BP-5145.5 (a)

PROHIBITION OF HARASSMENT IN EDUCATION

The Wrangell Public School District does not tolerate harassment of its students, employees, or any other person in the school community. Harassment on the basis of gender, sex, color, race, religion, national origin, ethnic group, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, mental or physical disability, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy or parenthood, or other distinguishing characteristics is specifically prohibited.

Harassment includes, but is not limited to, slurs, epithets, threats, derogatory comments, unwelcome jokes, teasing, unwelcome sexual advances or requests for sexual favors, displaying offensive words, objects or pictures and other verbal or physical conduct which adversely affects an individual's educational opportunities, or has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's education or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive education environment. Sexual harassment, in particular, also occurs where submission to conduct of a sexual nature is an explicit or implicit condition of an individual's receipt of educational opportunity, or submission to or rejection of sexual conduct is used as the basis for education-related decisions.

Students who knowingly permit or engage in such harassment will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion.

The District encourages the immediate reporting of incidents of harassment. Students who believe they have been subject to harassment should contact their school administrator. In cases where the person to whom a victim would normally report is the alleged source of the harassment or where other good reason exists not to report to the person designated under this policy to receive reports, the victim should contact the Superintendent, or a person designated by the Superintendent to receive and investigate complaints of harassment. Reports shall be processed according to the procedures established in the regulations accompanying this policy and the District's policy on resolving complaints by students: BP-5150.

Individuals who make good faith reports of harassment or suspected harassment prohibited by this policy shall not be retaliated against in any way. Reports will be treated as confidentially as possible, consistent with the District's need to conduct a thorough investigation of the charges, to remedy the harm caused by harassment and to prevent further harassment. This policy shall be posted in a central place and age-appropriate information regarding it shall be distributed to students on an annual basis.

All reports of harassment are to be investigated promptly using the process outlined in the 1312 policy series regarding complaints.

Cross Reference:

Board Policy 1312, Public Complaints
Board Policy 1312.1, Public Complaints Concerning Personnel
Board Policy 1312.2. Public Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials
Board Policy 1312.3, Public Complaints Concerning Discrimination
Board Policy 1312.4, Public Complaints Concerning Elementary and Secondary Education Act Programs

BP-5145.5 (b)

PROHIBITION OF HARASSMENT IN EDUCATION

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