

LODI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Policy 5145.7

Students

Sexual Harassment

The Board of Education is committed to maintaining an educational environment that is free from harassment and discrimination. The Board prohibits, at school or at school-sponsored or school-related activities, sexual harassment targeted at any student by anyone. The Board also prohibits retaliatory behavior or action against any persons who reports, files a complaint or testifies about, or otherwise supports a complainant in alleging sexual harassment.

The district strongly encourages any student who feels that he/she is being or has been sexually harassed on school grounds or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity by another student or an adult who has experienced off-campus sexual harassment that has a continuing effect on campus to immediately contact his/her teacher, the principal, or any other available school employee. Any employee who receives a report or observes an incident of sexual harassment shall notify the principal or a district compliance officer. Once notified, the principal or compliance officer shall take steps to investigate and address the allegation, as specified in the accompanying administrative rule.

The superintendent or designee shall take appropriate actions to reinforce the district's sexual harassment policy.

Instruction/Information

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all district students receive age-appropriate instruction and information on sexual harassment. Such instruction and information shall include:

1. What acts and behavior constitute sexual harassment, including the fact that sexual harassment could occur between people of the same sex and could involve sexual violence
2. A clear message that students do not have to endure sexual harassment
3. Encouragement to report observed instances of sexual harassment, even where the victim of the harassment has not complained
4. A clear message that student safety is the district's primary concern, and that any separate rule violation involving an alleged victim or any other

person reporting a sexual harassment incident will be addressed separately and will not affect the manner in which the sexual harassment complaint will be received, investigated, or resolved

5. A clear message that, regardless of a complainant's noncompliance with the writing, timeline, or other formal filing requirements, every sexual harassment allegation that involves a student, whether as the complainant, respondent, or victim of the harassment, shall be investigated and prompt action shall be taken to stop harassment, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effect on students
6. Information about the district's procedure for investigating complaints and the person(s) to whom a report of sexual harassment should be made
7. Information about the rights of students and parents/guardians to file a civil or criminal complaint, as applicable, including the right to file a civil or criminal complaint while the district investigation of a sexual harassment complaint continues
8. A clear message that, when needed, the district will take interim measures to ensure a safe school environment for a student who is the complainant or victim of sexual harassment and/or other students during an investigation and that, to the extent possible, when such interim measures are taken, they shall not disadvantage the complainant or victim of the alleged harassment

Complaint Process and Disciplinary Actions

Sexual harassment complaints by and against students shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with laws and district procedures specified in Board Rule 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures. Principals are responsible for notifying students and parent/guardians that complaints of sexual harassment can be filed under Board Rule 1312.3 and where to obtain a copy of the procedures.

Upon investigation of a sexual harassment complaint, any student found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual violence in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action. For students in grades 4-12, disciplinary action may include suspension and/or expulsion, provided that, in imposing such discipline, the entire circumstances of the incident(s) shall be taken into account.

Upon investigation of a sexual harassment complaint, any employee found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual violence toward any student shall have his/her employment terminated in accordance with law and the applicable collective bargaining agreement.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of sexual harassment to enable the district to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive harassing behavior in the schools.

Legal References:

- EDUCATION CODE
 - 200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex
 - 48900 Grounds for suspension or expulsion
 - 48900.2 Additional grounds for suspension or expulsion; sexual harassment
 - 48904 Liability of parent/guardian for willful student misconduct
 - 48980 Notice at beginning of term
- CIVIL CODE
 - 51.9 Liability for sexual harassment; business, service and professional relationships
 - 1714.1 Liability of parents/guardians for willful misconduct of minor
- GOVERNMENT CODE
 - 12950.1 Sexual harassment training
- CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
 - 4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedures
 - 4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs
- UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
 - 1221 Application of laws
 - 1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
 - 1681-1688 Title IX, discrimination
- UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
 - 1983 Civil action for deprivation of rights
 - 2000d-2000d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964
 - 2000e-2000e-17 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended
- CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
 - 99.1 -99.67 Family Educational rights and Privacy
 - 106.1-106.71 Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs
- COURT DECISIONS
 - Donovan v. Poway Unified School District, (2008) 167 Cal.App.4th 567
 - Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified School District, (2003, 9th Cir.) 324 F.3d 1130
 - Reese v. Jefferson School District, (2001, 9th Cir.) 208 F.3d 736
 - Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education, (1999) 526 U.S. 629

Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent School District, (1998)
524 U.S. 274

Oona by Kate S. v. McCaffrey, (1998, 9th Cir.) 143 F.3d 473

Doe v. Petaluma City School District, (1995, 9th Cir.) 54 F.3d1447

MANAGEMENT RESOURCES:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Safe Schools: Strategies for Governing Boards to Ensure
Student Success, 2011

Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment
for All Students, Policy Brief, April 2010

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS

Examples of Policies and Emerging Practices for Supporting
Transgender Students, May 2016

Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015

Questions and Answer on Title IX and Sexual Violence, April 4,
2011

Dear Colleague Letter: Sexual Violence, April 4, 2011

Sexual Harassment: It's Not Academic, September 2008

Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance, January 2001

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

Policy

adopted: 02/16/10

revised: 09/18/12

revised: 08/15/17