STUDENT WELFARE FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION (LEGAL)

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Note	The following legal provisions address dating violence and sexual harassment. For legal provisions addressing discrimination on the basis of disability, sex, and other protected characteristics, see FB.			
	strict shall adopt and implement a dating violence policy to be ded in the district improvement plan.			
A dating violence policy must include:				
1.	A definition of dating violence that includes the intentional use of physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse by a person to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control another person in a dat- ing relationship, as defined by Family Code 71.0021;			
2.	A clear statement that dating violence is not tolerated at school; and			
3.	Reporting procedures and guidelines for students who are victims of dating violence, including a procedure for immedi- ately notifying the parent or guardian of a student about a re- port received by the district identifying the student as an al- leged victim or perpetrator of dating violence.			
A dating violence policy must also address safety planning, en- forcement of protective orders, school-based alternatives to protec- tive orders, training for teachers and administrators at each district campus that instructs students in grade 6 or higher, counseling for affected students, and awareness education for students and par- ents.				
Educ	cation Code 37.083, .0831 [See BQ]			
To the extent possible, a district shall make available to students age-appropriate educational materials that include information on the dangers of dating violence and resources to students seeking help. <i>Education Code</i> 37.0831(c)				
Note	References to Title IX, part, or subpart in the following legal provisions refer to Title IX and its corresponding regulations.			
	The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights has issued a formal interpretation that discrimina- tion on the basis of sex under Title IX includes discrimi- nation on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.			
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STUDENT WELFARE FFE FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION (LEGAL						
Sexual Harassment	A district may develop and implement a sexual harassment policy to be included in the district improvement plan. <i>Education Code 37.083</i> [See BQ]					
	Sexual abuse of a student by an employee, when there is nection between the physical sexual activity and the emplo duties and obligations as a district employee, violates a stu- constitutional right to bodily integrity. Sexual abuse may in fondling, sexual assault, or sexual intercourse. <i>U.S. Const</i> <i>14; Doe v. Taylor Indep. Sch. Dist.</i> , <i>15 F.3d 443 (5th Cir. 1</i>)	oyee's udent's iclude <i>t. Amend.</i>				
	No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, I cluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or b jected to discrimination under any education program or a ceiving federal financial assistance. <i>20 U.S.C. 1681 (Title</i>)	oe sub- ctivity re-				
	to a formal complaint of sexual harassment may constitute	A district's treatment of a complainant or a respondent in response o a formal complaint of sexual harassment may constitute discrim- nation on the basis of sex under Title IX. <i>34 C.F.R. 106.45; 20</i> <i>J.S.C. 1681</i> [See also FB regarding Title IX]				
Designation of Title IX Coordinator	A district must designate and authorize at least one emplo coordinate its efforts to comply with its responsibilities und IX, which employee must be referred to as the "Title IX Co tor."	ler Title				
Parties Entitled to Notice	The district must notify applicants for admission and emplois students, parents or legal guardians, employees, and all p sional organizations holding professional agreements with trict ("Parties Entitled to Notice") of the name or title, office dress, electronic mail address, and telephone number of the employee or employees designated as the Title IX Coordin	orofes- the dis- ad- he				
	34 C.F.R. 106.8(a)					
Reporting	Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual ment (whether or not the person reporting is the person all be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimin sexual harassment), in person, by mail, by telephone, or be tronic mail, using the contact information listed for the Title ordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX nator receiving the person's verbal or written report. Such may be made at any time (including during nonbusiness h using the telephone number or electronic mail address, or to the office address, listed for the Title IX Coordinator. 34 106.8(a)	leged to nation or by elec- e IX Co- (Coordi- a report ours) by by mail				
Notification of Policy	A district must notify the Parties Entitled to Notice, above, district does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the edu program or activity that it operates, and that it is required by	ucation				
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	not to discriminate in such a manner. The notification must state that the requirement not to discriminate in the education program or activity extends to employment, and that inquiries about the ap- plication of Title IX to such district may be referred to the district's Title IX Coordinator, to the assistant secretary for civil rights of the Department of Education, or both.			
	34 C.F.R. 106.2(d), .8(b)(1)			
Publication Requirements	A district must prominently display the contact information required to be listed for the Title IX Coordinator and the nondiscrimination policy described at Notification of Policy, above, on its website, if any, and in each handbook that it makes available to the Parties Entitled to Notice, above.			
	district tre	must not use or distribute a publication stating that the eats applicants, students, or employees differently on the sex except as such treatment is permitted by Title IX.		
	34 C.F.R	. 106.8(b)(2)		
	Note:	To distinguish the process described below from the dis- trict's general grievance policies [see DGBA, FNG, and GF], this policy refers to the grievance process required by Title IX regulations for responding to formal com- plaints of Title IX sexual harassment in an education pro- gram or activity and against a person in the United States as the district's "Title IX formal complaint process."		
Adopting and Publishing Complaint Procedures	prompt a plaints al a Title IX	must adopt and publish procedures that provide for the nd equitable resolution of student and employee com- leging any action that would be prohibited by Title IX and formal complaint process that complies with 34 C.F.R. or formal complaints as defined below.		
	above, of process, nation, he	must provide notice to the Parties Entitled to Notice, the district's procedures and Title IX formal complaint including how to report or file a complaint of sex discrimi- tow to report or file a formal complaint of sexual harass- d how the district will respond.		
	•	irements of this provision apply only to sex discrimination against a person in the United States.		
	. 106.8(c)–(d)			

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Response to Sexual Harassment	"Actual knowledge" means notice of sexual harassment or allega- tions of sexual harassment to a district's Title IX Coordinator or any
Definitions	official of the district who has authority to institute corrective mea- sures on behalf of the district, or to any employee of an elementary and secondary school. Imputation of knowledge based solely on vi- carious liability or constructive notice is insufficient to constitute ac- tual knowledge. This standard is not met when the only official of the district with actual knowledge is the respondent. The mere abil- ity or obligation to report sexual harassment or to inform a student about how to report sexual harassment, or having been trained to do so, does not qualify an individual as one who has authority to in- stitute corrective measures on behalf of the district. "Notice" as used in this paragraph includes, but is not limited to, a report of sexual harassment to the Title IX Coordinator.
	"Complainant" means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.
	"Consent" is not defined by the Title IX regulations, nor do the reg- ulations require districts to adopt a particular definition of consent with respect to sexual assault.
	"Formal complaint" means a document filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a respondent and requesting that the district investigate the allegation of sexual harassment. At the time of filing a formal com- plaint, a complainant must be participating in or attempting to par- ticipate in the education program or activity of the district with which the formal complaint is filed. A formal complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, or by electronic mail, by using the contact information required to be listed for the Title IX Coordinator, and by any additional method designated by the district. As used in this paragraph, the phrase "document filed by a complainant" means a document or electronic submission (such as by electronic mail or through an online portal provided for this purpose by the district) that contains the complainant's physi- cal or digital signature, or otherwise indicates that the complainant is the person filing the formal complaint. Where the Title IX Coordi- nator signs a formal complaint, the Title IX Coordinator is not a complainant or otherwise a party to a Title IX formal complaint, and must comply with the requirements of the Title IX formal complaint process, including the informal resolution process.
	"Respondent" means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

"Sexual harassment" means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

- 1. An employee of the district conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the district on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
- Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the district's education program or activity; or
- "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(v), "dating violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10), "domestic violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8), or "stalking" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30).

"Supportive measures" means nondisciplinary, nonpunitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the complainant or the respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed. Such measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the district's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the district's educational environment, or deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may include counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, campus escort services, mutual restrictions on contact between the parties, changes in work or district-provided housing locations, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus, and other similar measures. The district must maintain as confidential any supportive measures provided to the complainant or respondent, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the district to provide the supportive measures. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of supportive measures.

34 C.F.R. 106.2, .30(a)

Deliberate Indifference A district with actual knowledge of sexual harassment in an education program or activity of the district against a person in the United States, must respond promptly in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent. A district is deliberately indifferent only if its response to sexual harassment is clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances.

EducationFor the purposes of 34 C.F.R. 106.30 [see Definitions, above] andProgram or106.45 [see Process for Title IX Formal Complaint, below], "educa-Activitytion program or activity" includes locations, events, or circum-
stances over which the district exercised substantial control over

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both the respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs.

34 C.F.R. 106.44(a)

- Title IX Coordinator Response The Title IX Coordinator must promptly contact the complainant to discuss the availability of supportive measures, consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures, inform the complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint, and explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint. The Title IX Coordinator must respond in this manner with or without a formal complaint. 34 $C.F.R. \ 106.44(b)(1)$
 - Supportive
MeasuresA district's response must treat complainants and respondents eq-
uitably by offering supportive measures and by following a process
that complies with 34 C.F.R. 106.45 [see Process for Title IX For-
mal Complaint, below] before the imposition of any disciplinary
sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures
against a respondent. [For Emergency Removal procedures, see
below.]
 - Constitutional Restrictions The Department of Education may not deem a district to have satisfied the district's duty to not be deliberately indifferent under Title IX based on the district's restriction of rights protected under the U.S. Constitution, including the First Amendment, Fifth Amendment, and Fourteenth Amendment.

34 C.F.R. 106.44(a)

Response to a Formal Complaint In response to a formal complaint, a district must follow a process that complies with 34 C.F.R. 106.45 [see Process for Title IX Formal Complaint, below]. *34 C.F.R. 106.44(b)(1)*

Emergency The Title IX regulations do not preclude a district from removing a respondent from the district's education program or activity on an emergency basis, provided that the district:

- 1. Undertakes an individualized safety and risk analysis;
- 2. Determines that an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of sexual harassment justifies removal; and
- 3. Provides the respondent with notice and an opportunity to challenge the decision immediately following the removal.

	This provision may not be construed to modify any rights under the				
	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Re- habilitation Act of 1973, or the Americans with Disabilities Act.				
	34 C.F.R. 106.44(c)				
Administrative Leave	The Title IX regulations do not preclude a district from placing a nonstudent employee respondent on administrative leave during the pendency of a Title IX formal complaint. This provision may not be construed to modify any rights under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans with Disabilities Act. 34 <i>C.F.R.</i> 106.44(d)				
Process for Title IX Formal Complaint	For the purpose of addressing formal complaints of sexual harassment, a district's process must comply with the following requirements. Any provisions, rules, or practices other than those required by this provision that a district adopts as part of its process for handling formal complaints of sexual harassment must apply equally to both parties. <i>34 C.F.R. 106.45(b)</i>				
	A district's Title IX formal complaint process must:				
	1. Treat complainants and respondents equitably by providing remedies to a complainant where a determination of responsibility for sexual harassment has been made against the respondent, and by following a process that complies with the Title IX regulations before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures against a respondent. Remedies must be designed to restore or preserve equal access to the district's education program or activity. Such remedies may include the same individualized services described as supportive measures; however, remedies need not be nondisciplinary or nonpunitive and need not avoid burdening the respondent;				
	 Require an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence—in- cluding both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence—and pro- vide that credibility determinations may not be based on a person's status as a complainant, respondent, or witness; 				
	3. Require that any individual designated by a district as a Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, or any person designated by a district to facilitate an informal resolution process, not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual complainant or respondent. A district must ensure that Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process, receive training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the dis-				

trict's education program or activity, how to conduct an investigation and Title IX formal complaint process including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes, as applicable, and how to serve impartially, including by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest, and bias. A district must ensure that decision-makers receive training on any technology to be used at a live hearing. if any. and on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant. [See Hearings, below] A district also must ensure that investigators receive training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence. [See Investigation of a Formal Complaint, below] Any materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process, must not rely on sex stereotypes and must promote impartial investigations and adjudications of formal complaints of sexual harassment;

- Include a presumption that the respondent is not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the Title IX formal complaint process;
- 5. Include reasonably prompt time frames for conclusion of the Title IX formal complaint process, including reasonably prompt time frames for filing and resolving appeals and informal resolution processes if the district offers informal resolution processes, and a process that allows for the temporary delay of the Title IX formal complaint process or the limited extension of time frames for good cause with written notice to the complainant and the respondent of the delay or extension and the reasons for the action. Good cause may include considerations such as the absence of a party, a party's advisor, or a witness; concurrent law enforcement activity; or the need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities;
- Describe the range of possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies or list the possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies that the district may implement following any determination of responsibility;
- 7. State whether the standard of evidence to be used to determine responsibility is the preponderance of the evidence standard or the clear and convincing evidence standard, apply the same standard of evidence for formal complaints against students as for formal complaints against employees, including

			lty, and apply the same standard of evidence to all formal plaints of sexual harassment;	
	8.		ude the procedures and permissible bases for the com- nant and respondent to appeal;	
	9.		cribe the range of supportive measures available to com- nants and respondents; and	
	10.	evid prot	require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or lence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information ected under a legally recognized privilege, unless the per- holding such privilege has waived the privilege.	
	34 (C.F.R	. 106.45(b)(1)	
Notice of Allegations	-		eipt of a formal complaint, a district must provide the fol- itten notice to the parties who are known:	
	1.		ce of the district's Title IX formal complaint process, in- ling any informal resolution process.	
	2.	Notice of the allegations of sexual harassment potentia stituting sexual harassment, including sufficient details at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a respon fore any initial interview. Sufficient details include:		
		a.	The identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known;	
		b.	The conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment; and	
		C.	The date and location of the alleged incident, if known.	
		den that cone ten sor atto tion form duct know	written notice must include a statement that the respon- t is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and a determination regarding responsibility is made at the clusion of the Title IX formal complaint process. The writ- notice must inform the parties that they may have an advi- of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an rney and may inspect and review evidence [see Investiga- of a Formal Complaint, below]. The written notice must in- n the parties of any provision in the district's code of con- t that prohibits knowingly making false statements or wingly submitting false information during the Title IX for- complaint process.	
	lf in	tha (course of an investigation, the district decides to investi-	

If, in the course of an investigation, the district decides to investigate allegations about the complainant or respondent that are not included in the Notice of Allegations, above, the district must provide notice of the additional allegations to the parties whose identities are known.

34 C.F.R. 106.45(b)(2)

Dismissal of a Formal Complaint The district must investigate the allegations in a formal complaint. If the conduct alleged in the formal complaint would not constitute sexual harassment even if proved, did not occur in the district's education program or activity, or did not occur against a person in the United States, then the district must dismiss the formal complaint with regard to that conduct for purposes of sexual harassment under Title IX; such a dismissal does not preclude action under another provision of the district's code of conduct.

> The district may dismiss the formal complaint or any allegations therein, if at any time during the investigation or hearing: a complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that the complainant would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any allegations therein; the respondent is no longer enrolled or employed by the district; or specific circumstances prevent the district from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations therein.

Upon a dismissal required or permitted pursuant to 34 C.F.R. 106.45(b)(3), the district must promptly send written notice of the dismissal and reason(s) therefor simultaneously to the parties.

Consolidation of Formal Complaints A district may consolidate formal complaints as to allegations of sexual harassment against more than one respondent, or by more than one complainant against one or more respondents, or by one party against the other party, where the allegations of sexual harassment arise out of the same facts or circumstances. Where a Title IX formal complaint process involves more than one complainant or more than one respondent, references in this provision to the singular "party," "complainant," or "respondent" include the plural, as applicable.

34 C.F.R. 106.45(b)(3)-(4)

Investigation of a When investigating a formal complaint and throughout the Title IX *Formal Complaint* formal complaint process, a district must:

1. Ensure that the burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rest on the district and not on the parties provided that the district cannot access, consider, disclose, or otherwise use a party's records that are made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in the professional's or paraprofessional's capacity, or assisting in that capacity, and which are made and maintained in connection with the provision of treatment to the party, unless the district obtains that party's voluntary, written consent to do so for a Title IX formal complaint (if a party is not an "eligible student," as defined in 34 C.F.R. 99.3 then the district must obtain the voluntary, written consent of a "parent," as defined in 34 C.F.R. 99.3) [see FL(LEGAL) at Education Records];

- 2. Provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence;
- Not restrict the ability of either party to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence;
- 4. Provide the parties with the same opportunities to have others present during any Title IX formal complaint proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by the advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, and not limit the choice or presence of advisor for either the complainant or respondent in any meeting or Title IX formal complaint proceeding; however, the district may establish restrictions regarding the extent to which the advisor may participate in the proceedings, as long as the restrictions apply equally to both parties;
- 5. Provide, to a party whose participation is invited or expected, written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of all hearings, investigative interviews, or other meetings, with sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate;
- 6. Provide both parties an equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in a formal complaint, including the evidence upon which the district does not intend to rely in reaching a determination regarding responsibility and inculpatory or exculpatory evidence whether obtained from a party or other source, so that each party can meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to conclusion of the investigation. Prior to completion of the investigative report, the district must send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the evidence subject to inspection and review in an electronic format or a hard copy, and the parties must have at least ten days to submit a written response, which the investigator will consider prior to completion of the investigative report. The district must make all such evidence subject to the parties' inspection and review available at any hearing to give each

party equal opportunity to refer to such evidence during the hearing, including for purposes of cross-examination; and

7. Create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence and, at least ten days prior to a hearing (if a hearing is required or otherwise provided) or other time of determination regarding responsibility, send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the investigative report in an electronic format or a hard copy, for their review and written response.

34 C.F.R. 106.45(b)(5)

	ity, t subi part addi with sexu less sexu resp the o plain are to th	ve] and before reaching a determination regarding responsibil- the decision-maker(s) must afford each party the opportunity to mit written, relevant questions that a party wants asked of any y or witness, provide each party with the answers, and allow for itional, limited follow-up questions from each party. With or out a hearing, questions and evidence about the complainant's ual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, un- such questions and evidence about the complainant's prior ual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the bondent committed the conduct alleged by the complainant, or if questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the com- nant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the respondent and offered to prove consent. The decision-maker(s) must explain the party proposing the questions any decision to exclude a stion as not relevant. $34 C.F.R. 106.45(b)(6)(ii)$
Regarding Responsibility	Title term the	decision-maker(s), who cannot be the same person(s) as the IX Coordinator or the investigator(s), must issue a written de- nination regarding responsibility. To reach this determination, district must apply the standard of evidence described at cess for Title IX Formal Complaint, above.
	The	written determination must include:
	1.	Identification of the allegations potentially constituting sexual harassment;
	2.	A description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt of the formal complaint through the determination, including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and wit- nesses, site visits, methods used to gather other evidence, and hearings held;
	3.	Findings of fact supporting the determination;

		4.	Conclusions regarding the application of the district's code of conduct to the facts;		
5.		5.	A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allega- tion, including a determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions the district imposes on the respondent, and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the district's education program or activity will be provided by the district to the complainant; and		
		6.	The district's procedures and permissible bases for the com- plainant and respondent to appeal.		
		mult final writt filed	district must provide the written determination to the parties si- taneously. The determination regarding responsibility becomes I either on the date that the district provides the parties with the ten determination of the result of the appeal, if an appeal is I, or if an appeal is not filed, the date on which an appeal would onger be considered timely.		
		34 (C.F.R. 106.45(b)(7)(i)–(ii)		
	Implementation of Remedies		Title IX Coordinator is responsible for effective implementation ny remedies. 34 C.F.R. 106.45(b)(7)(iv)		
	Appeals	garo	strict must offer both parties an appeal from a determination re- ling responsibility, and from a district's dismissal of a formal plaint or any allegations therein, on the following bases:		
		1.	Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the mat- ter;		
		2.	New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; and		
		3.	The Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that affected the outcome of the matter.		
		A di bas	strict may offer an appeal equally to both parties on additional es.		
		As t	o all appeals, the district must:		
		1.	Notify the other party in writing when an appeal is filed and implement appeal procedures equally for both parties;		
		2.	Ensure that the decision-maker(s) for the appeal is not the same person as the decision-maker(s) that reached the deter-		

			ation regarding responsibility or dismissal, the investiga-), or the Title IX Coordinator;
	3.	with of in	ure that the decision-maker(s) for the appeal complies the standards in the Title IX regulations regarding conflict terest and bias [see Process for Title IX Formal Com- it, item 3, above];
	4.		both parties a reasonable, equal opportunity to submit a en statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome;
	5.		e a written decision describing the result of the appeal the rationale for the result; and
	6.	Prov	ide the written decision simultaneously to both parties.
	34 C	.F.R.	106.45(b)(8)
Informal Resolution	enro men adju with ticipa form ever resp proc	Ilmen t of a dicati Title ate in al res , at a onsib ess, s	may not require as a condition of enrollment or continuing at, or employment or continuing employment, or enjoy- ny other right, waiver of the right to an investigation and on of formal complaints of sexual harassment consistent IX. Similarly, a district may not require the parties to par- an informal resolution process and may not offer an in- solution process unless a formal complaint is filed. How- ny time prior to reaching a determination regarding ility the district may facilitate an informal resolution such as mediation, that does not involve a full investiga- adjudication, provided that the district:
	1.	Prov	ides to the parties a written notice disclosing:
		a.	The allegations;
		b.	The requirements of the informal resolution process in- cluding the circumstances under which it precludes the parties from resuming a formal complaint arising from the same allegations, provided, however, that at any time prior to agreeing to a resolution, any party has the right to withdraw from the informal resolution process and resume the Title IX formal complaint process with respect to the formal complaint; and
		C.	Any consequences resulting from participating in the in- formal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained or could be shared;

2. Obtains the parties' voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution process; and

	3.	Does not offer or facilitate an informal resolution process to resolve allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student.	
	34 C.F.R. 106.45(b)(9)		
Recordkeeping	A district must maintain for a period of seven years records of:		
	1.	Each sexual harassment investigation including any determi- nation regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions im- posed on the respondent, and any remedies provided to the complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the district's education program or activity;	
	2.	Any appeal and the result therefrom;	
	3.	Any informal resolution and the result therefrom; and	
	4.	All materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process. A district must make these training materials publicly available on its website or if the district does not maintain a website the district must make these materials available upon request for inspection by members of the public.	
	For each response required under Title IX Coordinator Response, above, a district must create, and maintain for a period of seven years, records of any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of sexual harass- ment. In each instance, the district must document the basis for its conclusion that its response was not deliberately indifferent, and document that it has taken measures designed to restore or pre- serve equal access to the district's education program or activity.		
	If a district does not provide a complainant with supportive mea- sures, then the district must document the reasons why such a re- sponse was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circum- stances. The documentation of certain bases or measures does not limit the district in the future from providing additional explana- tions or detailing additional measures taken.		
	34 C.F.R. 106.45(b)(10)		
Retaliation Prohibited	crin any has or r	district or other person may intimidate, threaten, coerce, or dis- ninate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with right or privilege secured by Title IX, or because the individual made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated efused to participate in any manner in an investigation, pro- eding, or hearing under Title IX.	

	Intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination, including charges against an individual for code of conduct violations that do not in- volve sex discrimination or sexual harassment, but arise out of the same facts or circumstances as a report or complaint of sex dis- crimination, or a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment, for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX, constitutes retaliation.
	Complaints alleging retaliation may be filed according to the Process for Title IX Formal Complaint above.
	The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment does not constitute retaliation prohibited by Title IX.
	Charging an individual with a code of conduct violation for making a materially false statement in bad faith in the course of a Title IX formal complaint proceeding does not constitute retaliation prohib- ited by Title IX, provided, however, that a determination regarding responsibility, alone, is not sufficient to conclude that any party made a materially false statement in bad faith.
	34 C.F.R. 106.71(a)–(b)
Confidentiality	The district must keep confidential the identity of any individual who has made a report or complaint of sex discrimination, including any individual who has made a report or filed a formal complaint of sexual harassment, any complainant, any individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of sex discrimination, any respondent, and any witness, except as may be permitted by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) statute, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, or FERPA regulations, 34 C.F.R. Part 99, or as required by law, or to carry out the purposes of 34 C.F.R. Part 106, including the conduct of any investigation, hearing, or judicial proceeding arising thereunder. <i>34 C.F.R. 106.71(a)</i>