

Policies

Westerly Public Schools Staff-Student Non-Fraternization

No. 2015

It is the policy of Westerly Public Schools to prohibit any sexual relationship, contact, or sexually unwanted behavior or communication (verbal or non-verbal including but not limited to email, text messaging and instant messaging) between a staff member (i.e. all personnel employed by the District or by a contracted student support service) and a student. This includes students over the age of eighteen (18). Prohibited behavior includes, but is not limited to, flirting and bantering with sexual overtones, dating, courting, or engaging in a personal relationship on or off campus that is sexually motivated or unwanted, having any physical sexual contact or sexual intercourse with any student. The prohibition extends to students of the opposite sex or the same sex as the staff member and applies regardless of whether or not the student or the staff member is the initiator of the behavior and whether or not the student welcomes or reciprocates the attention. This policy will be upheld even with parental/guardian consent of the relationship.

Complaints should be reported, in writing, to the principal who will immediately inform the superintendent. An investigation will be conducted to determine whether a violation has occurred.

Violations will result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal of the staff member.

Adopted: April 29, 2009