Clark County School District No. 161

PERSONNEL **5240**

Sexual Harassment/Sexual Intimidation in the Workplace

According to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, including unwanted touching, verbal comments, sexual name calling, gestures, jokes, profanity, and spreading of sexual rumors.

The District shall do everything in its power to provide employees an employment environment free of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct or communications constituting sexual harassment, as defined and otherwise prohibited by state and federal law. In addition, Principals and Supervisors are expected to take appropriate steps to make all employees aware of the contents of this policy. A copy of this policy will be given to all employees.

District employees shall not make sexual advances or request sexual favors or engage in any conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment;

2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or

3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with the individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment.

Sexual harassment prohibited by this policy includes verbal or physical conduct. The terms "intimidating", "hostile", or "offensive" include, but are not limited to, conduct which has the effect of humiliation, embarrassment, or discomfort. Sexual harassment will be evaluated in light of all of the circumstances.

Aggrieved persons who feel comfortable doing so, should directly inform the person engaging in sexually harassing conduct or communication, that such conduct or communication is offensive and must stop.

Employees who believe they may have been sexually harassed or intimidated should contact the Title IX coordinator or an administrator, who will assist them in filing a complaint. The statement of complaint must be in writing and include times, dates, places and circumstances surrounding the allegation(s). The names of witnesses, if any, should be included in this statement.

Investigation. When an allegation of sexual harassment is made of any employee, the designated school officials will take immediate steps to: (1) Protect the grievant from further harassment; (2) Discuss the matter with and obtain a statement from the accused and his representative, if any; (3) Obtain signed statements of witnesses; (4) Prepare a report of the investigation. The Title IX Coordinator or administrator will file the report with the Superintendent within (30) days after receipt of the written complaint. The Title IX Coordinator or administrator may hire an outside investigator if necessary. If the Superintendent agrees with the recommendation of the Title IX Coordinator or administrator, the recommendation will be implemented. If the Superintendent rejects the recommendation of the Title IX Coordinator or administrator, and/or either party is not satisfied with the recommendations, either party may make a written appeal with fifteen (15) days of receiving the report of the Title IX Coordinator or administrator to the Board for a hearing. The District will maintain a complete written record of each complaint, the manner in which it was investigated, and the manner in which it was resolved. Such records will be maintained pursuant to the District's record retention policy unless circumstances dictate that the file should be retained for a longer period of time. Written records, to the extent appropriate, will be maintained in a confidential manner in any affected employee's personnel file.

Confidentiality. Due to the damage that could result to the career and reputation of any person falsely or in bad faith accused of sexual harassment, all investigations and hearings surrounding such matters will be designed to the maximum extent possible to protect the privacy of, and minimize suspicion towards, the accused as well as the complainant. Only those persons responsible for investigating and enforcing this policy will have access to confidential communications. In addition, all persons involved are prohibited from discussing the matter with co-workers and/or other persons not directly involved in resolving the matter.

A violation of this policy may result in discipline, up to and including discharge. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding sexual harassment will likewise be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Legal Reference: Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000(e), et seq., 29 C.F.R. § 1604.11
Title IX of Education Amendments, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681, et seq.
I.C. § 67-5909 Acts Prohibited

Policy History:
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