regarding hazing, the coach or	1
2		extra-curricular, or co-curricular sponsor shall inform the	2
3		principal and/or athletic director thereof. Likewise, the coach	3
4		or sponsor shall be notified, should either the principal or the	4
5		athletic director be the first recipient of information pertaining	5
6		to hazing.	6
7			7
8		5. The principal shall immediately conduct a full investigation,	8
9		which shall be conducted in a confidential and thorough	9
10		manner. The principal shall notify the Superintendent of the	10
11		pending investigation and the circumstances related thereto.	11
12			12
13		6. As a part of the principal's investigation, the parents of any	13
14		such student who may be involved in the hazing incident shall	14
15		be notified and apprised of the facts pertaining to their child.	15
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17		7. In the event the hazing involved, or will involve, illegal	17
18		activity, the principal shall notify the appropriate police	18
19		agencies.	19
20			20
21		8. The principal shall provide a written report of his/her	21
22		findings, and recommend disposition and any disciplinary	22
23		measures to the Superintendent based upon such findings.	23
24			24
25		9. The principal shall document the corrective action taken.	25
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27		<u>Disciplinary Measures</u>	27
28		The disciplinary measures imposed herein shall not be	28
29		exhaustive and may be imposed in addition to any other	29
30		disciplinary measures which may be applicable and/or	30
31		appropriate, provided for elsewhere in the policies of the Twin	31
32		Valley School District.	32
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34		1. A student found to be in violation of this policy shall be	34
35		subject to disciplinary measures set forth in the discretion of	35
36		the building administrator, which may include suspension,	36
37		and/or permanent exclusion from athletic teams, athletic	37
38		events, extra-curricular and co-curricular activities and events	38
39		up to and including expulsion from school.	39
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41		2. A student found to have made false statements in	41
42		connection with this policy shall be subject to the same	42
43		disciplinary measure as those found to have actually violated	43
44		the policy.	44
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1		3. The policy herein shall be applicable to any and all incidents	1
2		of hazing involving the district's students or athletes, regardless	2
3		of whether they occurred on or off school premises, or	3
4		regardless of whether they occurred during the school year, or	4
5		outside of the school year, including without limitation during	5
6		the summer recess months.	6
7			7
8		If the investigation results in a substantiated finding that a	8
9		coach, sponsor, or volunteer affiliated with the student activity	9
10		or organization engaged in, condoned or ignored any violation	10
11		of this policy, s/he shall be disciplined in accordance with	11
12		Board policy and applicable laws and regulations. Discipline	12
13		could include, but is not limited to, dismissal from the position	13
14		as coach, sponsor, or volunteer, and/or dismissal from district	14
15		employment.	15
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17	24 P.S.	If a student activity or organization authorizes hazing in blatant	17
18	Sec. 5354	disregard of this policy or other applicable district rules,	18
19		penalties may also include rescision of permission for that	19
20		organization to operate on school property or to otherwise	20
21		operate under the sanction or sponsorship of the district.	21
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23		Any person who causes or participates in hazing may also be	23
24	24 P.S.	subject to criminal prosecution.	24
25	Sec. 5353		25
26		<u>Due Process</u>	26
27		If, as a result of the aforesaid investigation, the building	27
28		administrator concluded that a violation of the policy occurred,	28
29		then the students and/or athletes involved shall be notified,	29
30		along with their parents or guardians, and a meeting shall be	30
31		held at which the student shall have an opportunity to review	31
32		and challenge the evidence substantiating the violation. If,	32
33		after the due process meeting, the building administrator finds	33
34		that a violation occurred, then the building administrator shall	34
35		take such disciplinary action as may be appropriate.	35
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37		<u>Annual Notification</u>	37
38		The athletic director shall, on an annual basis, inform the	38
39	SC 511	district's coaches and athletes of the district's foregoing policy	39
40	24 P.S.	on hazing. The principal shall inform the sponsors and	40
41	Sec. 5354	students of the foregoing hazing policy. The policy shall be	41
42		posted on the district's website.	42
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