

<i>Policy</i>	<i>Title</i> HAZING (PROHIBITION OF)	<i>Code</i> JICFA
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HOLLISTON

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 269,ss.17-19, the Holliston School Committee hereby deems that no student, employee, or school organization under the control of the Holliston School Committee shall engage in the activity of hazing a student while on or off school property, or at a school sponsored event regardless of the location. No organization that uses the facilities or grounds under the control of the Holliston School Committee shall engage in the activity of hazing any person while on school property. The term “hazing” as used in this Policy and under state law shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any student or person, or which subjects a student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation.

A copy of this policy as well as copies of M.G.L. ch.269, § 17-19 will be provided to all organizations that have students as participants and who use school property for their events. All student groups, teams, or other organizations shall be required on an annual basis to distribute a copy of this policy and M.G.L. ch.269, § 17-19 to each of their members or applicants for membership. Each student group, team, or organization, whether student or outside group shall, on an annual basis, sign and deliver to the superintendent’s office an attested acknowledgement stating that such group, team or organization has received copies of M.G.L.ch. 269, § 17-19 and that each of its members or applicants has received a copy of the same sections and that such group, team or organization understands and agrees to comply with the provisions of these sections and this Policy.

Whoever is subject to this policy and who knows that another person is the victim of hazing as defined in this policy shall, to the extent that such person can do so without danger or peril to himself or others, report such information to the principal including the time, date, location, names of identifiable participants and the behavior observed. Said individuals shall also be obligated to report any witnessed hazing to an appropriate law enforcement official as soon as reasonably practicable.

Any student who is present at a hazing has the obligation to report such an incident. Failure to report such an incident may result in disciplinary action by the school against that student and could involve suspension from school.

Any student who is a principal organizer or participant in hazing of another student or person may be suspended from school for up to ten (10) school days and/or recommended for exclusion.

In all cases relating to hazing, students will receive procedural due process.

First Reading:	August 25, 2005
Second Reading:	September 8, 2005
Third Reading:	October 6, 2005
Policy Adopted:	October 6, 2005
Policy Amended:	
Legal References:	M.G.L. 269:17,18,19
Policy Cross Reference:	JIC (Expected Conduct) ; KF (Use of School Facilities)
Procedure Reference:	