



SCHOOL & COLLEGE LEGAL SERVICES
OF CALIFORNIA

EUREKA CITY SCHOOLS

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND
ABUSIVE CONDUCT
PREVENTION TRAINING**

December 9, 2021

Presented by:

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Areas of Expertise

Collective Bargaining
Personnel
Title IX & the Clery Act
Website Accessibility



Experience

Ms. Austin's practice focuses on collective bargaining negotiations and personnel matters. She assists school districts, county offices of education, and community college districts in negotiating collective bargaining agreements, resolving grievances and unfair practice charges, and handling personnel matters. Ms. Austin also assists clients with Title IX and Clery Act compliance, as well as investigations of alleged discrimination or harassment.

Prior to joining SCLS, Ms. Austin practiced special education law representing public school districts at a law firm in Southern California for over 3 ½ years, where she worked extensively on matters pending before the California Office of Administrative Hearings. She developed expertise in analyzing special education documents, including IEPs, multidisciplinary assessments, and transition plans, for legal compliance. While in law school, she interned at a human rights NGO in Thailand teaching English to refugee women and Thai schoolchildren. Her capstone project for her M.P.A. degree involved a qualitative research study which identified common barriers facing community college students in Oregon as they transferred to four-year institutions.

Education

B.A. Humboldt State University, Geography *magna cum laude* (2007)
J.D. Drexel University School of Law (2011)
M.P.A. University of Oregon (2016)

School and College Legal Services (SCLS) is a joint powers authority serving school districts, county offices of education, SELPAs, and community colleges in over fifteen counties in Northern California. Our primary focus, as a *preventative law firm*, is helping clients avoid future costly legal problems. We are a collaborative office, working to ensure our clients receive the most legally defensible advice in the most efficient manner possible.



SCHOOL & COLLEGE LEGAL SERVICES
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SCHOOL & COLLEGE LEGAL SERVICES OF CALIFORNIA

Sexual Harassment and Abusive Conduct Prevention Training

December 9, 2021

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Sexual Harassment and Abusive Conduct Prevention Training

December 2, 2021

Presented by:
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Training Objectives

Familiarize Trustees with District obligations to:

1. Recognize sexual harassment in the work environment and educational environment;
2. Implement policies and practices to prevent sexual harassment from happening.
3. Conduct a thorough investigation if a complaint is filed, take appropriate action to stop it from recurring, and limit potential damages.


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Pre-Test

Please complete the Pre-Test to assess your knowledge of sexual harassment issues.

At the end of the training, we will revisit answers based on the information we will discuss today.



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Sexual Harassment Prevention Training is Required by Law

- Supervisors must receive at least 2 hours of sexual harassment prevention training every 2 years and within 6 months of employment
- By 1/1/21, nonsupervisory employees must receive at least 1 hour of sexual harassment training every 2 years and within 6 months of employment

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“Every Two Years”

Effective September 28, 2020:

- “An employee who has received training in compliance with this section within the prior two years either from a current, a prior, or an alternate or a joint employer, or who received a valid work permit from the Labor Commissioner that required the employee to receive training in compliance with this section within the prior two years, shall be given, and required to read and to acknowledge receipt of, the employer’s anti-harassment policy within six months of assuming the employee’s new position. That employee shall then be put on a two year tracking schedule based on the employee’s last training. The current employer shall have the burden of establishing that the prior training was legally compliant with this section.”

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General School Duties Regarding Sexual Harassment

- Prevent discrimination/harassment from occurring;
- Thoroughly investigate complaints of discrimination/harassment; and
- Take immediate and effective corrective action to stop discrimination/harassment when it occurs.

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Prevent Sexual Harassment

- Establish a written policy prohibiting sexual harassment
- Distribute and post policy
- Train supervisors
- Inform employees and students on how to file a complaint
- Take complaints seriously
- Notify of resources available
- Notify that retaliation is prohibited

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ECS Policies and Regulations

- **Staff –**
 - BP/AR 4030 – Nondiscrimination in Employment
 - E 4030 – Nondiscrimination in Employment
 - BP 4119.11, 4219.11, 4319.11 – Sexual Harassment
- **Students –**
 - BP 0410 – Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities
 - BP/AR 1312.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures
 - BP 5145.3 – Nondiscrimination/Harassment – Students
 - BP/AR 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment – Students

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ECS Policies and Regulations

- BP 4030 – Nondiscrimination in Employment
 - Prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, and gender expression.
 - Requires supervisory/management employees who observe or have knowledge of discrimination or harassment to report to the Superintendent or designee.
 - Makes any district employees who engages in discrimination, harassment, or retaliation subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal.

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ECS Policies and Regulations

- AR 4030 – Employee Complaint Procedure
 - Step 1 – Complaint may be submitted to Supervisor, District complaint coordinator, Superintendent or complaint hotline or ombudsman (if available)
 - Step 2 – District Investigation
 - Step 3 – Written Report of Findings
 - Step 4 – Appeal to Board – either party may appeal w/in 10 business days of receiving written report of findings. Board hearing, with decision due w/in 10 business days of hearing.
 - Complainant may also file with applicable administrative agency(ies) (e.g., DFEH, EEOC, etc.)

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ECS Policies and Regulations

- BP 5145.3 – Nondiscrimination/Harassment – Students
 - Prohibits unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying that may result from physical, verbal, nonverbal, or written conduct.
 - Includes – hostile educational environment through prohibited conduct that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity; creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment; has the effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's academic performance; or otherwise adversely affects a student's educational opportunities.

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ECS Policies and Regulations

- AR 1312.3 – Student Complaint Procedure
 - Step 1 – Complaint filed with District coordinator w/in 6 months
 - Step 1.5 – Informal resolution processes (i.e., mediation) (where appropriate)
 - Step 2 – District Investigation
 - Step 3 – Final Written Decision (within 60 calendar days of receipt of complaint)
 - Step 4 – Appeal to CDE – either party may appeal w/in 15 calendar days of receipt of District decision
 - Complainant may also file with applicable administrative agency(ies) (e.g., CDE, OCR, etc.)

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Sexual Harassment: An Overview

What is Sexual Harassment?

Unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature which interferes with an employee's performance of his/her job duties or a student's academic performance

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Applicable Laws

- Fair Employment and Housing Act (CA)
- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Federal)
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Federal)
- Education Code (CA)

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California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA)

True or False?

- Sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression are all protected bases under the FEHA.
- California law identifies 17 specific protected bases for employment discrimination, harassment and retaliation.

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FEHA

- Prohibits “discrimination” and “harassment” on the basis of sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation
- Also prohibits harassment on the basis of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic condition, marital status, age, or military and veteran status

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Important Terms to Know

- Sex: “male” or “female” sex categories (biological or physical characteristics, e.g., testicles for males; menstruation for females)
- Gender: socially constructed roles, behaviors, activities and attributes that society considers appropriate for men and women.
- Gender identity: one’s internal sense of being a man or woman (or boy or girl). For transgender people, birth-assigned sex and their own internal sense of gender identity don’t match.
- Gender expression: refers to all the external characteristics and behaviors that are socially defined as either masculine or feminine, such as clothing, grooming, mannerisms, speech patterns and social interactions.
- Sexual orientation: the preferred term used when referring to an individual’s physical and/or emotional attraction to the same and/or opposite gender. “Gay,” “lesbian,” “bisexual” and “straight” are all examples of sexual orientations. A person’s sexual orientation is distinct from a person’s gender identity and expression.

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FEHA

- Employers have a duty to take “all reasonable steps necessary to prevent harassment from occurring” (Government Code § 12940(j)(1))
- See the Department of Fair Employment and Housing brochure

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District Liability Under FEHA

- District is liable to employee, student or third party if the District -
 1. Knows or should have known of harassment, and
 2. Fails to take effective measures to stop it.
- Strict liability for harassment by a supervisor

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Personal Liability Under FEHA

True or False?

- An employee can be personally liable for sexual harassment.

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Personal Liability Under FEHA

An employee is personally liable for harassment regardless of whether the employer knows or should have known of the conduct and fails to take immediate and corrective action.

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FEHA Regulations

Written policy requirements:

1. Must include a list of all current protected categories under FEHA;
2. Must include a statement protecting employees from unlawful acts/conduct under FEHA of coworkers, managers, supervisors, and third parties;
3. Must make clear that contractors, unpaid interns and volunteers are protected under the policy;
4. Must inform complainants that complaints receive:
 - a. Designation of confidentiality, to the extent possible;
 - b. Timely responses;
 - c. Impartial and timely investigations by qualified personnel;
 - d. Documentation and tracking for reasonable progress;
 - e. Appropriate options for remedial actions and resolutions; and
 - f. Timely closure.

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FEHA Regulations

Training Requirements:

1. Instructing supervisors on their obligation to report sexual harassment, discrimination, and retaliation of which they become aware;
2. Include training inclusive of harassment based on gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation;
3. Covering appropriate remedial measures to correct harassing behavior;
4. Reviewing the definition of “abusive conduct”; and
5. Maintaining, for three years, all written or recorded materials that comprise the training, including copies of all webinars, all written questions and responses from webinars and e-learning, all sign-in sheets, and all certificates of attendance or completion issued, in addition to the already-required names of supervisory employees trained, the date of the training, the type of training and the name of the training provider.

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FEHA Regulations

Publication and Dissemination Requirements:

- Employers must disseminate the new written policy to employees by using **one or more** of the following methods:
 1. Printed copy with an acknowledgement form for the employee to sign and return;
 2. Via email with an acknowledgement return form;
 3. Posted on company intranet with a tracking system to ensure that employees have read and acknowledged receipt of the policy;
 4. Discuss the policy upon hire and/or during a new orientation session (Title 2 CCR § 11023(e)); and/or
 5. Employers must translate the written policy into every language that is used as the “spoken” language by at least 10% of the workforce.
- Also, in accordance with Education Code § 231.5, a copy of the district’s policy on sexual harassment must be provided to every employee each school year – such as by one of the methods described above.

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FEHA Changes as of January 1, 2020

- A complaint alleging any [harassment or discrimination of employees or applicants for employment] shall not be filed after the expiration of **three years** from the date upon which the unlawful practice or refusal to cooperate occurred.

(Cal. Gov. Code § 12960, subd. (e).)

- *Previously, complainants had only one year in which to file a complaint. Now recommend to retain training records for at least three years.*

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FEHA

Hypothetical

Carl has been a district administrator for 5 years. Carl approaches another administrator, Terry, and tells him that she identifies as a transgender woman and is beginning the process of transitioning at work. From now on, Carl would like to be called Kay, will be wearing clothing consistent with an identity as a woman, and prefers the use of feminine pronouns.

As the weeks pass, Kay's coworkers become accustomed to her new name and appearance, but some of them inadvertently refer to Kay as "Carl" and use the masculine pronoun "he," especially when telling stories about things that happened before Kay's transition. Usually, the coworkers quickly correct themselves when this happens. Terry, however, pointedly says "good morning, Carl," when Kay passes by, and makes comments like "nice dress, dude."

Kay, embarrassed, says nothing to Terry or anyone else about these comments for months.

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FEHA

What advice would you give Kay?

- Kay should keep her head down and try to focus on work. Not everyone is going to be comfortable with her gender transition and she should expect some negative comments and remarks.
- Kay has a claim for discrimination and harassment because of gender identity and gender expression against the Board because of Terry's treatment of her, as well as because of her coworkers' occasional use of the wrong name and pronoun. Those coworkers should be reprimanded and notes placed in their files.
- Kay has a claim against Terry and the Board because of Terry's negative comments and purposeful, repeated use of the wrong name and pronouns. Her coworkers' occasional and accidental mistakes do not create a situation of discrimination or harassment.

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FEHA

The best answer is:

- C. Kay may have a claim against Terry and the Board because of Terry's negative comments and purposeful, repeated use of the wrong name and pronouns. Her coworkers' occasional and accidental mistakes do not create a situation of discrimination or harassment.

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DFEH Posting Requirements

- Employers must post a poster on discrimination in employment and the illegality of sexual harassment in a prominent and accessible location.
- Employers must post a poster developed by DFEH regarding transgender rights in a prominent and accessible location.

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Title VII of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964

A federal law that prohibits employment discrimination based on gender, including sexual harassment



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Title VII – Sexual Harassment

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitutes sexual harassment when (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of the individual's employment, (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct ... is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment.

(29 CFR §1604.11)

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Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia

- In 2020, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that “sex discrimination” under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 applied to discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in the workplace.
- An employer violates Title VII when it discriminates against an employee based, at least in part, on sex based on sexual orientation or gender identity, as such discrimination requires the employer to intentionally treat employees differently because of their sex.

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Comparing Title VII and FEHA

Federal Title VII

- Negligence theory only [Employer not automatically liable].
- Employer not liable if:
 - Employer exercised reasonable care; and
 - Employee unreasonably failed to take advantage of opportunities to avoid harm.
- 15 employees or more.
- No application to independent contractors, volunteers and unpaid interns.

California FEHA

- Strict liability [Employer automatically liable for harassment by managers and supervisors].
- Employer has no defense if manager or supervisor is harasser.
- All employers, even those employing one person or sole proprietors.
- Includes independent contractors, volunteers and unpaid interns.

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Comparing Title VII and FEHA

True or False?

- Unpaid interns and volunteers are protected under federal laws against sexual harassment.
- California law is broader than federal law in providing protection against sexual harassment.

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Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

- A federal law that prohibits sex discrimination (including sexual harassment) in education programs or activities that receive federal funds
- Enforced by the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR)



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Title IX Sexual Harassment

- (1) Unwelcome conduct on the basis of sex that a reasonable person would determine is so “**severe, pervasive and objectively offensive**” that it effectively denies a person equal access to the recipient’s education program or activity;
- (2) **Quid pro quo** harassment; or
- (3) Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking as defined in the Clery Act/Violence Against Women Act (“VAWA”).

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Title IX Sex-Based Discrimination

- Title IX prohibits sex-based discrimination
- Sex-based discrimination includes:
 - Sexual harassment
 - Sexual violence
 - Discrimination based on gender stereotypes
 - Gender-based discrimination
- Does NOT prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation (but California law does)

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2020 Title IX Regulations

- Effective August 14, 2020
- Significant changes:
 - Only a formal complaint (filed by the Complainant or signed by Title IX Coordinator) initiates the grievance process (formal investigation process).
 - Grievance process includes notice of allegations, opportunity to respond to summary of evidence prior to completion of investigation, and receipt of investigation report.
 - Grievance process requires a decision-maker to issue a written determination regarding responsibility. Decision-maker cannot be the Title IX Coordinator.
 - Requires an appeal process for both parties.
 - Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and informal resolution facilitators must receive training.
 - Allows schools to provide *supportive measures* (formerly interim remedies) to both parties. However, must offer supportive measures to a Complainant with or without the filing of a formal complaint.

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Title IX Coordinator

Title IX Coordinator Responsibilities:

1. Oversee the school's response to Title IX reports and complaints and identifies and addresses any patterns or systemic problems revealed by such reports and complaints;
2. Must have knowledge of the requirements of Title IX and of the school's own policies and procedures on sex discrimination; and
3. Must be informed of all complaints raising Title IX issues throughout the school.

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ECS Title IX Coordinator

- Who?

TITLE IX

504 and Title IX Coordinator
 Gary Storts
 Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
 2100 J St, Eureka 95501
 707-441-3363
stortsg@eureka-cityschools.org

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California Education Code

- “It is the policy of the State of California ... that all persons, regardless of their sex, should enjoy freedom from discrimination of any kind in the educational institutions of the state” (Education Code § 231.5)
- Sexual harassment is prohibited as a form of sexual discrimination
- Enforcement of Education Code complaints is through Board Policy

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Cal. Education Code § 231.5

Effective 1/1/20, LEAs that serve high school students will have to develop a poster in accordance with the following requirements:

- The poster shall be no smaller than 8.5 by 11 inches and use at least 12-point font;
- The poster shall be displayed in English and any primary language spoken by 15 percent or more of the pupils enrolled at the schoolsite;
- The language in the poster shall be age appropriate and culturally relevant, and the schoolsite may partner with local, state, or federal agencies, or nonprofit organizations, for these purposes;

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Cal. Education Code § 231.5, cont.

- The poster shall display, at a minimum, all of the following:
 - The rules and procedures for reporting a charge of sexual harassment;
 - The name, phone number, and email address of an appropriate schoolsite official to contact to report a charge of sexual harassment; and
 - The rights of the reporting pupil, the complainant, and the respondent, and the responsibilities of the schoolsite in accordance with the applicable written policy on sexual harassment.
- The poster is required to be displayed prominently and conspicuously in each bathroom and locker room at the schoolsite.

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Cal. Education Code § 220

“No person shall be subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability, **gender**, **gender identity**, **gender expression**, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, **sexual orientation**, or any other characteristic contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code, including immigration status, in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution that receives, or benefits from, state financial assistance or enrolls pupils who receive state student financial aid”

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Nondiscrimination in Sex-Segregated School Programs

Effective 1/1/14, a pupil shall be permitted to participate in sex-segregated school programs and activities, including athletic teams and competitions, and use facilities consistent with his or her **gender identity**, irrespective of the gender listed on the pupil’s records.

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Types of Sexual Harassment

- Quid Pro Quo
- Hostile Work/Educational Environment

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Quid Pro Quo

- “This for that”
- Occurs when one employee (in a position of power or authority over the other) explicitly or implicitly conditions a job, job benefits, or absence of job detriments on the other employee’s acceptance of sexual conduct or conditions
- Can also occur when academic benefits are conditioned on the acceptance of sexual conduct or conditions

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Quid Pro Quo

True or False?

- The promise of a reward or threat of punishment in exchange for sexual favors must be explicit in order to constitute quid pro quo sexual harassment.
- An employee who gives in to the demand for sex in order to avoid negative consequences forfeits his or her claim for quid pro quo sexual harassment.

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Quid Pro Quo

Hypothetical

Sara is the Executive Director of We Love Children Charter School. She approaches Nancy, a teacher at the school, and says, "Hi Nancy. I've seen you at the gym. You seem to have a great time in Zumba! And so sexy! Nancy, I'd love to take you to Tahoe this weekend. Just the two of us." Nancy is stunned and intimidated by the attention. She says, "Well Sara, I'm flattered, but I'm not interested." Sara smiles and says, "Well, I had to ask. But I get it. I'll leave you alone." Sara does not proposition or engage in any unwelcome conduct toward Nancy again. Three months later Nancy is late to work for three days and Sara warns her that she will be reprimanded if she is late again.

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Quid Pro Quo

Choose the best answer:

- A. Nancy can establish a claim for quid pro quo sexual harassment because Sara should never have asked a subordinate on a date.
- B. Nancy cannot establish a claim for quid pro quo sexual harassment because there is no evidence that she is a lesbian.
- C. Nancy's claim for quid pro quo sexual harassment is weak because there is no evidence that Sara was offering job benefits if Nancy said yes, or threatening punishment if Nancy said no.

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Quid Pro Quo

The best answer:

- C. Nancy's claim for quid pro quo sexual harassment is weak because there is no evidence that Sara was offering job benefits if Nancy said yes, or threatening punishment if Nancy said no.

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Hostile Work/Education Environment

Occurs when a supervisor/teacher or coworker engages in unwelcome sexual conduct that is sufficiently severe or pervasive* to unreasonably interfere with the employee's/student's job/academic performance or create an intimidating, hostile or offensive working/academic environment

* Under Title IX, must be severe AND pervasive

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Hostile Work/Education Environment

True or False?

- To prove hostile work environment sexual harassment, the complaining party does not need to show that they suffered an adverse employment action.
- To prove hostile work environment sexual harassment, the complaining party must show that they were subjected to unwanted sexual attention that was both severe and pervasive.

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Cal. Education Code § 201

“Harassment on school grounds directed at an individual on the basis of personal characteristics or status creates a hostile environment and jeopardizes equal educational opportunity as guaranteed by the California Constitution and the United States Constitution.”

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Key Elements of Sexual Harassment

- Unwelcome – Illegal harassment is based on unwelcome conduct
- Sexual – Sexual in nature or gender-based (because of sex)
- Severe or Pervasive* – Conduct must be sufficiently severe or pervasive to alter the working/academic conditions of the complainant

* Under Title IX, must be severe AND pervasive

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Key Element: Severe or Pervasive



Severity



Frequency

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Key Elements of Sexual Harassment

- Offensive, both objectively and subjectively
 - Objectively: A reasonable person, similarly situated, would find the conduct offensive
 - Subjectively: The victim actually finds the conduct offensive
- Totality of the Circumstances

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Totality of the Circumstances

1. Whether the conduct was verbal or physical, or both;
2. How frequently it occurred;
3. Whether the conduct was hostile and patently offensive;
4. Whether the alleged harasser was a co-worker or a supervisor;
5. Whether others joined in perpetuating the harassment; and
6. Whether the harassment was directed at more than one individual.

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Hostile Work Environment

Hypothetical

Tamika starts as a supervisor for the Commission in Yuba County. The other four supervisors and all the field crews at the Yuba County office are men. Eve, the District Administrator does not think women should be field supervisors and resents that headquarters is "forcing an affirmative action case" on her office.

Eve tells the other supervisors and crew members, "the field is no place for a woman." She tells Tamika's crew to "keep an eye on her" and "use your own judgment in the field." During office meetings, around the office, and in emails, Eve consistently refers to Tamika as "little one," "Wonder Girl," "Oprah Jr.," and similar names.

Tamika tells Eve she is undermining her, but Eve tells her to "grow a pair or you'll never make it out there."

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Hostile Work Environment

Choose the best answer:

- A. Eve's use of diminutive nicknames and undermining of Tamika's authority is OK because Tamika needs to demonstrate the ability to supervise men in what can be an inherently crude environment.
- B. Eve's nicknames and statements undermining Tamika's authority have created a hostile work environment.
- C. Because Eve has no interest in Tamika sexually, her hostile behavior is not actionable as sexual harassment.

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Hostile Work Environment

The best answer:

- B. Eve's nicknames and statements undermining Tamika's authority have created a hostile work environment.

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Hostile Work Environment

True or False?

- An employee can file a claim for sexual harassment even if the supervisor took no adverse employment action (e.g., termination, failure to hire, demotion), against the employee.
- Sexual desire is a key element to any claim for sexual harassment.

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Commonly Misunderstood Issues in Sexual Harassment

- Motive does not excuse the conduct
- Confidentiality
- Third party concerns
- Both sexes protected
- Sexual favoritism
- Sexual harassment outside the workplace

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Commonly Misunderstood Issues in Sexual Harassment

Hypothetical

Cody and two office technicians, Parker and Rachel, are openly in a sexual relationship. Cody regularly calls them to the office for “special consultations.” Their sexual congress is audible through the door.

Cody gives Parker and Rachel preferred shifts, bonuses, and training denied to others. Cody allows Parker and Rachel to use Drew, Logan, and Timothy, other office technicians, to do their work and run personal errands for them.

Drew, Logan, and Timothy are disgusted but work together to make sure they excel at all assignments.

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Commonly Misunderstood Issues in Sexual Harassment

Choose the best answer:

- A. Drew and Logan can successfully maintain a sexual harassment/hostile work environment – widespread sexual favoritism claim against Parker and Rachel but not Cody.
- B. Timothy, who has never been harassed by Cody, cannot maintain a successful action for sexual harassment/hostile work environment – widespread sexual favoritism.
- C. Drew, Logan and Timothy can successfully sue Cody, Parker, Rachel and the Board for sexual harassment/ hostile work environment – widespread sexual favoritism.

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Commonly Misunderstood Issues in Sexual Harassment

The best answer:

- C. Drew, Logan and Timothy can successfully sue Cody, Parker, Rachel and the Board for sexual harassment/ hostile work environment – widespread sexual favoritism.

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Retaliation is Illegal

- Retaliation – Denying employment benefits or other adverse treatment towards an individual because he/she opposed harassing or discriminatory conduct
- What is protected?
 - Filing a complaint
 - Seeking advice about filing a complaint
 - Assisting someone with filing a complaint
 - Participating in an investigation
- “Third party reprisals” are also actionable as retaliation under Title IX

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Abusive Conduct

- Employers should also prevent abusive conduct.
- Abusive conduct is an employer’s or employee’s conduct in the workplace, with malice, that a reasonable person would find hostile, offensive, and unrelated to an employer’s legitimate business interests. (Government Code § 12950.1(g)(2))

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Abusive Conduct

- **Abusive Conduct may include:**
 - Repeated infliction of verbal abuse, like the use of derogatory remarks, insults, epithets
 - Verbal or physical conduct that a reasonable person would find threatening, intimidating, or humiliating
 - Gratuitous sabotage or undermining of a person’s work performance
- A single act will not constitute abusive conduct unless it is especially severe or egregious

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Abusive Conduct

No independent cause of action

Abusive conduct (“bullying”) is not in and of itself a violation of FEHA unless it can be shown to have been substantially motivated by a protected characteristic.

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Abusive Conduct

True or False?

- The FEHA makes it unlawful to engage in behavior that a reasonable person in the employee’s place would find demeaning?

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Abusive Conduct

Hypothetical

Jason is a new employee and having difficulty learning the office protocols. He asks his supervisor Ming for assistance. In a loud, sarcastic voice, audible throughout the open work station area, Ming tells Jason: “I’ve showed you how to do this simple, simple, simply simple three simple step procedure over and over and over. You should have been paying attention. I won’t show you again!”

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Abusive Conduct

Choose the best answer:

- A. Jason can sue Ming for abusive conduct.
- B. Jason should have paid better attention earlier.
- C. Ming's actions constitute abusive workplace conduct, and can likely be disciplined for violation of workplace behavior policies.
- D. Ming's conduct exposes the District to liability for unlawful discrimination.

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Not All Unwelcome Communication is Illegal Harassment

"We simply recognize that, like Title VII, the FEHA is not a civility code and is not designed to rid the workplace of vulgarity."

California Supreme Court in *Lyle v. Warner Bros. Television Productions* (2006) 38 Cal.4th 264

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How Sexual Harassment is Reported

True or False?

In California, if the employee does not take advantage of the established internal complaint process, the employer has a complete defense to an action for sexual harassment.

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How Sexual Harassment is Reported

- A complainant can:
 - Follow the procedure in District/College policies
 - Report directly to DFEH or EEOC (or OCR)
- Supervisors should take action if they:
 - Actually know about sexual harassment, or
 - Reasonably believe that sexual harassment is occurring

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Who May Receive a Report of Sexual Harassment?

- Immediate supervisor
- Coordinator for Nondiscrimination in Employment or similar position
- Superintendent/President or designee
- Human resources or personnel department
- Board members
- Department of Fair Employment and Housing
- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights

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ECS Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures

- **Staff –**
 - BP/AR 4030 – Nondiscrimination in Employment
- **Students –**
 - Uniform Complaint Procedures (BP/AR 1312.3)

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Reporting

Hypothetical

Jan has been employed by the District for 20 years, and is one of the most senior employees in her unit. She is well respected by her coworkers and the students she assists.

One day, when walking back to work from her lunch break, Jan overhears two students gossiping about a student that Jan is assigned to assist (Tyler). From what she overhears, the two students believe that Tyler has been acting strangely because he was approached by a much older student in one of his extra-curricular clubs to engage in sexual activities. The students gossiped that Tyler “did it” with the other student so that he could get a leadership position in the club.

What should Jan do with this information?

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Reporting

Choose the best answer:

- A. Jan should ignore the gossip. She didn’t notice Tyler acting strange, and she does not have a responsibility to report unless *she* believes there is reasonable likelihood of truth to the accusations.
- B. Jan should investigate the rumor by speaking with the gossiping students and Tyler, and then reporting the incident if she believes it may be sexual harassment.
- C. Jan should report the information she learned to the appropriate school official.

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Reporting

The best answer:

- C. Jan should report the information she learned to the appropriate school official.

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Investigate Complaints

- Credible and impartial trained investigator
- Effective, timely, thorough and fair investigation
- Give both parties a fair opportunity to present their versions of what occurred
- Interview any witnesses
- Assess credibility
- Ensure the investigation process is clear to all
- Maintain confidentiality of process
- Caution the accused against retaliation
- Document the investigation and maintain records of all claims

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Take Immediate and Effective Corrective Action

- Is immediate action necessary, e.g., interim remedies/supportive measures?
- Is there sufficient evidence to sustain the allegation?
- If unlawful harassment, then implement appropriate measures, including discipline
- Make the victim whole
- Be sure the inappropriate conduct or harassment has stopped
- Ensure no retaliation occurs
- Keep victim informed of actions to the extent appropriate

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Remedies Available for Sexual Harassment

- Consequences of Discrimination/Harassment to the Victim
- Victim Remedies
- Student Body/District Community Remedies
- Consequences to the Harasser

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What to Do if You are Accused of Sexual Harassment?

- Objectively review your challenged behavior
- Review the policy on sexual harassment
- Conform your conduct to the expectations of your job
- Cooperate with investigation and resolution
- Do not retaliate against accuser or witnesses
- Recognize that employees/students have a right to a working/educational environment that is free from sexual harassment

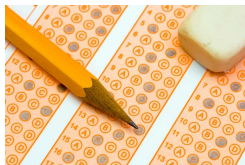
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Legislative Changes effective January 1, 2020

- Any School District (including COEs and Charters) that serves students in grades 9-12 must create a poster that notifies pupils of their sexual harassment prevention policy and display “**prominently and conspicuously**” in each bathroom and locker room.

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Answers to Pre-Test



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Recap and Strategies to Prevent Sexual Harassment

- Disseminate the sexual harassment policy at least annually
- Conduct sexual harassment training
- Promptly investigate all sexual harassment complaints
- Discipline those who engage in inappropriate and/or illegal conduct
- Do not participate in sexual harassment

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Additional Resources

- California Department of Fair Employment and Housing, www.dfeh.ca.gov
- U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, www.eeoc.gov
- U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, www.ed.gov/ocr

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Questions?



Information in this presentation, including but not limited to PowerPoint handouts and presenters' comments, is summary only and not legal advice. We advise you consult with legal counsel to determine how this information may apply to your specific facts and circumstances.

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PRE-TEST

The following pretest allows you to assess your knowledge of sexual harassment issues. At the end of the training session, you will revisit your answers based on the information you received during training. (Answers appear in Answers to Pre-Test attachment.)

1. A person (student or employee) who is concerned about the behavior of another must tell that person of the concerns before reporting it to a school official as sexual harassment. T or F
2. A student who complains of sexual harassment by other students in her class should be required to withdraw and enroll in the class the next semester. T or F
3. A school employee can be held personally liable for unlawful sexual harassment. T or F
4. A school supervisor should take action if he/she actually knows about sexual harassment or if he/she reasonably believes that sexual harassment is at issue. T or F
5. If an employee grabs another employee's "private parts" just as a joke, the behavior isn't harassment. T or F
6. Sexual harassment based on gender identity is unlawful. T or F
7. A supervisor should tell an employee who complains of sexually harassing conduct not to file a police report until the school has completed its investigation. T or F
8. Name two steps the school can take to help prevent sexual harassment.

9. If you have any questions about your responsibilities with regard to sexual harassment, you should call _____.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

FACT SHEET

DFEH



Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination based on sex/gender (including pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions), gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. Individuals of any gender can be the target of sexual harassment. Unlawful sexual harassment does not have to be motivated by sexual desire. Sexual harassment may involve harassment of a person of the same gender as the harasser, regardless of either person's sexual orientation or gender identity.

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

1. **"Quid pro quo"** (Latin for "this for that") sexual harassment is when someone conditions a job, promotion, or other work benefit on your submission to sexual advances or other conduct based on sex.
2. **"Hostile work environment"** sexual harassment occurs when unwelcome comments or conduct based on sex unreasonably interferes with your work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment. You may experience sexual harassment even if the offensive conduct was not aimed directly at you.

The harassment must be severe or pervasive to be unlawful. A single act of harassment may be sufficiently severe to be unlawful.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT INCLUDES MANY FORMS OF OFFENSIVE BEHAVIORS

BEHAVIORS THAT MAY BE SEXUAL HARASSMENT:

1. Unwanted sexual advances
2. Offering employment benefits in exchange for sexual favors
3. Leering; gestures; or displaying sexually suggestive objects, pictures, cartoons, or posters
4. Derogatory comments, epithets, slurs, or jokes
5. Graphic comments, sexually degrading words, or suggestive or obscene messages or invitations
6. Physical touching or assault, as well as impeding or blocking movements

Actual or threatened retaliation for rejecting advances or complaining about harassment is also unlawful.

Employees or job applicants who believe that they have been sexually harassed or retaliated against may file a complaint of discrimination with DFEH within three years of the last act of harassment or retaliation.

DFEH serves as a neutral fact-finder and attempts to help the parties voluntarily resolve disputes. If DFEH finds sufficient evidence to establish that discrimination occurred and settlement efforts fail, the Department may file a civil complaint in state or federal court to address the causes of the discrimination and on behalf of the complaining party. DFEH may seek court orders changing the employer's policies and practices, punitive damages, and attorney's fees and costs if it prevails in litigation. Employees can also pursue the matter through a private lawsuit in civil court after a complaint has been filed with DFEH and a Right-to-Sue Notice has been issued.

EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY & LIABILITY

All employers, regardless of the number of employees, are covered by the harassment provisions of California law. Employers are liable for harassment by their supervisors or agents. All harassers, including both supervisory and non-supervisory personnel, may be held personally liable for harassment or for aiding and abetting harassment. The law requires employers to take reasonable steps to prevent harassment. If an employer fails to take such steps, that employer can be held liable for the harassment. In addition, an employer may be liable for the harassment by a non-employee (for example, a client or customer) of an employee, applicant, or person providing services for the employer. An employer will only be liable for this form of harassment if it knew or should have known of the harassment, and failed to take immediate and appropriate corrective action.

Employers have an affirmative duty to take reasonable steps to prevent and promptly correct discriminatory and harassing conduct, and to create a workplace free of harassment.

A program to eliminate sexual harassment from the workplace is not only required by law, but it is the most practical way for an employer to avoid or limit liability if harassment occurs.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

FACT SHEET



CIVIL REMEDIES

- **Damages for emotional distress from each employer or person in violation of the law**
- **Hiring or reinstatement**
- **Back pay or promotion**
- **Changes in the policies or practices of the employer**

ALL EMPLOYERS MUST TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS TO PREVENT HARASSMENT AND CORRECT IT WHEN IT OCCURS:

- 1.** Distribute copies of this brochure or an alternative writing that complies with Government Code 12950. This pamphlet may be duplicated in any quantity.
- 2.** Post a copy of the Department's employment poster entitled "California Law Prohibits Workplace Discrimination and Harassment."
- 3.** Develop a harassment, discrimination, and retaliation prevention policy in accordance with 2 CCR 11023. The policy must:
 - Be in writing.
 - List all protected groups under the FEHA.
 - Indicate that the law prohibits coworkers and third parties, as well as supervisors and managers with whom the employee comes into contact, from engaging in prohibited harassment.
 - Create a complaint process that ensures confidentiality to the extent possible; a timely response; an impartial and timely investigation by qualified personnel; documentation and tracking for reasonable progress; appropriate options for remedial actions and resolutions; and timely closures.
 - Provide a complaint mechanism that does not require an employee to complain directly to their immediate supervisor. That complaint mechanism must include, but is not limited to including: provisions for direct communication, either orally or in writing, with a designated company representative; and/or a complaint hotline; and/or access to an ombudsperson; and/or identification of DFEH and the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as additional avenues for employees to lodge complaints.
 - Instruct supervisors to report any complaints of misconduct to a designated company representative, such as a human resources manager, so that the company can try to resolve the claim internally. Employers with 50 or more employees are required to

include this as a topic in mandated sexual harassment prevention training (see 2 CCR 11024).

- Indicate that when the employer receives allegations of misconduct, it will conduct a fair, timely, and thorough investigation that provides all parties appropriate due process and reaches reasonable conclusions based on the evidence collected.
- Make clear that employees shall not be retaliated against as a result of making a complaint or participating in an investigation.

4. Distribute its harassment, discrimination, and retaliation prevention policy by doing one or more of the following:

- Printing the policy and providing a copy to employees with an acknowledgement form for employees to sign and return.
- Sending the policy via email with an acknowledgment return form.
- Posting the current version of the policy on a company intranet with a tracking system to ensure all employees have read and acknowledged receipt of the policy.
- Discussing policies upon hire and/or during a new hire orientation session.
- Using any other method that ensures employees received and understand the policy.

5. If the employer's workforce at any facility or establishment contains ten percent or more of persons who speak a language other than English as their spoken language, that employer shall translate the harassment, discrimination, and retaliation policy into every language spoken by at least ten percent of the workforce.

6. In addition, employers who do business in California and employ 5 or more part-time or full-time employees must provide at least one hour of training regarding the prevention of sexual harassment, including harassment based on gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, to each non-supervisory employee; and two hours of such training to each supervisory employee. Training must be provided within six months of assumption of employment. Employees must be trained during calendar year 2020, and, after January 1, 2021, training must be provided again every two years. Please see Gov. Code 12950.1 and 2 CCR 11024 for further information.

TO FILE A COMPLAINT

Department of Fair Employment and Housing

dfeh.ca.gov

Toll Free: 800.884.1684

TTY: 800.700.2320



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LEGAL UPDATE

June 25, 2020

To: Superintendents, Member School Districts (K-12)

From: Loren W. Soukup, Senior Associate General Counsel *LS*

Subject: United States Supreme Court Rules that Civil Rights Law
Protects LGBT Employees
Memo No. 38-2020

The Supreme Court of the United States ruled on June 15, 2020 that “sex discrimination” under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 applies to discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in the workplace. (*Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia* 590 U.S. ___, (2020 WL 3146686) (2020)). Because more than half of the 50 states do not prohibit employment discrimination based on transgender or sexual orientation, this ruling is a major victory for LGBT employees.

Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, an employer is prohibited from discriminating “because of sex.” The United States Supreme Court, by a 6-3 vote, held that an employer violates Title VII when it discriminates against an employee based, at least in part, on sex, and discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity requires the employer to intentionally treat employees differently because of their sex. While the Supreme Court acknowledged that the intent of Congress may not have been to include sexual orientation or gender identity within the definition of “sex” when it enacted the Civil Rights Act of 1964, it gave no weight to the legislative history because the language of the statute clearly prohibits the discriminatory practice.

Discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in the workplace is already prohibited under California law so this decision will not have a significant impact for California employees. However, this decision will likely have significance when interpreting the definition of “sex” under Title IX, as it applies to students.

Please contact our office with questions regarding this Legal Update or any other legal matter.

The information in this Legal Update is provided as a summary of law and is not intended as legal advice. Application of the law may vary depending on the particular facts and circumstances at issue. We, therefore, recommend that you consult legal counsel to advise you on how the law applies to your specific situation.

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LEGAL UPDATE

May 20, 2020

To: Superintendents, Member School Districts (K-12)

From: Monica D. Batanero, Sr. Assoc. General Counsel
Kaitlyn A. Schwendeman, Schools Legal Counsel

MDB
KAS

Subject: New Title IX Regulations Effective August 14, 2020
Memo No. 32-2020

The Department of Education on May 6, 2020, issued much-awaited final regulations on how K-12 school districts and college campuses must respond to allegations of sexual harassment. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos said the final regulations under Title IX — which prohibits sex discrimination in federally funded educational institutions — were issued after considering various stakeholder comments and as many as 124,000 public comments made since the proposed guidelines were issued in November 2018.

The overall intent of the new Title IX regulations is to provide students accused of sexual misconduct with stronger due process protections. As a result, there are many additional requirements that include very specific grievance and investigation procedures that must be adopted by educational institutions.

The new regulations are scheduled to take effect August 14, 2020, and will require modification of current sexual harassment policies, including investigation procedures.

This office is offering a webinar, entitled “New Title IX Regulations for 2020-2021,” on June 3, 2020, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. where we will cover in more detail the new requirements under Title IX. You may register here: [DETAILS/REGISTER](https://scscal.org/workshop/new-title-ix-regulations-for-2020-2021-k-12-ccd/).¹

¹ <https://scscal.org/workshop/new-title-ix-regulations-for-2020-2021-k-12-ccd/>

Some of the more notable changes are detailed below:

NEW TERMINOLOGY

The regulations define the following terms to ensure consistency and clarity:

- ***Complainant*** means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.
- ***Respondent*** means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.
- ***Recipient*** means elementary and secondary schools, as well as postsecondary institutions, that receive Federal financial assistance.

DEFINITION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT²

The new regulations provide that there are only three categories of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment under Title IX:

(1) unwelcome conduct on the basis of sex that a reasonable person would determine is so “severe, pervasive and objectively offensive” that it effectively denies a person equal access to the recipient’s education program or activity;

(2) quid pro quo harassment;³ or

(3) sexual assault,⁴ dating violence,⁵ domestic violence,⁶ or stalking⁷ as defined in the Clery Act/Violence Against Women Act (“VAWA”).

What this means: The final regulations continue the 1997 Guidance and 2001 Guidance approach of including as sexual harassment unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature by an employee, by another student, or by a third party. However, when determining whether conduct meets the definition of sexual harassment, particularly under category 1 (hostile environment), the conduct must be severe, pervasive ***and*** objectively offensive. Previously, the legal standard was that the conduct has to be either severe or pervasive. This will result in a huge shift in how we analyze whether sexual conduct creates a hostile environment for a complainant and will make it more difficult for a complainant to argue that he/she has been subjected to a hostile environment due to sexual harassment. Notably, under the new regulations a single instance of harassment on the basis of sex can no longer be considered sexual harassment pursuant to the hostile environment analysis.

² 34 CFR § 106.30

³ Quid pro quo sexual harassment is defined as “an employee of the recipient conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the recipient on an individual’s participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.”

⁴ 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f)(6)(A)(v)

⁵ 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(10)

⁶ 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(8)

⁷ 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(30)

It is important to note that conduct that falls under the other two categories – quid pro quo and Clery Act/VAWA offenses - do not have to meet the elements of “severe, pervasiveness, and objective offensiveness” such that a single instance of sufficiently severe harassment on the basis of sex may have the systemic effect of denying the victim equal access to an education program or activity.

Lastly, recipients may continue to address harassing conduct that does not meet the Title IX definition of sexual harassment under other provisions of the recipient’s own code of conduct.

DESIGNATION OF A TITLE IX COORDINATOR⁸

The Department of Education (“DOE”) has clarified that each recipient must designate *and* authorize at least one employee to coordinate its efforts with its responsibilities under Title IX. The employee must be referred to as the “Title IX Coordinator” and the recipient must notify applicants for admission and employment, students, parents or legal guardians of elementary and secondary school students, employees, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the recipient, of the name and title, office address, electronic mail address, and telephone number of the employee designated as the Title IX Coordinator.

What this means: The DOE has expanded the groups of individuals/organizations that must be notified of the Title IX Coordinator’s information. The recipient must prominently display on its website, if any, of the Title IX Coordinator’s contact information and the recipient’s sexual harassment prevention policy and in each handbook catalog that it makes available to the individuals who now must be notified of the Title IX Coordinator’s information. In addition, the contact information of the Title IX Coordinator must now include either the name or title of the individual and the email address (which was not required previously).

Most importantly, the regulations clarify the independent compliance and investigatory responsibilities of the Title IX Coordinator. Title IX Coordinators must be given independent authority to monitor and implement a recipient’s compliance under Title IX. The Title IX Coordinator must be free from conflicts of interest and bias, and must be trained on, among other things, how to serve impartially.⁹

GENERAL RESPONSE TO SEXUAL HARASSMENT¹⁰

A recipient with *actual knowledge* of sexual harassment in an *education program or activity* of the recipient must respond promptly in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent. A recipient is deliberately indifferent only if its response to sexual harassment is clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances.

⁸ 34 CFR § 106.8

⁹ 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(iii)

¹⁰ 34 CFR § 106.44

- ➔ **Actual knowledge** means **notice** of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment to a recipient's Title IX Coordinator or any official of the recipient who has authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the recipient, or to any employee of an elementary and secondary school.
- ➔ **Notice** results whenever any elementary and secondary school employee, any Title IX Coordinator, or any official with authority: witnesses sexual harassment; hears about sexual harassment or sexual harassment allegations from a complainant (i.e., a person alleged to be the victim) or a third party (e.g., the complainant's parent, friend, or peer); receives a written or verbal complaint about sexual harassment or sexual harassment allegations; or by any other means.
- ➔ **Education program or activity** includes locations, events, or circumstances over which the recipient exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs, and also includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by a postsecondary institution, e.g., off-campus housing, fraternity/sorority houses, etc.

These final regulations emphasize that any person may trigger a recipient's response obligations by reporting sexual harassment to the Title IX Coordinator using contact information that the recipient must post on the recipient's website. The person who reports does not need to be the complainant (i.e., the person alleged to be the victim); a report may be made by "any person" who believes that sexual harassment may have occurred and requires a recipient's response.

A recipient's response must treat complainants and respondents equitably by offering **supportive measures** to a complainant, and by following a grievance process now required under the new Title IX regulations before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures, against a respondent.¹¹ 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.

- ➔ **Supportive measures**¹² means non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the complainant or 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 recipient's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the recipient'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 housing locations,

¹¹ 34 CFR § 106.44(a)

¹² 34 CFR § 106.30



leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus, and other similar measures. The recipient 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 recipient to provide the supportive measures.

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of supportive measures.¹³

With or without a formal complaint, a recipient must comply with the requirement to offer supportive services.¹⁴

What this means: Previously, a recipient's duty to investigate and remediate sexual misconduct was triggered when a "responsible employee" knew or should have known about the sexual harassment/sex discrimination. Not only do the new regulations no longer use the term "responsible employee," the regulations also eliminated the concept of constructive notice (aka "should have known").

For post-secondary educational institutions, notice of sexual harassment/sex discrimination only occurs when that institution's Title IX Coordinator or any official who has authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the recipient receives notice of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment. Notice includes, but is not limited to, a report of sexual harassment to the Title IX Coordinator and the filing of a formal complaint.

For K-12 educational institutions, when *any* employee receives notice from a student or employee of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment, the recipient is deemed to have actual knowledge, thereby triggering the recipient's duty to promptly respond. So, all K-12 employees are considered officials with authority to institute corrective measures and schools may not exempt any classification of employee, such as counselors or classified employees.

The new regulations also eliminated the previously-used term "interim measures" and instead use the term "supportive services."

JURISDICTIONAL ISSUES¹⁵

Sexual harassment that occurs off campus and does not occur in an *education program or activity* of the recipient (as defined above) will not be covered under Title IX. Therefore, sexual harassment that occurs off campus via social media that targets a student, for example, may not fall under the provision of Title IX. However, this type of misconduct may still be in violation of the recipient's code of conduct and so the recipient's response would be pursuant to that policy.

¹³ 34 CFR § 106.30

¹⁴ 34 CFR § 106.45

¹⁵ 34 CFR § 106.44(a)



In addition, Title IX no longer applies for acts committed outside the United States even if the misconduct occurred in a recipient's education program or activity, e.g., study abroad program.¹⁶ However, other policies may apply, e.g., a code of conduct policy, that would require a response from the recipient.

What this means: Recipients must be careful to first identify if they have jurisdiction over sexual misconduct in order to determine if Title IX applies. However, even if a recipient does not have jurisdiction under Title IX, it may have jurisdiction under another policy or provision. For example, for K-12 school districts, bullying via social media that occurs off campus may be within a recipient's jurisdiction and subject the offending student to discipline. However, that same conduct may not require a recipient to investigate under Title IX.

FORMAL COMPLAINT¹⁷

A 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 recipient investigate the allegation of sexual harassment. At the time of filing a formal complaint, a complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of the recipient 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.

What this means: The definition of "formal complaint" precludes a third party from filing a formal complaint, which is defined as a document that must be filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator. However, as mentioned earlier, any person who believes that sexual harassment may have occurred may report sexual harassment which would then trigger a recipient's responsibility to determine if supportive services are necessary under the circumstances. Furthermore, a complainant may not submit a formal complaint anonymously, as it requires their physical or digital signature. While a Title IX Coordinator may sign a formal complaint based upon an anonymous report, the identity of the complainant will be disclosed if known.

NOTICE OF ALLEGATIONS¹⁸

Upon receipt of a formal complaint, a recipient must provide the following information through written notice to the parties who are known:

1. Notice of the recipient's grievance process that complies with this section, including any informal resolution process.
2. Notice of the allegations of sexual harassment potentially constituting sexual harassment, including sufficient details known at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview. Sufficient details include the identities of the

¹⁶ 34 CFR § 106.8(d)

¹⁷ 34 CFR § 106.30

¹⁸ 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(2)



parties involved in the incident, if known, the conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment, and the date and location of the alleged incident, if known.

The written notice must include a statement that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process. The written notice must inform the parties that they may have an advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, and may inspect and review evidence obtained during the investigation.

The written notice must inform the parties of any provision in the recipient's code of conduct that prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process.

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

What this means: The intent of the new Title IX regulations is to provide an equitable process that affords due process to the parties involved, particularly the respondent. Providing respondents with specific details about the allegations provides them a better opportunity to defend themselves, which is central to due process.

RESPONSE TO A FORMAL COMPLAINT¹⁹

In response to a formal complaint, a recipient must adopt and follow a grievance process that complies with the following elements:

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 grievance process that complies with this section before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures as defined in § 106.30, against a respondent. Remedies must be designed to restore or preserve equal access to the recipient's education program or activity. Such remedies may include the same individualized services described in § 106.30 as "supportive measures"; however, remedies need not be non-disciplinary or non-punitive and need not avoid burdening the respondent;
2. Require an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence – including both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence – and provide 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 recipient as a Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, or any person designated by a recipient 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.

¹⁹ 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)

A recipient 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 in § 106.30, the scope of the recipient's education program or activity, how to conduct an investigation and grievance 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 recipient must ensure that decision-makers receive training on any technology to be used at a live hearing 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. A recipient also must ensure that investigators receive training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence. 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;

4. 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 grievance process;
5. Include reasonably prompt time frames for conclusion of the grievance process, including reasonably prompt time frames for filing and resolving appeals and informal resolution processes if the recipient offers informal resolution processes, and a process that allows for the temporary delay of the grievance 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;
6. Describe the range of possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies or list the possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies that the recipient 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 faculty, and apply the same standard of evidence to all formal complaints of sexual harassment;
8. Include the procedures and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal;
9. Describe the range of supportive measures available to complainants and respondents; and

10. Not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege, unless the person holding such privilege has waived the privilege.

What this means: The two most notable changes are the never before required training requirements for Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process and the requirement that recipients apply the same standard of evidence for formal complaints against students as for formal complaints against employees, including faculty. For example, if a collective bargaining agreement requires a clear and convincing standard for formal complaints against employees, then that same standard would have to be applied for formal complaints against students. The two standards of evidence that a recipient must choose from are preponderance of the evidence (more likely than not or >50%) or clear and convincing evidence (substantially more likely than not or ~75%).

Regarding the new training requirements for Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process, there is no minimum hourly training requirement, but instead the training must include the following components: the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the recipient's education program or activity, how to conduct an investigation and grievance 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. Decision-makers specifically must receive training on any technology to be used at a live hearing 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. A recipient also must ensure that investigators receive training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.

DISMISSAL OF A FORMAL COMPLAINT²⁰

The recipient must investigate the allegations in a formal complaint. If the conduct alleged in the formal complaint would not constitute sexual harassment as defined in § 106.30 even if proved, did not occur in the recipient's education program or activity, or did not occur against a person in the United States, then the recipient must dismiss the formal complaint with regard to that conduct for purposes of sexual harassment under Title IX or this part; such a dismissal does not preclude action under another provision of the recipient's code of conduct.

The recipient 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 recipient; or specific circumstances prevent the recipient from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations therein. Upon dismissal of a formal complaint, the recipient must promptly send written notice of the dismissal and reason(s) therefore simultaneously to the parties.

²⁰ 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(3)

What this means: The Title IX regulations now specify when a recipient must dismiss a complaint under Title IX. In addition, a complainant can request to dismiss a formal complaint, but the recipient is not required to dismiss the complaint.

EMERGENCY REMOVAL²¹

Nothing in this part precludes a recipient from removing a respondent from the recipient's education program or activity on an emergency basis, provided that the recipient undertakes an individualized safety and risk analysis, 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 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 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or the Americans with Disabilities Act.

What this means: A recipient may only remove a respondent from his/her education program or activity after considering several criteria in order to determine if the respondent must be removed to ensure the physical health or safety of any student. In addition, a respondent is entitled to some form of due process immediately following his/her removal from his/her education program or activity. This "due process" may be a hearing or meeting with an administrator responsible for conducting the individualized safety and risk analysis for the sole purpose of providing the respondent the opportunity to challenge the decision.

INVESTIGATION OF A FORMAL COMPLAINT²²

When investigating a formal complaint and throughout the grievance process, a recipient must—

1. Ensure that the burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rests on the recipient and not on the parties. Furthermore, the recipient 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 recipient obtains that party's voluntary, written consent to do so for a grievance process under this section (if a party is not an "eligible student," as defined in 34 CFR § 99.3, then the recipient must obtain the voluntary, written consent of a "parent," as defined in 34 CFR § 99.3);
2. Provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence;
3. Not restrict the ability of either party to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence;

²¹ 34 CFR § 106.44(c)

²² 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(5)

4. Provide the parties with the same opportunities to have others present during any grievance 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 grievance proceeding; however, the recipient 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 recipient 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 recipient 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 10 days to submit a written response, which the investigator will consider prior to completion of the investigative report. The recipient 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 10 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.

What this means: The investigation procedure that recipients must now adopt must be followed in order to provide the parties, particularly the respondent, with due process. The regulations make clear that it is the recipient's responsibility, not the parties', to gather evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility and the burden of proof rests with the recipient.

Each party is now entitled to review, prior to the completion of the investigation report, all evidence, inculpatory and exculpatory, that is directly related to the allegations raised in the formal complaint. Practically speaking, this will be accomplished by the investigator providing a copy of the draft investigation report prior to the completion of the report and allow each party at least 10 days to submit a written response, which the investigator will consider prior to completion of the investigative report.

HEARINGS²³

For postsecondary institutions, the recipient's grievance process must provide for a live hearing. At the live hearing, the decision-maker(s) must permit each party's advisor to ask the other party and any witnesses all relevant questions and follow-up questions, including those challenging credibility.

Such cross-examination at the live hearing must be conducted directly, orally, and in real time by the party's advisor of choice and never by a party personally, notwithstanding the discretion of the recipient to otherwise restrict the extent to which advisors may participate in the proceedings. At the request of either party, the recipient must provide for the live hearing to occur with the parties located in separate rooms with technology enabling the decision-maker(s) and parties to simultaneously see and hear the party or the witness answering questions.

Only relevant cross-examination and other questions may be asked of a party or witness. Before a complainant, respondent, or witness answers a cross-examination or other question, the decision-maker(s) must first determine whether the question is relevant and explain any decision to exclude a question as not relevant.

If a party does not have an advisor present at the live hearing, the recipient must provide without fee or charge to that party, an advisor of the recipient's choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, to conduct cross-examination on behalf of that party.

Questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions and evidence about the complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the conduct alleged by the complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the respondent and are offered to prove consent.

If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination at the live hearing, the decision-maker(s) must not rely on any statement of that party or witness in reaching a determination regarding responsibility; provided, however, that the decision-maker(s) cannot draw an inference about the determination regarding responsibility based solely on a party's or witness's absence from the live hearing or refusal to answer cross-examination or other questions. Live hearings pursuant to this paragraph may be conducted with all parties physically present in the same geographic location or, at the recipient's discretion, any or all parties, witnesses, and other participants may appear at the live hearing virtually, with technology enabling participants simultaneously to see and hear each other.

Recipients must create an audio or audiovisual recording, or transcript, of any live hearing and make it available to the parties for inspection and review.

For recipients that are elementary and secondary schools, and other recipients that are not postsecondary institutions, the recipient's grievance process may, but need not, provide for a

²³ 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(6)(i)

hearing. With or without a hearing, after the recipient has sent the investigative report to the parties and before reaching a determination regarding responsibility, the decision-maker(s) must afford each party the opportunity to submit written, relevant questions that a party wants asked of any party or witness, provide each party with the answers, and allow for additional, limited follow-up questions from each party.

With or without a hearing, questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions and evidence about the complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the conduct alleged by the complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the respondent and are offered to prove consent. The decision-maker(s) must explain to the party proposing the questions any decision to exclude a question as not relevant.

What this means: Postsecondary institutions are now required to conduct a live hearing conducted by a neutral decision-maker (hearing officer or panel) who will review the evidence and make a decision as to culpability. The decision-maker cannot be the Title IX Coordinator or the investigator. The hearing can be conducted via video conference and it must always be recorded. The parties must be allowed to ask relevant questions and cross-examine witnesses.

If a party does not have an advisor present at a live hearing, the recipient must provide an advisor of the recipient's choice to conduct cross-examination on behalf of that party. A party cannot conduct questioning on their own behalf. Therefore, if a party does not have an advisor, the recipient will need to provide one, which can be an employee of the recipient; however, the recipient chooses the advisor.

Recipients that are elementary and secondary schools are not required to conduct live hearings to determine culpability. However, the parties must be given the opportunity to submit written, relevant questions they wanted asked of any party or witness after receiving the investigation report. The recipient will then provide each party with the answers to their questions and then allow for additional, limited follow-up questions from each party.

STANDARD OF EVIDENCE²⁴

The final regulations were revised to clearly require a recipient's grievance process to state up front which of the two permissible standards of evidence the recipient has selected and then to apply that selected standard to all formal complaints of sexual harassment, including those against employees.

DETERMINATION REGARDING RESPONSIBILITY²⁵

The decision-maker(s), who cannot be the same person(s) as the Title IX Coordinator or the investigator(s), must issue a written determination regarding responsibility. To reach this determination, the recipient must apply the standard of evidence that it applies to all formal

²⁴ 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(vii)

²⁵ 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(7)

complaints of sexual harassment – either preponderance of the evidence or clear and convincing evidence.

The written determination must include the following elements:

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 witnesses, 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 recipient's code of conduct to the facts;
5. A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including a determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions the recipient imposes on the respondent, and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the recipient's education program or activity will be provided by the recipient to the complainant; and
6. The recipient's procedures and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal.

The recipient must provide the written determination to the parties simultaneously. The determination regarding responsibility becomes final either on the date that the recipient provides the parties with the written determination of the result of the appeal, if an appeal is filed, or if an appeal is not filed, the date on which an appeal would no longer be considered timely.

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for effective implementation of any remedies.²⁶

What this means: A recipient must now ensure that an individual, other than the Title IX Coordinator or investigator, reviews all the evidence and makes a determination regarding a respondent's responsibility under Title IX. In small elementary and secondary districts, this will require that the Title IX Coordinator be an employee other than the chief administrative officer.

APPEALS²⁷

A recipient must offer both parties an appeal from a determination regarding responsibility, and from a recipient's dismissal of a formal complaint or any allegations therein, on the following bases:

1. Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;

²⁶ 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(7)(iv)

²⁷ 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(8)

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 recipient may offer an appeal equally to both parties on additional bases. As to all appeals, the recipient 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 determination regarding responsibility or dismissal, the investigator(s), or the Title IX Coordinator;
3. Ensure that the decision-maker(s) for the appeal is unbiased and meets the training requirements under Title IX;
4. Give both parties a reasonable, equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome;
5. Issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result; and
6. Provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties.

What this means: Both parties must now be offered the opportunity to appeal a determination regarding responsibility. Previously, recipients generally only provided the complainant with an opportunity to appeal a determination regarding responsibility. Also, the decision-maker for the appeal must meet the same training requirement as the Title IX Coordinator.

INFORMAL RESOLUTION²⁸

A recipient may not require as a condition of enrollment or continuing enrollment, or employment or continuing employment, or enjoyment of any other right, waiver of the right to an investigation and adjudication of formal complaints of sexual harassment consistent with this section. Similarly, a recipient may not require the parties to participate in an informal resolution process under this section and may not offer an informal resolution process unless a formal complaint is filed.

²⁸ 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(9)

However, at any time prior to reaching a determination regarding responsibility the recipient may facilitate an informal resolution process, such as mediation, that does not involve a full investigation and adjudication, provided that the recipient –

1. Provides to the parties a written notice disclosing: the allegations, the requirements of the informal resolution process including 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 grievance process with respect to the formal complaint, and any consequences resulting from participating in the informal 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.

What this means: Recipients are not required to develop and implement an informal resolution process. However, if a recipient chooses to develop an informal resolution process, it cannot be offered unless a formal complaint has been filed.

RECORDKEEPING²⁹

A recipient must maintain for a period of seven (7) years records of –

1. Each sexual harassment investigation including any determination regarding responsibility and any audio or audiovisual recording or transcript required under Title IX, any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent, and any remedies provided to the complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the recipient'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 recipient must make these training materials publicly available on its website, or if the recipient does not maintain a website, the recipient must make these materials available upon request for inspection by members of the public.

What this means: Recipients must now maintain records regarding every phase of a sexual harassment investigation under Title IX for at least seven years. Previously, there was no express requirement on maintaining records for a specific period of time.

²⁹ 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(10)



TRAINING MATERIALS PUBLICATION REQUIREMENT³⁰

Each recipient must publish on its website the training materials used to train its Title IX Coordinator.

What this means: If the training materials are proprietary, and thus copyrighted, we recommend you list the materials by its title, but not make them available on your website. You can further state on your website that the materials may be available for inspection with the Title IX Coordinator.

REMEDIAL ACTION³¹

The DOE has clarified that it may require a recipient to take remedial action for discriminating in violation of Title IX **and** for violating Title IX regulations.

What this means: A recipient that does not follow the requirements of Title IX, such as not designating an employee as a Title IX Coordinator, failing to offer supportive services, failing to send written notice after dismissing a complainant's allegations, or not following its grievance procedures, may be found to have violated Title IX, even if the violation does not, itself, constitute sex discrimination.

RIGHTS OF PARENTS³²

The regulations expressly recognize the legal rights of parents/guardians to act on behalf of a complainant or respondent on any Title IX matter.

What this means: Parents/guardians cannot be prevented from representing their child or acting on their behalf on any Title IX matter. However, once a child attains the age of majority (18), he/she holds his/her educational rights, unless he/she is conserved, and can act on their own behalf. However, an adult child can assign his/her educational rights to his/her parent/guardian so that the parent/guardian can act on their child's behalf.

Please contact our office with questions regarding this Legal Update or any other legal matter.

The information in this Legal Update is provided as a summary of law and is not intended as legal advice. Application of the law may vary depending on the particular facts and circumstances at issue. We, therefore, recommend that you consult legal counsel to advise you on how the law applies to your specific situation.

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³⁰ 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(10)(i)(D)

³¹ 34 CFR § 106.3

³² 34 CFR § 106.6(g)

(Including Unlawful Discrimination and Retaliation)

Clearly state your complaint. Describe each incident of alleged misconduct separately. Attach additional pages as necessary.

For each incident provide the following information:

- 1) Dates(s) of alleged misconduct;**
- 2) Name(s) of individuals(s) who engaged in the misconduct;**
- 3) A description of the misconduct;**
- 4) Witnesses (if any);**
- 5) If applicable, why you believe the alleged misconduct was because of the unlawful discriminatory basis or bases you identified; and**
- 6) If applicable, why you believe you were retaliated against for filing a complaint or asserting your right to be free from unlawful discrimination on any of the bases you identified above.**

What would you like the District to do in response to your complaint? What remedy are you seeking?

I certify that this information is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Complainant

Date

Send **Original** to: _____

Eureka City SD

Board Policy

Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities

BP 0410

Philosophy, Goals, Objectives and Comprehensive Plans

The Board of Education is committed to providing equal opportunity for all individuals in district programs and activities. District programs, activities, and practices shall be free from unlawful discrimination, including discrimination against an individual or group based on race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information; a perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)
(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)
(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)
(cf. 4033 - Lactation Accommodation)
(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)
(cf. 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave)
(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)
(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)
(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)
(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)
(cf. 6164.4 - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education)
(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)
(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)
(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

All individuals shall be treated equitably in the receipt of district and school services. Personally identifiable information collected in the implementation of any district program, including, but not limited to, student and family information for the free and reduced-price lunch program, transportation, or any other educational program, shall be used only for the purposes of the program, except when the Superintendent or designee authorizes its use for another purpose in accordance with law. Resources and data collected by the district shall not be used, directly or by others, to compile a list, registry, or database of individuals based on race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, national origin, or immigration status or any other category identified above.

(cf. 3540 - Transportation)
(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)
(cf. 5145.13 - Response to Immigration Enforcement)

District programs and activities shall be free of any racially derogatory or discriminatory school or athletic team names, mascots, or nicknames.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually review district programs and activities to ensure the removal of any derogatory or discriminatory name, image, practice, or other barrier that may unlawfully prevent an individual or group in any of the protected categories stated above from accessing district programs and activities. He/she shall take prompt, reasonable actions to remove any identified barrier. The Superintendent or designee shall report his/her findings and recommendations to the Board after each review.

(cf. 1330 - Use of Facilities)

All allegations of unlawful discrimination in district programs and activities shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with the procedures specified in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Pursuant to 34 CFR 104.8 and 34 CFR 106.9, the Superintendent or designee shall notify students, parents/guardians, employees, employee organizations, applicants for admission and employment, and sources of referral for applicants about the district's policy on nondiscrimination and related complaint procedures. Such notification shall be included in the annual parental notification distributed pursuant to Education Code 48980 and, as applicable, in announcements, bulletins, catalogs, handbooks, application forms, or other materials distributed by the district. The notification shall also be posted on the district's web site and social media and in district schools and offices, including staff lounges, student government meeting rooms, and other prominent locations as appropriate.

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)
(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)
(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)
(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

In addition, the annual parental notification shall inform parents/guardians of their children's right to a free public education regardless of immigration status or religious beliefs, including information on educational rights issued by the California Attorney General. Alternatively, such information may be provided through any other cost-effective means determined by the Superintendent or designee. (Education Code 234.7)

The district's nondiscrimination policy and related informational materials shall be published in a format that parents/guardians can understand. In addition, when 15 percent or more of a school's students speak a single primary language other than English, those materials shall be translated

into that other language.

Access for Individuals with Disabilities

District programs and facilities, viewed in their entirety, shall be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and any implementing standards and/or regulations. When structural changes to existing district facilities are needed to provide individuals with disabilities access to programs, services, activities, or facilities, the Superintendent or designee shall develop a transition plan that sets forth the steps for completing the changes.

(cf. 6163.2 - Animals at School)
(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)
(cf. 7111 - Evaluating Existing Buildings)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district provides appropriate auxiliary aids and services when necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal opportunity to participate in or enjoy the benefits of a service, program, or activity. These aids and services may include, but are not limited to, qualified interpreters or readers, assistive listening devices, assistive technologies or other modifications to increase accessibility to district and school web sites, notetakers, written materials, taped text, and Braille or large-print materials. Individuals with disabilities shall notify the Superintendent or principal if they have a disability that requires special assistance or services. Reasonable notification should be given prior to a school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)
(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)
(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

The individual identified in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures as the employee responsible for coordinating the district's response to complaints and for complying with state federal civil rights laws is hereby designated as the district's ADA coordinator. He/she shall receive and address requests for accommodation submitted by individuals with disabilities, and shall investigate and resolve complaints regarding their access to district programs, services, activities, or facilities.

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
2100 J Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 441-3363

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination
48980 Parental notifications

48985 Notices to parents in language other than English
 51007 Legislative intent: state policy
 GOVERNMENT CODE
 8310.3 California Religious Freedom Act
 11000 Definitions
 11135 Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state
 12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act
 54953.2 Brown Act compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act
 PENAL CODE
 422.55 Definition of hate crime
 422.6 Interference with constitutional right or privilege
 CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
 4600-4670 Uniform complaint procedures
 4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs
 UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
 1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act
 1681-1688 Discrimination based on sex or blindness, Title IX
 2301-2415 Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Act
 6311 State plans
 6312 Local education agency plans
 UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29
 794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
 UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
 2000d-2000d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964
 2000e-2000e-17 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended
 2000h-2000h-6 Title IX
 12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act
 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28
 35.101-35.190 Americans with Disabilities Act
 36.303 Auxiliary aids and services
 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
 100.1-100.13 Nondiscrimination in federal programs, effectuating Title VI
 104.1-104.39 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
 106.1-106.61 Discrimination on the basis of sex, effectuating Title IX, especially:
 106.9 Dissemination of policy

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Updated Legal Guidance: Protecting Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students
 Against Sex Discrimination, July 2016

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

Promoting a Safe and Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance and Model Policies to
 Assist California's K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues, April 2018

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING PUBLICATIONS

California Law Prohibits Workplace Discrimination and Harassment

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, 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
Dear Colleague Letter, May 26, 2011
Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010
Notice of Non-Discrimination, Fact Sheet, August 2010
Dear Colleague Letter: Electronic Book Readers, June 29, 2010
Nondiscrimination in Employment Practices in Education, August 1991
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PUBLICATIONS
2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design, September 2010
Accessibility of State and Local Government Websites to People with Disabilities, June 2003
WORLD WIDE WEB CONSORTIUM PUBLICATIONS
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, December 2008
WEB SITES
CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
California Office of the Attorney General: <http://oag.ca.gov>
California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>
California Department of Fair Employment and Housing: <http://www.dfeh.ca.gov>
Safe Schools Coalition: <http://www.casafeschools.org>
Pacific ADA Center: <http://www.adapacific.org>
U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>
U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Americans with Disabilities Act:
<http://www.ada.gov>
U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: <http://www.eeoc.gov>
World Wide Web Consortium, Web Accessibility Initiative: <http://www.w3.org/wai>

Policy EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
adopted: October 22, 2018 Eureka, California

Eureka City SD

Board Policy

Uniform Complaint Procedures

BP 1312.3

Community Relations

The Board of Education recognizes that the district has the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The Board encourages early resolution of complaints whenever possible. To resolve complaints which may require a more formal process, the Board adopts the uniform system of complaint processes specified in 5 CCR 4600-4670 and the accompanying administrative regulation.

Complaints Subject to UCP

The district's uniform complaint procedures (UCP) shall be used to investigate and resolve the following complaints:

1. Any complaint alleging district violation of applicable state or federal laws or regulations governing any program subject to the UCP which is offered by the district, including adult education programs; After School Education and Safety programs; agricultural career technical education; American Indian education centers and early childhood education program assessments; bilingual education; California Peer Assistance and Review programs for teachers; state career technical and technical education, career technical, and technical training programs; federal career technical education; child care and development programs; child nutrition programs; compensatory education; consolidated categorical aid programs; Economic Impact Aid; the federal Every Student Succeeds Act; migrant education; Regional Occupational Centers and Programs; school safety plans; special education programs; California State Preschool Programs; Tobacco-Use Prevention Education programs; and any other district-implemented state categorical program that is not funded through the local control funding formula pursuant to Education Code 64000

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)

(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)

(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)

(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)

(cf. 6178.1 - Work-Based Learning)
(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)
(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

2. Any complaint, by a student, employee, or other person participating in a district program or activity, alleging the occurrence of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) in district programs and activities, including in those programs or activities funded directly by or that receive or benefit from any state financial assistance, based on the person's actual or perceived characteristics of race or ethnicity, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Government Code 11135, or Penal Code 422.55, or based on the person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics (5 CCR 4610)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

3. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirement to provide reasonable accommodation to a lactating student on school campus to express breast milk, breastfeed an infant child, or address other breastfeeding-related needs of the student (Education Code 222)

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

4. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with requirements to provide a pregnant or parenting student the accommodations specified in Education Code 46015, including those related to the provision of parental leave, right of return to the school of previous enrollment or to an alternative education program, if desired, and possible enrollment in school for a fifth year of instruction to enable the student to complete state and Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 46015)

5. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the prohibition against requiring students to pay fees, deposits, or other charges for participation in educational activities (5 CCR 4610)

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)
(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)

6. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with applicable requirements of Education Code 52060-52077 related to the implementation of the local control and accountability plan, including the development of a local control funding formula budget overview for parents/guardians (Education Code 52075)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)
(cf. 3100 - Budget)

7. Any complaint alleging noncompliance with requirements related to the development of a school plan for student achievement or the establishment of a school site council, as required for the consolidated application for specified federal and/or state categorical funding (Education Code 64000-64001, 65000-65001)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

8. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who is a foster youth as defined in Education Code 51225.2, alleging district noncompliance with any requirement applicable to the student regarding placement decisions; the responsibilities of the district's educational liaison to the student; the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school, district, or country; school or records transfer; or the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 48853, 48853.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, 51225.2)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

9. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who transfers into the district after the second year of high school and is a homeless child or youth as defined in 42 USC 11434a, a former juvenile court school student currently enrolled in the district, a child of a military family as defined in Education Code 49701, or a migrant student as defined in Education Code 54441, or by or on behalf of an immigrant student participating in a newcomer program as defined in Education Code 51225.2 in the third or fourth year of high school, alleging district noncompliance with any requirement applicable to the student regarding the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 51225.1)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)

(cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

10. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who is a homeless child or youth as defined in 42 USC 11434a, a former juvenile court school student, a child of a military family as defined in Education Code 49701, a migrant child as defined in Education Code 54441, or a newly arrived immigrant student who is participating in a newcomer program as defined in Education Code 51225.2, alleging district noncompliance with requirements for the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school, district, or country (Education Code 51225.2)

11. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirements of Education Code 51228.1 and 51228.2 that prohibit the assignment of a student in grades 9-12 to a course without educational content for more than one week in any semester or to a course the student has previously satisfactorily completed, without meeting specified conditions (Education Code 51228.3)

(cf. 6152 - Class Assignment)

12. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the physical education instructional minutes requirement for students in elementary school (Education Code 51210, 51223)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)

13. Any complaint alleging retaliation against a complainant or other participant in the complaint process or anyone who has acted to uncover or report a violation subject to this policy

14. Any other complaint as specified in a district policy

The Board recognizes that alternative dispute resolution (ADR) can, depending on the nature of the allegations, offer a process to reach a resolution to the complaint that is acceptable to all parties. ADR such as mediation may be offered to resolve complaints that involve more than one student and no adult. However, mediation shall not be offered or used to resolve any complaint involving sexual assault or where there is a reasonable risk that a party to the mediation would feel compelled to participate. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the use of ADR is consistent with state and federal laws and regulations.

The district shall protect all complainants from retaliation. In investigating complaints, the confidentiality of the parties involved shall be protected as required by law. For any complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the Superintendent or designee shall keep the identity of the complainant, and/or the subject of the complaint if different from the complainant, confidential when appropriate and as long as the integrity of the complaint process is maintained.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

When an allegation that is not subject to UCP is included in a UCP complaint, the district shall refer the non-UCP allegation to the appropriate staff or agency and shall investigate and, if appropriate, resolve the UCP-related allegation(s) through the district's UCP.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to district staff to ensure awareness and knowledge of current law and requirements related to UCP, including the steps and timelines specified in this policy and the accompanying administrative regulation.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of each complaint and subsequent related actions, including steps taken during the investigation and all information required for compliance with 5 CCR 4631 and 4633.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

Non-UCP Complaints

The following complaints shall not be subject to the district's UCP but shall be referred to the specified agency: (5 CCR 4611)

1. Any complaint alleging child abuse or neglect shall be referred to the County Department of Social Services Protective Services Division and the appropriate law enforcement agency.

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

2. Any complaint alleging health and safety violations by a child development program shall, for licensed facilities, be referred to Department of Social Services and shall, for licensing-exempt facilities, be referred to the appropriate Child Development regional administrator.

3. Any complaint alleging fraud shall be referred to the Legal, Audits and Compliance Branch of the California Department of Education.

Any complaint alleging employment discrimination or harassment shall be investigated and resolved by the district in accordance with the procedures specified in AR 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment, including the right to file the complaint with the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

Any complaint related to sufficiency of textbooks or instructional materials, emergency or urgent facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health or safety of students or staff, teacher vacancies and misassignments, or health and safety violations in any license-exempt California State Preschool Program shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with the procedures in AR 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186)

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

8200-8498 Child care and development programs

8500-8538 Adult basic education

18100-18203 School libraries

32280-32289 School safety plan, uniform complaint procedures

33380-33384 California Indian Education Centers

35186 Williams uniform complaint procedures

44500-44508 California Peer Assistance and Review Program for Teachers

46015 Parental leave for students
 48853-48853.5 Foster youth
 48985 Notices in language other than English
 49010-49014 Student fees
 49060-49079 Student records, especially:
 49069.5 Records of foster youth
 49490-49590 Child nutrition programs
 49701 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
 51210 Courses of study grades 1-6
 51223 Physical education, elementary schools
 51225.1-51225.2 Foster youth, homeless children, former juvenile court school students, military-connected students, migrant students, and newly arrived immigrant students; course credits; graduation requirements
 51226-51226.1 Career technical education
 51228.1-51228.3 Course periods without educational content
 52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan, especially:
 52075 Complaint for lack of compliance with local control and accountability plan requirements
 52160-52178 Bilingual education programs
 52300-52462 Career technical education
 52500-52616.24 Adult schools
 54000-54029 Economic Impact Aid
 54400-54425 Compensatory education programs
 54440-54445 Migrant education
 54460-54529 Compensatory education programs
 56000-56865 Special education programs
 59000-59300 Special schools and centers
 64000-64001 Consolidated application process; school plan for student achievement
 65000-65001 School site councils
 GOVERNMENT CODE
 11135 Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state
 12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act
 HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
 1596.792 California Child Day Care Act; general provisions and definitions
 1596.7925 California Child Day Care Act; health and safety regulations
 104420 Tobacco-Use Prevention Education
 PENAL CODE
 422.55 Hate crime; definition
 422.6 Interference with constitutional right or privilege
 CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2
 11023 Harassment and discrimination prevention and correction
 CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
 3080 Applicability of uniform complaint procedures to complaints regarding students with disabilities
 4600-4670 Uniform complaint procedures
 4680-4687 Williams 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 of the Education Amendments of 1972
6301-6576 Title I Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged
6801-7014 Title III language instruction for limited English proficient and immigrant students
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29
794 Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
2000d-2000e-17 Title VI and Title VII Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
6101-6107 Age Discrimination Act of 1975
12101-12213 Title II equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28
35.107 Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
99.1-99.67 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
100.3 Prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color or national origin
104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504
106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX
106.9 Notification of nondiscrimination on basis of sex
110.25 Notification of nondiscrimination on the basis of age

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Sample UCP Board Policies and Procedures

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS

Dear Colleague Letter, September 22, 2017

Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015

Dear Colleague Letter: Responding to Bullying of Students with Disabilities, October 2014

Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010

Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties, January 2001

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PUBLICATIONS

Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons, 2002

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

Family Policy Compliance Office: <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpc/>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/ocr>

U.S. Department of Justice: <http://www.justice.gov>

Policy EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
adopted: August 19, 2019 Eureka, California

Eureka City SD

Administrative Regulation

Uniform Complaint Procedures

AR 1312.3

Community Relations

Except as the Board of Education may otherwise specifically provide in other district policies, these uniform complaint procedures (UCP) shall be used to investigate and resolve only the complaints specified in BP 1312.3.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)
(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)
(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

Compliance Officers

The district designates the individual(s), position(s), or unit(s) identified below as responsible for coordinating the district's response to complaints and for complying with state and federal civil rights laws. The individual(s), position(s), or unit(s) also serve as the compliance officer(s) specified in AR 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment responsible for handling complaints regarding unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying). The compliance officer(s) shall receive and coordinate the investigation of complaints and shall ensure district compliance with law.

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
2100 J Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 441-3363

The compliance officer who receives a complaint may assign another compliance officer to investigate and resolve the complaint. The compliance officer shall promptly notify the complainant and respondent, if applicable, if another compliance officer is assigned to the complaint.

In no instance shall a compliance officer be assigned to a complaint in which the compliance officer has a bias or conflict of interest that would prohibit the fair investigation or resolution of the complaint. Any complaint against a compliance officer or that raises a concern about the compliance officer's ability to investigate the complaint fairly and without bias shall be filed with the Superintendent or designee who shall determine how the complaint will be investigated.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that employees assigned to investigate and resolve complaints receive training and are knowledgeable about the laws and programs at issue in the complaints to which they are assigned. Training provided to such employees shall cover current state and federal laws and regulations governing the program, applicable processes for investigating and resolving complaints, including those alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), applicable standards for reaching decisions on complaints, and appropriate corrective measures. Assigned employees may have access to legal counsel as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

(cf. 9124 - Attorney)

The compliance officer or, if necessary, any appropriate administrator shall determine whether interim measures are necessary during and pending the result of an investigation. If interim measures are determined to be necessary, the compliance officer or the administrator shall consult with the Superintendent, the Superintendent's designee, or, if appropriate, the site principal to implement one or more interim measures. The interim measures shall remain in place until the compliance officer determines that they are no longer necessary or until the district issues its final written decision, whichever occurs first.

Notifications

The district's UCP policy and administrative regulation shall be posted in all district schools and offices, including staff lounges and student government meeting rooms. (Education Code 234.1)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall annually provide written notification of the district's UCP to students, employees, parents/guardians of district students, district advisory committee members, school advisory committee members, appropriate private school officials or representatives, and other interested parties. (5 CCR 4622)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

The notice shall include:

1. A statement that the district is primarily responsible for compliance with federal and state laws and regulations, including those related to prohibition of unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against any protected group and all programs and activities that are subject to UCP as identified in the section "Complaints Subject to UCP" in the accompanying Board policy
2. A statement that a complaint regarding student fees or the local control and

accountability plan (LCAP) may be filed anonymously if the complainant provides evidence or information leading to evidence to support the complaint

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

3. A statement that a student enrolled in a public school shall not be required to pay a fee for participation in an educational activity that constitutes an integral fundamental part of the district's educational program, including curricular and extracurricular activities

4. A statement that a complaint regarding student fees must be filed no later than one year from the date the alleged violation occurred

5. A statement that the district will post a standardized notice of the educational rights of foster youth, homeless students, former juvenile court school students now enrolled in the district, children of military families, migrant students, and immigrant students enrolled in a newcomer program, as specified in Education Code 48853, 48853.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, and 51225.2, and the complaint process

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)

(cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)

6. Identification of the responsible staff member(s), position(s), or unit(s) designated to receive complaints

7. A statement that complaints will be investigated in accordance with the district's UCP and a written decision will be sent to the complainant within 60 days from the receipt of the complaint, unless this time period is extended by written agreement of the complainant

8. A statement that the complainant has a right to appeal the district's decision to CDE by filing a written appeal, including a copy of the original complaint and the district's decision, within 15 days of receiving the district's decision

9. A statement advising the complainant of any civil law remedies, including, but not limited to, injunctions, restraining orders, or other remedies or orders that may be available under state or federal antidiscrimination laws, if applicable

10. A statement that copies of the district's UCP are available free of charge

The annual notification, complete contact information of the compliance officer(s), and information related to Title IX as required pursuant to Education Code 221.61 shall be posted on the district web site and may be provided through district-supported social media, if available.

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)
(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all students and parents/guardians, including students and parents/guardians with limited English proficiency, have access to the relevant information provided in the district's policy, regulation, forms, and notices concerning the UCP.

If 15 percent or more of students enrolled in a particular district school speak a single primary language other than English, the district's policy, regulation, forms, and notices concerning the UCP shall be translated into that language, in accordance with Education Code 234.1 and 48985. In all other instances, the district shall ensure meaningful access to all relevant UCP information for parents/guardians with limited English proficiency.

Filing of Complaints

The complaint shall be presented to the compliance officer who shall maintain a log of complaints received, providing each with a code number and a date stamp.

All complaints shall be filed in writing and signed by the complainant. If a complainant is unable to put a complaint in writing due to conditions such as a disability or illiteracy, district staff shall assist in the filing of the complaint. (5 CCR 4600)

Complaints shall also be filed in accordance with the following rules, as applicable:

1. A complaint alleging district violation of applicable state or federal law or regulations governing the programs specified in the accompanying Board policy (item #1 of the section "Complaints Subject to UCP") may be filed by any individual, public agency, or organization. (5 CCR 4630)
2. Any complaint alleging noncompliance with law regarding the prohibition against student fees, deposits, and charges or any requirement related to the LCAP may be filed anonymously if the complaint provides evidence, or information leading to evidence, to support an allegation of noncompliance. A complaint about a violation of the prohibition against the charging of unlawful student fees may be filed with the principal of the school or with the Superintendent or designee. However, any such complaint shall be filed no later than one year from the date the alleged violation occurred. (Education Code 49013, 52075; 5 CCR 4630)
3. A complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) may be filed only by persons who allege that they have personally suffered unlawful discrimination or who believe that an individual or any specific class of individuals has been subjected to unlawful discrimination. The complaint shall be initiated no later than six months from the date that the alleged unlawful discrimination occurred, or six months from the date that the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged unlawful discrimination. The time for filing may be extended for up to 90 days by the Superintendent or designee for good cause upon written request by the complainant setting forth the reasons for the extension. (5 CCR 4630)

4. When a complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) is filed anonymously, the compliance officer shall pursue an investigation or other response as appropriate, depending on the specificity and reliability of the information provided and the seriousness of the allegation.

5. When the complainant of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) or the alleged victim, when not the complainant, requests confidentiality, the compliance officer shall inform the complainant or victim that the request may limit the district's ability to investigate the conduct or take other necessary action. When honoring a request for confidentiality, the district shall nevertheless take all reasonable steps to investigate and resolve/respond to the complaint consistent with the request.

Mediation

Within three business days after receiving the complaint, the compliance officer may informally discuss with all the parties the possibility of using mediation. Mediation shall be offered to resolve complaints that involve more than one student and no adult. However, mediation shall not be offered or used to resolve any complaint involving an allegation of sexual assault or where there is a reasonable risk that a party to the mediation would feel compelled to participate. If the parties agree to mediation, the compliance officer shall make all arrangements for this process.

Before initiating the mediation of a complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the compliance officer shall ensure that all parties agree to make the mediator a party to relevant confidential information. The compliance officer shall also notify all parties of the right to end the informal process at any time.

If the mediation process does not resolve the problem within the parameters of law, the compliance officer shall proceed with an investigation of the complaint.

The use of mediation shall not extend the district's timelines for investigating and resolving the complaint unless the complainant agrees in writing to such an extension of time. If mediation is successful and the complaint is withdrawn, then the district shall take only the actions agreed upon through the mediation. If mediation is unsuccessful, the district shall then continue with subsequent steps specified in this administrative regulation.

Investigation of Complaint

Within 10 business days after the compliance officer receives the complaint, the compliance officer shall begin an investigation into the complaint.

Within one business day of initiating the investigation, the compliance officer shall provide the complainant and/or the complainant's representative with the opportunity to present the information contained in the complaint to the compliance officer and shall notify the complainant and/or representative of the opportunity to present the compliance officer with any

evidence, or information leading to evidence, to support the allegations in the complaint. Such evidence or information may be presented at any time during the investigation.

In conducting the investigation, the compliance officer shall collect all available documents and review all available records, notes, or statements related to the complaint, including any additional evidence or information received from the parties during the course of the investigation. The compliance officer shall individually interview all available witnesses with information pertinent to the complaint, and may visit any reasonably accessible location where the relevant actions are alleged to have taken place. At appropriate intervals, the compliance officer shall inform both parties of the status of the investigation.

To investigate a complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the compliance officer shall interview the alleged victim(s), any alleged offenders, and other relevant witnesses privately, separately, and in a confidential manner. As necessary, additional staff or legal counsel may conduct or support the investigation.

A complainant's refusal to provide the district's investigator with documents or other evidence related to the allegations in the complaint, failure or refusal to cooperate in the investigation, or engagement in any other obstruction of the investigation may result in the dismissal of the complaint because of a lack of evidence to support the allegation. Similarly, a respondent's refusal to provide the district's investigator with documents or other evidence related to the allegations in the complaint, failure or refusal to cooperate in the investigation, or engagement in any other obstruction of the investigation may result in a finding, based on evidence collected, that a violation has occurred and in the imposition of a remedy in favor of the complainant. (5 CCR 4631)

In accordance with law, the district shall provide the investigator with access to records and other information related to the allegation in the complaint and shall not in any way obstruct the investigation. Failure or refusal of the district to cooperate in the investigation may result in a finding based on evidence collected that a violation has occurred and in the imposition of a remedy in favor of the complainant. (5 CCR 4631)

Timeline for Final Decision

Unless extended by written agreement with the complainant, the compliance officer shall prepare and send to the complainant a written report, as described in the section "Final Written Decision" below, within 60 calendar days of the district's receipt of the complaint. (5 CCR 4631)

For any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying), the respondent shall be informed of any extension of the timeline agreed to by the complainant. The respondent also shall be sent the district's final written decision at the same time it is provided to the complainant.

Final Written Decision

For all complaints, the district's final written decision shall include: (5 CCR 4631)

1. The findings of fact based on the evidence gathered. In reaching a factual determination, the following factors may be taken into account:

- a. Statements made by any witnesses
 - b. The relative credibility of the individuals involved
 - c. How the complaining individual reacted to the incident
 - d. Any documentary or other evidence relating to the alleged conduct
 - e. Past instances of similar conduct by any alleged offenders
 - f. Past false allegations made by the complainant
2. The conclusion(s) of law
3. Disposition of the complaint
4. Rationale for such disposition

For complaints of retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the disposition of the complaint shall include a determination for each allegation as to whether retaliation or unlawful discrimination has occurred.

The determination of whether a hostile environment exists may involve consideration of the following:

- a. The manner in which the misconduct affected one or more students' education
 - b. The type, frequency, and duration of the misconduct
 - c. The relationship between the alleged victim(s) and offender(s)
 - d. The number of persons engaged in the conduct and at whom the conduct was directed
 - e. The size of the school, location of the incidents, and context in which they occurred
 - f. Other incidents at the school involving different individuals
5. Corrective action(s), including any actions that have been taken or will be taken to address the allegations in the complaint and including, with respect to a student fees complaint, a remedy that comports with Education Code 49013 and 5 CCR 4600

For complaints of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the decision may, as required by law, include:

- a. The corrective actions imposed on the respondent
 - b. Individual remedies offered or provided to the complainant or another person who was the subject of the complaint, but this information should not be shared with the respondent.
 - c. Systemic measures the school has taken to eliminate a hostile environment and prevent recurrence
6. Notice of the complainant's and respondent's right to appeal the district's decision to CDE within 15 calendar days, and procedures to be followed for initiating such an appeal

The decision may also include follow-up procedures to prevent recurrence or retaliation and for reporting any subsequent problems.

In consultation with district legal counsel, information about the relevant part of a decision may be communicated to a victim who is not the complainant and to other parties who may be involved in implementing the decision or are affected by the complaint, as long as the privacy of the parties is protected. In a complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying), notice of the district's decision to the alleged victim shall include information about any sanction to be imposed upon the respondent that relates directly to the alleged victim.

If the complaint involves a limited-English-proficient student or parent/guardian and the student involved is enrolled in a school at which 15 percent or more of the students speak a single primary language other than English, then the decision shall also be translated into that language pursuant to Education Code 48985. In all other instances, the district shall ensure meaningful access to all relevant information for parents/guardians with limited English proficiency.

For complaints alleging unlawful discrimination based on state law (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying), the decision shall also include a notice to the complainant that:

1. The complainant may pursue available civil law remedies outside of the district's complaint procedures, including seeking assistance from mediation centers or public/private interest attorneys, 60 calendar days after the filing of an appeal with CDE. (Education Code 262.3)
2. The 60 days moratorium does not apply to complaints seeking injunctive relief in state courts or to discrimination complaints based on federal law. (Education Code 262.3)
3. Complaints alleging discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender, disability, or age may also be filed with the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights at www.ed.gov/ocr within 180 days of the alleged discrimination.

Corrective Actions

When a complaint is found to have merit, the compliance officer shall adopt any appropriate corrective action permitted by law. Appropriate corrective actions that focus on the larger school or district environment may include, but are not limited to, actions to reinforce district policies; training for faculty, staff, and students; updates to school policies; or school climate surveys.

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

For complaints involving retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), appropriate remedies that may be offered to the victim but not communicated to the respondent may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Counseling

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

2. Academic support
3. Health services
4. Assignment of an escort to allow the victim to move safely about campus
5. Information regarding available resources and how to report similar incidents or retaliation
6. Separation of the victim from any other individuals involved, provided the separation does not penalize the victim
7. Restorative justice
8. Follow-up inquiries to ensure that the conduct has stopped and there has been no retaliation

For complaints involving retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), appropriate corrective actions that focus on a student offender may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Transfer from a class or school as permitted by law
2. Parent/guardian conference
3. Education regarding the impact of the conduct on others
4. Positive behavior support

5. Referral to a student success team

(cf. 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)

6. Denial of participation in extracurricular or cocurricular activities or other privileges as permitted by law

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

7. Disciplinary action, such as suspension or expulsion, as permitted by law

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

When an employee is found to have committed retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the district shall take appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, in accordance with applicable law and collective bargaining agreement.

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

The district may also consider training and other interventions for the larger school community to ensure that students, staff, and parents/guardians understand the types of behavior that constitute unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), that the district does not tolerate it, and how to report and respond to it.

When a complaint is found to have merit, an appropriate remedy shall be provided to the complainant or other affected person.

However, if a complaint alleging noncompliance with the laws regarding student fees, deposits, and other charges, physical education instructional minutes for students in elementary schools, or any requirement related to the LCAP is found to have merit, the district shall provide a remedy to all affected students and parents/guardians subject to procedures established by regulation of the State Board of Education. (Education Code 49013, 51223, 52075)

For complaints alleging noncompliance with the laws regarding student fees, the district shall attempt in good faith, by engaging in reasonable efforts, to identify and fully reimburse all affected students and parents/guardians who paid the unlawful student fees within one year prior to the filing of the complaint. (Education Code 49013; 5 CCR 4600)

Appeals to the California Department of Education

Any complainant who is dissatisfied with the district's final written decision on a complaint regarding any specified federal or state educational program subject to UCP may file an appeal

in writing with CDE within 15 calendar days of receiving the district's decision. (5 CCR 4632)

The complainant shall specify the basis for the appeal of the decision and how the facts of the district's decision are incorrect and/or the law has been misapplied. The appeal shall be sent to CDE with a copy of the original locally filed complaint and a copy of the district's decision in that complaint. (5 CCR 4632)

When a respondent in any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying) is dissatisfied with the district's final written decision, the respondent, in the same manner as the complainant, may file an appeal with CDE.

Upon notification by CDE that the district's decision has been appealed, the Superintendent or designee shall forward the following documents to CDE: (5 CCR 4633)

1. A copy of the original complaint
2. A copy of the written decision
3. A summary of the nature and extent of the investigation conducted by the district, if not covered by the decision
4. A copy of the investigation file including, but not limited to, all notes, interviews, and documents submitted by the parties and gathered by the investigator
5. A report of any action taken to resolve the complaint
6. A copy of the district's UCP
7. Other relevant information requested by CDE

Regulation EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
approved: August 19, 2019 Eureka, California

Eureka City SD

Board Policy

Nondiscrimination In Employment

BP 4030

Personnel

The Board of Education is determined to provide a safe, positive environment where all district employees are assured of full and equal employment access and opportunities, protection from harassment and intimidation, and freedom from any fear of reprisal or retribution for asserting their employment rights in accordance with law. For purposes of this policy, employees include job applicants, interns, volunteers, and persons who contracted with the district to provide services, as applicable.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 3312 - Contracts)

(cf. 3600 - Consultants)

(cf. 4111/4211/4311 - Recruitment and Selection)

No district employee shall be discriminated against or harassed by any coworker, supervisor, manager, or other person with whom the employee comes in contact in the course of employment, on the basis of the employee's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, age, religious creed, marital status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, military and veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

The district shall not inquire into any employee's immigration status nor discriminate against an employee on the basis of immigration status, unless there is clear and convincing evidence that it is necessary to comply with federal immigration law. (2 CCR 11028)

Discrimination in employment based on the characteristics listed above is prohibited in all areas of employment and in all employment-related practices, including the following:

1. Discrimination in hiring, compensation, terms, conditions, and other privileges of employment

(cf. 4151/4251/4351 - Employee Compensation)

(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)

2. Taking of an adverse employment action, such as termination or the denial of employment, promotion, job assignment, or training

3. Unwelcome conduct, whether verbal, physical, or visual, that is so severe or pervasive as to adversely affect an employee's employment opportunities, or that has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment

4. Actions and practices identified as unlawful or discriminatory pursuant to Government Code 12940 or 2 CCR 11006-11086, such as:

a. Sex discrimination based on an employee's pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or any related medical condition or on an employee's gender, gender expression, or gender identity, including transgender status

(cf. 4033 - Lactation Accommodation)

(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)

b. Religious creed discrimination based on an employee's religious belief or observance, including religious dress or grooming practices, or based on the district's failure or refusal to use reasonable means to accommodate an employee's religious belief, observance, or practice which conflicts with an employment requirement

(cf. 4119.22/4219.22/4319.22 - Dress and Grooming)

c. Requirement for a medical or psychological examination of a job applicant, or an inquiry into whether a job applicant has a mental or physical disability or a medical condition or as to the severity of any such disability or condition, without the showing of a job-related need or business necessity

(cf. 4119.41/4219.41/4319.41 - Employees with Infectious Disease)

d. Failure to make reasonable accommodation for the known physical or mental disability of an employee, or to engage in a timely, good faith, interactive process with an employee who has requested such accommodations in order to determine the effective reasonable accommodations, if any, to be provided to the employee

(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

The Board also prohibits retaliation against any district employee who opposes any discriminatory employment practice by the district or its employees, agents, or representatives or who complains, testifies, assists, or in any way participates in the district's complaint process pursuant to this policy. No employee who requests an accommodation for any protected characteristic listed in this policy shall be subjected to any punishment or sanction, regardless of whether the request was granted. (Government Code 12940; 2 CCR 11028)

No employee shall, in exchange for a raise or bonus or as a condition of employment or continued employment, be required to sign any document that releases the employee's right to

file a claim against the district or to disclose information about harassment or other unlawful employment practices. (Government Code 12964.5)

Complaints concerning employment discrimination, harassment, or retaliation shall immediately be investigated in accordance with procedures specified in the accompanying administrative regulation.

Any supervisory or management employee who observes or has knowledge of an incident of prohibited discrimination or harassment, including harassment of an employee by a nonemployee, shall report the incident to the Superintendent or designated district coordinator as soon as practical after the incident. All other employees are encouraged to report such incidents to their supervisor immediately. The district shall protect any employee who reports such incidents from retaliation.

The Superintendent or designee may use all appropriate means to reinforce the district's nondiscrimination policy, which may include providing training and information to employees about how to recognize harassment, discrimination, or other related conduct, how to respond appropriately, and components of the district's policies and regulations regarding discrimination. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review the district's employment practices and, as necessary, shall take action to ensure district compliance with the nondiscrimination laws.

Any district employee who engages in prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation or who aids, abets, incites, compels, or coerces another to engage or attempt to engage in such behavior in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

CIVIL CODE

51.7 Freedom from violence or intimidation

GOVERNMENT CODE

11135 Unlawful discrimination

11138 Rules and regulations

12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act, especially:

12940-12952 Unlawful employment practices

12960-12976 Unlawful employment practices; complaints

PENAL CODE

422.56 Definitions, hate crimes

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

11006-11086 Discrimination in employment, especially:

11013 Recordkeeping
 11019 Terms, conditions and privileges of employment
 11023 Harassment and discrimination prevention and correction
 11024 Sexual harassment training and education
 11027-11028 National origin and ancestry discrimination
 CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
 4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs
 UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
 1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
 UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29
 621-634 Age Discrimination in Employment Act
 794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
 UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
 2000d-2000d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
 2000e-2000e-17 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
 2000ff-2000ff-11 Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008
 2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
 6101-6107 Age discrimination in federally assisted programs
 12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act
 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28
 35.101-35.190 Americans with Disabilities Act
 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
 100.6 Compliance information
 104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504
 104.8 Notice
 106.8 Designation of responsible employee and adoption of grievance procedures
 106.9 Dissemination of policy
 110.1-110.39 Nondiscrimination on the basis of age
 COURT DECISIONS
 Thompson v. North American Stainless LP, (2011) 131 S.Ct. 863
 Shephard v. Loyola Marymount, (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 837

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING PUBLICATIONS
 California Law Prohibits Workplace Discrimination and Harassment
 Transgender Rights in the Workplace
 Workplace Harassment Guide for California Employers
 Your Rights and Obligations as a Pregnant Employee
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS
 Notice of Non-Discrimination, August 2010
 U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS
 EEOC Compliance Manual
 Enforcement Guidance: Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors,
 June 1999
 WEB SITES
 California Department of Fair Employment and Housing: <http://www.dfeh.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>
U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: <http://www.eeoc.gov>

Policy EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
adopted: August 19, 2019 Eureka, California

Eureka City SD

Administrative Regulation

Nondiscrimination In Employment

AR 4030
Personnel

All allegations of discrimination in employment, including those involving an employee, job applicant, intern, volunteer, or other person contracted to provide services to the district shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with procedures specified in this administrative regulation.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)
(cf. 3312 - Contracts)
(cf. 3600 - Consultants)
(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

The district designates the position identified below as its coordinator for nondiscrimination in employment (coordinator) to organize and manage the district's efforts to comply with state and federal nondiscrimination laws and to answer inquiries regarding the district's nondiscrimination policies. The coordinator may be contacted at:

Director of Personnel Services
2100 J Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 441-2417

Measures to Prevent Discrimination

To prevent unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation in district employment, the Superintendent or designee shall implement the following measures:

1. Display in a prominent and accessible location at every work site where the district has employees, and post electronically in a conspicuous location on computers for employee use, up-to-date California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) posters on the prohibition of workplace discrimination and harassment, the rights of transgender employees, and the rights and obligations of employees who are pregnant, have a related medical condition, or are recovering from childbirth (Government Code 12950; 2 CCR 11013, 11023, 11049)

(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)
(cf. 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave)

2. Publicize the district's nondiscrimination policy and regulation, including the complaint

procedures and the coordinator's contact information, by: (5 CCR 4960; 34 CFR 100.6, 106.9)

- a. Including them in each announcement, bulletin, or application form that is used in employee recruitment
- b. Posting them in all district schools and offices, including staff lounges and other prominent locations
- c. Posting them on the district's web site and providing easy access to them through district-supported social media, when available

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

(cf. 4111/4211/4311 - Recruitment and Selection)

3. Disseminate the district's nondiscrimination policy and administrative regulation to all employees by one or more of the following methods: (2 CCR 11023)

- a. Printing and providing a copy to all employees, with an acknowledgment form for each employee to sign and return
- b. Sending a copy via email with an acknowledgment return form
- c. Posting a copy on the district intranet with a tracking system ensuring all employees have read and acknowledged receipt of the policies
- d. Discussing the policy and regulation with employees upon hire and/or during a new hire orientation session
- e. Any other way that ensures employees receive and understand the policy

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

4. Provide to employees a handbook which contains information that clearly describes the district's nondiscrimination policy, procedures for filing a complaint, and resources available to employees who believe they have been the victim of any discriminatory or harassing behavior

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

5. Periodically review the district's recruitment, hiring, and promotion processes and regularly monitor the terms, conditions, and privileges of employment to ensure district compliance with law

6. For any district facility where 10 percent of employees have a language other than

English as their spoken language, translate the policy into every language spoken by at least 10 percent of the workforce (2 CCR 11023)

Complaint Procedure

Any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination or harassment shall be addressed in accordance with the following procedures:

1. Notice and Receipt of Complaint: A complainant may inform a direct supervisor, another supervisor, the coordinator, the Superintendent or, if available, a complaint hotline or an ombudsman. The complainant's direct supervisor may be bypassed in filing a complaint when the supervisor is the subject of the complaint.

The complainant may first attempt to resolve the situation informally with the complainant's supervisor before filing a written complaint.

A supervisor or manager who has received information about an incident of discrimination or harassment, or has observed such an incident, shall report it to the coordinator, whether or not the complainant files a written complaint.

The written complaint should contain the complainant's name, the name of the individual who allegedly committed the act, a description of the incident, the date and location where the incident occurred, any witnesses who may have relevant information, any available evidence of the discrimination or harassment, and any other pertinent information which may assist in investigating and resolving the complaint.

2. Investigation Process: The coordinator shall initiate an impartial investigation of an allegation of discrimination or harassment within five business days of receiving notice of the alleged discriminatory or harassing behavior, regardless of whether a written complaint has been filed or whether the written complaint is complete.

The coordinator shall meet with the complainant to describe the district's complaint procedure and discuss the actions being sought by the complainant in response to the allegation. The coordinator shall inform the complainant that the investigation of the allegations will be fair, timely, and thorough and will be conducted in a manner that provides all parties due process and reaches reasonable conclusions based on the evidence collected. The coordinator shall also inform the parties that the investigation will be kept confidential to the extent possible, but that some information may be disclosed as necessary to conduct an effective investigation.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

If the coordinator determines that a detailed fact-finding investigation is necessary, the investigation shall begin immediately. As part of this investigation, the coordinator should interview the complainant, the person accused, and other persons who could be expected to have

relevant information.

The coordinator shall track and document the progress of the investigation to ensure reasonable progress and shall inform the parties as necessary.

When necessary to carry out the investigation or to protect employee safety, the coordinator may discuss the complaint with the Superintendent or designee, district legal counsel, or the district's risk manager.

The coordinator shall also determine whether interim measures, such as scheduling changes, transfers, or leaves, need to be taken before the investigation is completed in order to prevent further incidents. The coordinator shall ensure that such interim measures do not constitute retaliation.

3. **Written Report on Findings and Remedial/Corrective Action:** No more than 20 business days after receiving the complaint, the coordinator shall conclude the investigation and prepare a written report of the findings. This timeline may be extended for good cause. If an extension is needed, the coordinator shall notify the parties and explain the reasons for the extension.

The report shall include the decision and the reasons for the decision and shall summarize the steps taken during the investigation. If a determination has been made that discrimination or harassment occurred, the report shall also include any corrective action(s) that have been or will be taken to address the behavior, provide appropriate options for remedial actions and resolutions for the complainant, and ensure that retaliation or further discrimination or harassment is prevented. The report shall be presented to the Superintendent or designee.

A summary of the findings shall be presented to the complainant and the person accused.

4. **Appeal to the Board of Education:** The complainant or the person accused may appeal any findings to the Board within 10 business days of receiving the written report of the coordinator's findings. The Superintendent or designee shall provide the Board with all information presented during the investigation. Upon receiving an appeal, the Board shall schedule a hearing as soon as practicable. Any complaint against a district employee shall be addressed in closed session in accordance with law. The Board shall render its decision within 10 business days.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)
(cf. 9321 - Closed Session)

Other Remedies

In addition to filing a discrimination or harassment complaint with the district, a person may file a complaint with either DFEH or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). The time limits for filing such complaints are as follows:

1. For filing a complaint with DFEH alleging a violation of Government Code

12940-12952, within three years of the alleged discriminatory act(s), unless an exception exists pursuant to Government Code 12960 (Government Code 12960)

2. For filing a complaint with EEOC, within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory act(s) (42 USC 2000e-5)

3. For filing a complaint with EEOC after first filing a complaint with DFEH, within 300 days of the alleged discriminatory act(s) or within 30 days after the termination of proceedings by DFEH, whichever is earlier (42 USC 2000e-5)

Regulation EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
approved: June 4, 2020 Eureka, California

Eureka City SD

Exhibit

Nondiscrimination In Employment

E 4030

Personnel

The Eureka City Schools is an equal employment opportunity employer and supports the principles of non-discrimination.

Eureka City Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender (including sexual harassment), handicap [or disability], or age in any of its policies, procedures, or practices. This non-discrimination policy covers admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, the district's program and activities, including vocational education. Inquiries regarding the equal opportunity policies, the filing of grievances, or to request a copy of the district's grievance procedures may be directed to:

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
2100 J Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 441-3363

The following grievance resolution procedure is for use by students, parents/guardians, employees, job applicants, or members of the general public where alleged violations regarding discrimination have occurred or are occurring in the operation of Eureka City Schools:

Level I

The complainant will first meet informally with the school site administrator. If the complainant's concerns are not clear or cannot be resolved through informal discussion, the school site administrator may request that the complaint be put in writing and submitted to the administrator. The administrator will respond to the complainant in writing within ten working days.

LEVEL II

In the event that a grievance or complaint cannot be satisfactorily resolved at Level I, the complainant may meet with the District Coordinator for Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504. Every reasonable attempt will be made to resolve the problem in a manner acceptable to all parties.

* The complainant may present his or her grievance to the District Coordinator orally or in writing, describing specifically the time, place, nature and participants of the alleged discriminatory acts or policies. If the complainant's concerns are not clearly understood when

presented orally, the district Coordinator may request that they be presented in writing. The District Coordinator will respond to the complainant in writing within ten working days.

* The District Coordinator shall conduct any investigation necessary to resolve the complaint, including discussion with the complainant, the person against whom the complaint was filed, appropriate staff members and students, and a review of all relevant documents. In the event that a response from third parties is necessary, the District Coordinator may designate up to ten additional working days for investigation for the complaint. An additional period of time, with the complainant's consent, may be allowed for resolution of the grievance

LEVEL III

If the problem cannot be resolved at the second level, the complainant shall have the right to present the grievance to the Superintendent, following the same procedures as in Level II.

LEVEL IV

In the event that the matter cannot be resolved at the third level, the complainant may request a hearing before the Board of Education. Any such request must be made in writing within 20 working days after receipt of the decision of the Superintendent. The Board shall grant the hearing request for the next regular meeting. The Board shall hear all information relevant to the grievance and shall render its decision at the next regular Board meeting.

ALTERNATE STEPS IN THE GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

In the event that the grievance is against the individual responsible for the grievance process at any level, the complainant may address the grievance directly to the next appropriate level.

Eureka City Schools and its designated representatives reserve the right to conduct its investigation in any manner deemed appropriate and which is not contrary to law. Grievants will make themselves available at reasonable times during these investigations for personal conferences. At their expense, grievants may select their own representative to accompany them to any conference, however, it is necessary for each grievant to be physically present to respond to questions.

These grievance procedures have been developed according to legal requirements and are designed to expedite a response to expressed concerns regarding discrimination.

Exhibit EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Version: September 13, 2000 Eureka, California

Eureka City SD

Board Policy

Sexual Harassment

BP 4119.11

Personnel

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe work environment that is free of harassment and intimidation. The Board prohibits sexual harassment against district employees and retaliatory behavior or action against any person who complains, testifies, or otherwise participates in the complaint process established for the purpose of this policy.

Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, harassment that is based on the gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation of the victim.

This policy shall apply to all district employees and to other persons on district property or with some employment relationship with the district, such as interns, volunteers, contractors, and job applicants.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

Any district employee who engages or participates in sexual harassment or who aids, abets, incites, compels, or coerces another to commit sexual harassment in violation of this policy is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

(cf. 4117.7/4317.7 - Employment Status Reports)

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

The Superintendent or designee shall take all actions necessary to ensure the prevention, investigation, and correction of sexual harassment, including but not limited to:

1. Providing training to employees in accordance with law and administrative regulation
2. Publicizing and disseminating the district's sexual harassment policy to employees and others to whom the policy may apply

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

3. Ensuring prompt, thorough, and fair investigation of complaints
4. Taking timely and appropriate corrective/remedial action(s), which may require interim separation of the complainant and the alleged harasser and subsequent monitoring of

developments

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the district's strategies to prevent and address harassment. Such evaluation may involve conducting regular anonymous employee surveys to assess whether harassment is occurring or is perceived to be tolerated, partnering with researchers or other agencies with the needed expertise to evaluate the district's prevention strategies, and using any other effective tool for receiving feedback on systems and/or processes. As necessary, changes shall be made to the harassment policy, complaint procedures, or training.

Sexual Harassment Reports and Complaints

Any district employee who feels that he/she has been sexually harassed in the performance of his/her district responsibilities or who has knowledge of any incident of sexual harassment by or against another employee shall immediately report the incident to his/her direct supervisor, another supervisor, the district's coordinator for nondiscrimination, the Superintendent, or, if available, a complaint hotline or an ombudsman. A supervisor or administrator who receives a harassment complaint shall promptly notify the coordinator.

Complaints of sexual harassment shall be filed and investigated in accordance with the complaint procedure specified in AR 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment. An employee may bypass his/her supervisor in filing a complaint where the supervisor is the subject of the complaint.

All complaints and allegations of sexual harassment shall be kept confidential to the extent necessary to carry out the investigation or to take other subsequent necessary actions. (2 CCR 11023)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex

GOVERNMENT CODE

12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act, especially:

12940 Prohibited discrimination

12950 Sexual harassment; distribution of information

12950.1 Sexual harassment training

LABOR CODE

1101 Political activities of employees

1102.1 Discrimination: sexual orientation

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

11009 Employment discrimination

11021 Retaliation

11023 Harassment and discrimination prevention and correction

11024 Sexual harassment training and education

11034 Terms, conditions, and privileges of employment

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs receiving state financial assistance

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Title IX prohibition against discrimination

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000e-2000e-17 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

106.1-106.9 Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities

106.51-106.61 Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in employment in education program or activities

COURT DECISIONS

Department of Health Services v. Superior Court of California, (2003) 31 Cal.4th 1026

Faragher v. City of Boca Raton, (1998) 118 S.Ct. 2275

Burlington Industries v. Ellreth, (1998) 118 S.Ct. 2257

Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent School District, (1998) 118 S.Ct. 1989

Oncale v. Sundowner Offshore Serv. Inc., (1998) 118 S.Ct. 998

Meritor Savings Bank, FSB v. Vinson et al., (1986) 447 U.S. 57

Management Resources:

U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

Promising Practices for Preventing Harassment, November 2017

WEB SITES

California Department of Fair Employment and Housing: <http://www.dfeh.ca.gov>

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: <http://www.eeoc.gov>

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

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

Policy EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: August 23, 2018 Eureka, California

Eureka City SD

Board Policy

Sexual Harassment

BP 4219.11

Personnel

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe work environment that is free of harassment and intimidation. The Board prohibits sexual harassment against district employees and retaliatory behavior or action against any person who complains, testifies, or otherwise participates in the complaint process established for the purpose of this policy.

Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, harassment that is based on the gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation of the victim.

This policy shall apply to all district employees and to other persons on district property or with some employment relationship with the district, such as interns, volunteers, contractors, and job applicants.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

Any district employee who engages or participates in sexual harassment or who aids, abets, incites, compels, or coerces another to commit sexual harassment in violation of this policy is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

(cf. 4117.7/4317.7 - Employment Status Reports)

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

The Superintendent or designee shall take all actions necessary to ensure the prevention, investigation, and correction of sexual harassment, including but not limited to:

1. Providing training to employees in accordance with law and administrative regulation
2. Publicizing and disseminating the district's sexual harassment policy to employees and others to whom the policy may apply

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

3. Ensuring prompt, thorough, and fair investigation of complaints
4. Taking timely and appropriate corrective/remedial action(s), which may require interim separation of the complainant and the alleged harasser and subsequent monitoring of

developments

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the district's strategies to prevent and address harassment. Such evaluation may involve conducting regular anonymous employee surveys to assess whether harassment is occurring or is perceived to be tolerated, partnering with researchers or other agencies with the needed expertise to evaluate the district's prevention strategies, and using any other effective tool for receiving feedback on systems and/or processes. As necessary, changes shall be made to the harassment policy, complaint procedures, or training.

Sexual Harassment Reports and Complaints

Any district employee who feels that he/she has been sexually harassed in the performance of his/her district responsibilities or who has knowledge of any incident of sexual harassment by or against another employee shall immediately report the incident to his/her direct supervisor, another supervisor, the district's coordinator for nondiscrimination, the Superintendent, or, if available, a complaint hotline or an ombudsman. A supervisor or administrator who receives a harassment complaint shall promptly notify the coordinator.

Complaints of sexual harassment shall be filed and investigated in accordance with the complaint procedure specified in AR 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment. An employee may bypass his/her supervisor in filing a complaint where the supervisor is the subject of the complaint.

All complaints and allegations of sexual harassment shall be kept confidential to the extent necessary to carry out the investigation or to take other subsequent necessary actions. (2 CCR 11023)

Legal Reference:

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Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent School District, (1998) 118 S.Ct. 1989

Oncale v. Sundowner Offshore Serv. Inc., (1998) 118 S.Ct. 998

Meritor Savings Bank, FSB v. Vinson et al., (1986) 447 U.S. 57

Management Resources:

U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

Promising Practices for Preventing Harassment, November 2017

WEB SITES

California Department of Fair Employment and Housing: <http://www.dfeh.ca.gov>

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Policy EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: August 23, 2018 Eureka, California

Eureka City SD

Board Policy

Sexual Harassment

BP 4319.11

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This policy shall apply to all district employees and to other persons on district property or with some employment relationship with the district, such as interns, volunteers, contractors, and job applicants.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

Any district employee who engages or participates in sexual harassment or who aids, abets, incites, compels, or coerces another to commit sexual harassment in violation of this policy is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

(cf. 4117.7/4317.7 - Employment Status Reports)

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

The Superintendent or designee shall take all actions necessary to ensure the prevention, investigation, and correction of sexual harassment, including but not limited to:

1. Providing training to employees in accordance with law and administrative regulation
2. Publicizing and disseminating the district's sexual harassment policy to employees and others to whom the policy may apply

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

3. Ensuring prompt, thorough, and fair investigation of complaints
4. Taking timely and appropriate corrective/remedial action(s), which may require interim separation of the complainant and the alleged harasser and subsequent monitoring of

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Complaints of sexual harassment shall be filed and investigated in accordance with the complaint procedure specified in AR 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment. An employee may bypass his/her supervisor in filing a complaint where the supervisor is the subject of the complaint.

All complaints and allegations of sexual harassment shall be kept confidential to the extent necessary to carry out the investigation or to take other subsequent necessary actions. (2 CCR 11023)

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4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs receiving state financial assistance

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Promising Practices for Preventing Harassment, November 2017

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

Policy EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: August 23, 2018 Eureka, California

Eureka City SD

Board Policy

Nondiscrimination/Harassment

BP 5145.3

Students

The Board of Education desires to provide a safe school environment that allows all students equal access and opportunities in the district's academic, extracurricular, and other educational support programs, services, and activities. The Board prohibits, at any district school or school activity, unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying, targeted at any student by anyone, based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

This policy shall apply to all acts related to school activity or to school attendance occurring within a district school, and to acts which occur off campus or outside of school-related or school-sponsored activities but which may have an impact or create a hostile environment at school.

Unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, may result from physical, verbal, nonverbal, or written conduct based on any of the categories listed above. Unlawful discrimination also includes the creation of a hostile environment through prohibited conduct that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity; creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment; has the effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's academic performance; or otherwise adversely affects a student's educational opportunities.

Unlawful discrimination also includes disparate treatment of students based on one of the categories above with respect to the provision of opportunities to participate in school programs or activities or the provision or receipt of educational benefits or services.

The Board also prohibits any form of retaliation against any individual who reports or participates in the reporting of unlawful discrimination, files or participates in the filing of a complaint, or investigates or participates in the investigation of a complaint or report alleging unlawful discrimination. Retaliation complaints shall be investigated and resolved in the same manner as a discrimination complaint.

The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate students' access to the educational program by publicizing the district's nondiscrimination policy and related complaint procedures to students, parents/guardians, and employees. He/she shall provide training and information on the scope and use of the policy and complaint procedures and take other measures designed to increase the school community's understanding of the requirements of law related to discrimination. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review the implementation of the district's nondiscrimination policies and practices and, as necessary, shall take action to remove any identified barrier to student access to or participation in the district's educational program. He/she shall report his/her findings and recommendations to the Board after each review.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 1330 - Use of Facilities)
(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)
(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

Regardless of whether a complainant complies with the writing, timeline, and/or other formal filing requirements, all complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, shall be investigated and prompt action taken to stop the discrimination, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effect on students.

Students who engage in unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, in violation of law, Board policy, or administrative regulation shall be subject to appropriate consequence or discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion when the behavior is severe or pervasive as defined in Education Code 48900.4. Any employee who permits or engages in prohibited discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
(cf. 4119.21/4219.21/4319.21 - Professional Standards)
(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))
(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

Record-Keeping

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, to enable the district to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive prohibited behavior in district schools.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

48900.3 Suspension or expulsion for act of hate violence

48900.4 Suspension or expulsion for threats or harassment

48904 Liability of parent/guardian for willful student misconduct

48907 Student exercise of free expression

48950 Freedom of speech

48985 Translation of notices

49020-49023 Athletic programs

51500 Prohibited instruction or activity

51501 Prohibited means of instruction

60044 Prohibited instructional materials

CIVIL CODE

1714.1 Liability of parents/guardians for willful misconduct of minor

GOVERNMENT CODE

11135 Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state

PENAL CODE

422.55 Definition of hate crime

422.6 Crimes, harassment

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

432 Student record

4600-4670 Uniform complaint procedures

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

12101-12213 Title II equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000d-2000e-17 Title VI and Title VII Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended

2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

6101-6107 Age Discrimination Act of 1975

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.107 Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

- 99.31 Disclosure of personally identifiable information
- 100.3 Prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color or national origin
- 104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504
- 106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX
- 106.9 Notification of nondiscrimination on basis of sex
- 110.25 Prohibition of discrimination based on age

COURT DECISIONS

Donovan v. Poway Unified School District, (2008) 167 Cal.App.4th 567
Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified School District, (2003) 324 F.3d 1130

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Updated Legal Guidance: Protecting Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students
Against Sex Discrimination, July 2016

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

Promoting a Safe and Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance and Model Policies to
Assist California's K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues, April 2018

FIRST AMENDMENT CENTER PUBLICATIONS

Public Schools and Sexual Orientation: A First Amendment Framework for Finding Common
Ground, 2006

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, 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

Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010

Notice of Non-Discrimination, Fact Sheet, August 2010

WEB SITES

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

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Safe Schools Coalition: <http://www.casafeschools.org>

California Office of the Attorney General: <http://oag.ca.gov>

First Amendment Center: <http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

Policy EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: October 22, 2018 Eureka, California

Eureka City SD

Administrative Regulation

Nondiscrimination/Harassment

AR 5145.3

Students

The district designates the individual(s) identified below as the employee(s) responsible for coordinating the district's efforts to comply with applicable state and federal civil rights laws, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and to answer inquiries regarding the district's nondiscrimination policies. The individual(s) shall also serve as the compliance officer(s) specified in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures as the responsible employee to handle complaints alleging unlawful discrimination targeting a student, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, or any other legally protected status or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. The coordinator/compliance officer(s) may be contacted at: (Education Code 234.1; 5 CCR 4621)

District Coordinator
Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
2100 J Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 441-3363

School Principal

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)
(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Measures to Prevent Discrimination

To prevent unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, and bullying, of students at district schools or in school activities and to ensure equal access of all students to the educational program, the Superintendent or designee shall implement the following measures:

1. Publicize the district's nondiscrimination policy and related complaint procedures, including the coordinator/compliance officer's contact information, to students, parents/guardians, employees, volunteers, and the general public by posting them on the district's web site and other prominent locations and providing easy access to them through

district-supported social media, when available.

2. Post in a prominent and conspicuous location on the district and school web sites information regarding Title IX prohibitions against discrimination based on a student's sex, gender, gender identity, pregnancy, and parental status, including the following: (Education Code 221.61)

a. The name and contact information of the district's Title IX coordinator, including the phone number and email address

b. The rights of students and the public and the responsibilities of the district under Title IX, including a list of rights as specified in Education Code 221.8 and web links to information about those rights and responsibilities located on the web sites of the Office for Equal Opportunity and the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR)

c. A description of how to file a complaint of noncompliance with Title IX in accordance with AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures, which shall include:

(1) An explanation of the statute of limitations within which a complaint must be filed after an alleged incident of discrimination has occurred and how a complaint may be filed beyond the statute of limitations

(2) An explanation of how the complaint will be investigated and how the complainant may further pursue the complaint, including web links to this information on the OCR's web site

(3) A web link to the OCR complaints form and the contact information for the office, including the phone number and email address for the office

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

3. Provide students age-appropriate information that clearly describes the district's nondiscrimination policy, procedures for filing a complaint, and resources available to students who feel that they have been the victim of any such behavior. (Education Code 234.1)

4. Annually notify all students and parents/guardians of the district's nondiscrimination policy, including its responsibility to provide a safe, nondiscriminatory school environment for all students, including transgender and gender-nonconforming students. The notice shall inform students and parents/guardians that they may request to meet with the compliance officer to determine how best to accommodate or resolve concerns that may arise from the district's implementation of its nondiscrimination policies. The notice shall also inform all students and parents/guardians that, to the extent possible, the district will address any individual student's interests and concerns in private.

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

5. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that students and parents/guardians, including those with limited English proficiency, are notified of how to access the relevant information provided in the district's nondiscrimination policy and related complaint procedures, notices, and forms in a language they can understand.

If 15 percent or more of students enrolled in a particular district school speak a single primary language other than English, the district's policy, regulation, forms, and notices concerning nondiscrimination shall be translated into that language in accordance with Education Code 234.1 and 48985. In all other instances, the district shall ensure meaningful access to all relevant information for parents/guardians with limited English proficiency.

6. Provide to students, employees, volunteers, and parents/guardians age-appropriate training and information regarding the district's nondiscrimination policy; what constitutes prohibited discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying; how and to whom a report of an incident should be made; and how to guard against segregating or stereotyping students when providing instruction, guidance, supervision, or other services to them. Such training and information shall include details of guidelines the district may use to provide a discrimination-free environment for all district students, including transgender and gender-nonconforming students.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

7. At the beginning of each school year, inform school employees that any employee who witnesses any act of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, against a student is required to intervene if it is safe to do so. (Education Code 234.1)

8. At the beginning of each school year, inform each principal or designee of the district's responsibility to provide appropriate assistance or resources to protect students from threatened or potentially discriminatory behavior and ensure their privacy rights.

Enforcement of District Policy

The Superintendent or designee shall take appropriate actions to reinforce BP 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment. As needed, these actions may include any of the following:

1. Removing vulgar or offending graffiti

(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti)

2. Providing training to students, staff, and parents/guardians about how to recognize unlawful discrimination, how to report it or file a complaint, and how to respond

3. Disseminating and/or summarizing the district's policy and regulation regarding unlawful discrimination

4. Consistent with laws regarding the confidentiality of student and personnel records, communicating to students, parents/guardians, and the community the school's response plan to unlawful discrimination or harassment

(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

5. Taking appropriate disciplinary action against students, employees, and anyone determined to have engaged in wrongdoing in violation of district policy, including any student who is found to have filed a complaint of discrimination that he/she knew was not true

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

(cf. 6159.4 - Behavioral Interventions for Special Education Students)

Process for Initiating and Responding to Complaints

Any student who feels that he/she has been subjected to unlawful discrimination described above or in district policy is strongly encouraged to immediately contact the compliance officer, principal, or any other staff member. In addition, any student who observes any such incident is strongly encouraged to report the incident to the compliance officer or principal, whether or not the alleged victim files a complaint.

Any school employee who observes an incident of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, or to whom such an incident is reported shall report the incident to the compliance officer or principal within a school day, whether or not the alleged victim files a complaint.

Any school employee who witnesses an incident of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, shall immediately intervene to stop the incident when it is safe to do so. (Education Code 234.1)

When a verbal report of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, is made to or received by the principal or compliance officer, he/she shall make a note of the report and encourage the student or parent/guardian to file the complaint in writing, pursuant to the provisions in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures. Once notified verbally or in writing, the principal or compliance officer shall begin the investigation and shall implement immediate measures necessary to stop the discrimination and ensure that all students have access to the educational program and a safe school

environment. Any interim measures adopted to address unlawful discrimination shall, to the extent possible, not disadvantage the complainant or a student who is the victim of the alleged unlawful discrimination.

Any report or complaint alleging unlawful discrimination by the principal, compliance officer, or any other person to whom a report would ordinarily be made or complaint filed shall instead be made to or filed with the Superintendent or designee who shall determine how the complaint will be investigated.

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Students

Gender identity of a student means the student's gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior as determined from the student's internal sense of his/her gender, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the student's physiology or assigned sex at birth.

Gender expression means a student's gender-related appearance and behavior, whether stereotypically associated with the student's assigned sex at birth. (Education Code 210.7)

Gender transition refers to the process in which a student changes from living and identifying as the sex assigned to the student at birth to living and identifying as the sex that corresponds to the student's gender identity.

Gender-nonconforming student means a student whose gender expression differs from stereotypical expectations.

Transgender student means a student whose gender identity is different from the gender he/she was assigned at birth.

Regardless of whether they are sexual in nature, acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility that are based on sex, gender identity, or gender expression, or that have the purpose or effect of producing a negative impact on the student's academic performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment are prohibited. Examples of the types of conduct which are prohibited in the district and which may constitute gender-based harassment include, but are not limited to:

1. Refusing to address a student by a name and the pronouns consistent with his/her gender identity
2. Disciplining or disparaging a student or excluding him/her from participating in activities for behavior or appearance that is consistent with his/her gender identity or that does not conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity, as applicable
3. Blocking a student's entry to the restroom that corresponds to his/her gender identity

4. Taunting a student because he/she participates in an athletic activity more typically favored by a student of the other sex
5. Revealing a student's transgender status to individuals who do not have a legitimate need for the information, without the student's consent
6. Use of gender-specific slurs
7. Physical assault of a student motivated by hostility toward him/her because of his/her gender, gender identity, or gender expression

The district's uniform complaint procedures (AR 1312.3) shall be used to report and resolve complaints alleging discrimination against transgender and gender-nonconforming students.

Examples of bases for complaints include, but are not limited to, the above list, as well as improper rejection by the district of a student's asserted gender identity, denial of access to facilities that correspond with a student's gender identity, improper disclosure of a student's transgender status, discriminatory enforcement of a dress code, and other instances of gender-based harassment.

To ensure that transgender and gender-nonconforming students are afforded the same rights, benefits, and protections provided to all students by law and Board policy, the district shall address each situation on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. **Right to privacy:** A student's transgender or gender-nonconforming status is his/her private information and the district shall only disclose the information to others with the student's prior written consent, except when the disclosure is otherwise required by law or when the district has compelling evidence that disclosure is necessary to preserve the student's physical or mental well-being. In any case, the district shall only allow disclosure of a student's personally identifiable information to employees with a legitimate educational interest as determined by the district pursuant to 34 CFR 99.31. Any district employee to whom a student's transgender or gender-nonconforming status is disclosed shall keep the student's information confidential. When disclosure of a student's gender identity is made to a district employee by a student, the employee shall seek the student's permission to notify the compliance officer. If the student refuses to give permission, the employee shall keep the student's information confidential, unless he/she is required to disclose or report the student's information pursuant to this administrative regulation, and shall inform the student that honoring the student's request may limit the district's ability to meet the student's needs related to his/her status as a transgender or gender-nonconforming student. If the student permits the employee to notify the compliance officer, the employee shall do so within three school days.

As appropriate given the student's need for support, the compliance officer may discuss with the student any need to disclose the student's transgender or gender-nonconformity status or gender identity or gender expression to his/her parents/guardians and/or others, including other students, teacher(s), or other adults on campus. The district shall offer support services, such as

counseling, to students who wish to inform their parents/guardians of their status and desire assistance in doing so.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

2. **Determining a Student's Gender Identity:** The compliance officer shall accept the student's assertion of his/her gender identity and begin to treat the student consistent with his/her gender identity unless district personnel present a credible and supportable basis for believing that the student's assertion is for an improper purpose.

3. **Addressing a Student's Transition Needs:** The compliance officer shall arrange a meeting with the student and, if appropriate, his/her parents/guardians to identify and develop strategies for ensuring that the student's access to education programs and activities is maintained. The meeting shall discuss the transgender or gender-nonconforming student's rights and how those rights may affect and be affected by the rights of other students and shall address specific subjects related to the student's access to facilities and to academic or educational support programs, services, or activities, including, but not limited to, sports and other competitive endeavors. In addition, the compliance officer shall identify specific school site employee(s) to whom the student may report any problem related to his/her status as a transgender or gender-nonconforming individual, so that prompt action can be taken to address it. Alternatively, if appropriate and desired by the student, the school may form a support team for the student that will meet periodically to assess whether the arrangements for the student are meeting his/her educational needs and providing equal access to programs and activities, educate appropriate staff about the student's transition, and serve as a resource to the student to better protect the student from gender-based discrimination.

4. **Accessibility to Sex-Segregated Facilities, Programs, and Activities:** When the district maintains sex-segregated facilities, such as restrooms and locker rooms, or offers sex-segregated programs and activities, such as physical education classes, intermural sports, and interscholastic athletic programs, students shall be permitted to access facilities and participate in programs and activities consistent with their gender identity. To address any student's privacy concerns in using sex-segregated facilities, the district shall offer available options such as a gender-neutral or single-use restroom or changing area, a bathroom stall with a door, an area in the locker room separated by a curtain or screen, access to a staff member's office, or use of the locker room before or after the other students. However, the district shall not require a student to utilize these options because he/she is transgender or gender-nonconforming. In addition, a student shall be permitted to participate in accordance with his/her gender identity in other circumstances where students are separated by gender, such as for class discussions, yearbook pictures, and field trips. A student's right to participate in a sex-segregated activity in accordance with his/her gender identity shall not render invalid or inapplicable any other eligibility rule established for participation in the activity.

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

(cf. 6153 - School-Sponsored Trips)

(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)

5. Student Records: A student's legal name or gender as entered on the mandatory student record required pursuant to 5 CCR 432 shall only be changed with proper documentation. However, at the written request of a student or, if appropriate, his/her parents/guardians, the district shall use the student's preferred name and pronouns consistent with his/her gender identity on all other district-related documents. Such preferred name may be added to the student's record and official documents as permitted by law.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

6. Names and Pronouns: If a student so chooses, district personnel shall be required to address the student by a name and the pronouns consistent with his/her gender identity, without the necessity of a court order or a change to his/her official district record. However, inadvertent slips or honest mistakes by district personnel in the use of the student's name and/or consistent pronouns will, in general, not constitute a violation of this administrative regulation or the accompanying district policy.

7. Uniforms/Dress Code: A student has the right to dress in a manner consistent with his/her gender identity, subject to any dress code adopted on a school site.

(cf. 5132 - Dress Code)

Regulation EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
approved: October 22, 2018 Eureka, California

Eureka City SD

Board Policy

Sexual Harassment

BP 5145.7

Students

The Board of Education is committed to maintaining a safe school 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 person 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 the steps to investigate and address the allegation, as specified in the accompanying administrative regulation.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction)

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 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 under any circumstance

3. Encouragement to report observed incidents of sexual harassment even where the alleged 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 any 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 law and district procedures specified in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures. Principals are responsible for notifying students and parents/guardians that complaints of sexual harassment can be filed under AR 1312.3 and where to obtain a copy of the procedures.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint 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.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

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.

(cf. 4117.7 - Employment Status Report)
(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)

Record-Keeping

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 district schools.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

Legal Reference:

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.3d 1447

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment for Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Students, Policy Brief, February 2014
Safe Schools: Strategies for Governing Boards to Ensure Student Success, 2011
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS
Dear Colleague Letter: Transgender Students, May 2016
Examples of Policies and Emerging Practices for Supporting Transgender Students, May 2016
Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015
Questions and Answers on Title IX and Sexual Violence, April 2014
Dear Colleague Letter: Sexual Violence, April 4, 2011
Sexual Harassment: It's Not Academic, September 2008
Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties, 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 EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: March 9, 2017 Eureka, California

Eureka City SD

Administrative Regulation

Sexual Harassment

AR 5145.7

Students

The district designates the following individual(s) as the responsible employee(s) to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and California Education Code 234.1, as well as to investigate and resolve sexual harassment complaints under AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures. The coordinator/compliance officer(s) may be contacted at:

District Coordinator
Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
2100 J Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 441-3363

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Prohibited sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, unwanted requests for sexual favors, or other unwanted verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made against another person of the same or opposite sex in the educational setting, under any of the following conditions: (Education Code 212.5; 5 CCR 4916)

1. Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or condition of a student's academic status or progress.
2. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by a student is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting the student.
3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact on the student's academic performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.
4. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by the student is used as the basis for any decision affecting the student regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through any district program or activity.

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction)

Examples of types of conduct which are prohibited in the district and which may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

1. Unwelcome leering, sexual flirtations, or propositions
2. Unwelcome sexual slurs, epithets, threats, verbal abuse, derogatory comments, or sexually degrading descriptions
3. Graphic verbal comments about an individual's body or overly personal conversation
4. Sexual jokes, derogatory posters, notes, stories, cartoons, drawings, pictures, obscene gestures, or computer-generated images of a sexual nature
5. Spreading sexual rumors
6. Teasing or sexual remarks about students enrolled in a predominantly single-sex class
7. Massaging, grabbing, fondling, stroking, or brushing the body
8. Touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way
9. Impeding or blocking movements or any physical interference with school activities when directed at an individual on the basis of sex
10. Displaying sexually suggestive objects
11. Sexual assault, sexual battery, or sexual coercion
12. Electronic communications containing comments, words, or images described above

Any prohibited conduct that occurs off campus or outside of school-related or school-sponsored programs or activities will be regarded as sexual harassment in violation of district policy if it has a continuing effect on or creates a hostile school environment for the complainant or victim of the conduct.

Reporting Process and Complaint Investigation and Resolution

Any student who believes that he/she has been subjected to sexual harassment by another student, an employee, or a third party or who has witnessed sexual harassment is strongly encouraged to report the incident to his/her teacher, the principal, or any other available school employee. Within one school day of receiving such a report, the school employee shall forward the report to the principal or the district's compliance officer identified in AR 1312.3. In addition, any school employee who observes an incident of sexual harassment involving a student shall, within one school day, report his/her observation to the principal or a district compliance officer.

The employee shall take these actions, whether or not the alleged victim files a complaint.

When a report or complaint of sexual harassment involves off-campus conduct, the principal shall assess whether the conduct may create or contribute to the creation of a hostile school environment. If he/she determines that a hostile environment may be created, the complaint shall be investigated and resolved in the same manner as if the prohibited conduct occurred at school.

When a verbal or informal report of sexual harassment is submitted, the principal or compliance officer shall inform the student or parent/guardian of the right to file a formal written complaint in accordance with the district's uniform complaint procedures. Regardless of whether a formal complaint is filed, the principal or compliance officer shall take steps to investigate the allegations and, if sexual harassment is found, shall take prompt action to stop it, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effects.

If a complaint of sexual harassment is initially submitted to the principal, he/she shall, within two school days, forward the report to the compliance officer to initiate investigation of the complaint. The compliance officer shall contact the complainant and investigate and resolve the complaint in accordance with law and district procedures specified in AR 1312.3.

In investigating a sexual harassment complaint, evidence of past sexual relationships of the victim shall not be considered, except to the extent that such evidence may relate to the victim's prior relationship with the respondent.

In any case of sexual harassment involving the principal, compliance officer, or any other person to whom the incident would ordinarily be reported or filed, the report may instead be submitted to the Superintendent or designee who shall determine who will investigate the complaint.

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

Confidentiality

All complaints and allegations of sexual harassment shall be kept confidential except as necessary to carry out the investigation or take other subsequent necessary action. (5 CCR 4964)

However, when a complainant or victim of sexual harassment notifies the district of the harassment but requests confidentiality, the compliance officer shall inform him/her that the request may limit the district's ability to investigate the harassment or take other necessary action. When honoring a request for confidentiality, the district will nevertheless take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request.

When a complainant or victim of sexual harassment notifies the district of the harassment but requests that the district not pursue an investigation, the district will determine whether or not it can honor such a request while still providing a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all students.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Response Pending Investigation

When an incident of sexual harassment is reported, the principal or designee, in consultation with the compliance officer, shall determine whether interim measures are necessary pending the results of the investigation. The principal/designee or compliance officer shall take immediate measures necessary to stop the harassment and protect students and/or ensure their access to the educational program. To the extent possible, such interim measures shall not disadvantage the complainant or victim of the alleged harassment. Interim measures may include placing the individuals involved in separate classes or transferring a student to a class taught by a different teacher, in accordance with law and Board policy. The school should notify the individual who was harassed of his/her options to avoid contact with the alleged harasser and allow the complainant to change academic and extracurricular arrangements as appropriate. The school should also ensure that the complainant is aware of the resources and assistance, such as counseling, that are available to him/her. As appropriate, such actions shall be considered even when a student chooses to not file a formal complaint or the sexual harassment occurs off school grounds or outside school-sponsored or school-related programs or activities.

Notifications

A copy of the district's sexual harassment policy and regulation shall:

1. Be included in the notifications that are sent to parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year (Education Code 48980; 5 CCR 4917)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

2. Be displayed in a prominent location in the main administrative building or other area where notices of district rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct are posted (Education Code 231.5)

A copy of the district's sexual harassment policy and regulation shall be posted on district and school web sites and, when available, on district-supported social media.

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

3. Be provided as part of any orientation program conducted for new students at the beginning of each quarter, semester, or summer session (Education Code 231.5)

4. Appear in any school or district publication that sets forth the school's or district's comprehensive rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct (Education Code 231.5)

5. Be included in the student handbook

6. Be provided to employees and employee organizations

Regulation EUREKA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
approved: March 9, 2017 Eureka, California

DFEH



THE DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING
THE MISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING IS TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA FROM UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING AND PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS, AND FROM THE PERPETRATION OF ACTS OF HATE VIOLENCE AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

CALIFORNIA LAW PROHIBITS WORKPLACE DISCRIMINATION & HARASSMENT

The California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) enforces laws that protect you from illegal discrimination and harassment in employment based on your actual or perceived:

- ANCESTRY
- AGE (40 and above)
- COLOR
- DISABILITY (physical, mental, HIV and AIDS)
- GENETIC INFORMATION
- GENDER IDENTITY, GENDER EXPRESSION
- MARITAL STATUS
- MEDICAL CONDITION (genetic characteristics, cancer or a record or history of cancer)
- MILITARY OR VETERAN STATUS
- NATIONAL ORIGIN (includes language use and possession of a driver's license issued to persons unable to prove their presence in the United States is authorized under federal law)
- RACE (including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles. Protective hairstyles includes, but is not limited to, such hairstyles as braids, locks, and twists)
- RELIGION (includes religious dress and grooming practices)
- SEX/GENDER (includes pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding and/or related medical conditions)
- SEXUAL ORIENTATION

CALIFORNIA LAW PROHIBITS WORKPLACE DISCRIMINATION & HARASSMENT



DFEH



THE CALIFORNIA FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING ACT (GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 12900 THROUGH 12996) AND ITS IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS (CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2, SECTIONS 11000 THROUGH 11141):

- 1.** Prohibit harassment of employees, applicants, unpaid interns, volunteers, and independent contractors by any persons and require employers to take all reasonable steps to prevent harassment. This includes a prohibition against sexual harassment, gender harassment, harassment based on pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding and/or related medical conditions, as well as harassment based on all other characteristics listed above.
- 2.** Require that all employers provide information to each of their employees on the nature, illegality, and legal remedies that apply to sexual harassment. Employers may either develop their own publications, which must meet standards set forth in California Government Code section 12950, or use material from DFEH.
- 3.** Require employers with 5 or more employees and all public entities to provide training for all employees regarding the prevention of sexual harassment, including harassment based on gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation.
- 4.** Prohibit employers from limiting or prohibiting the use of any language in any workplace unless justified by business necessity. The employer must notify employees of the language restriction and consequences for violation. Also prohibits employers from discriminating against an applicant or employee because they possess a driver's license issued to a person who is unable to prove that their presence in the United States is authorized under federal law.
- 5.** Require employers to reasonably accommodate an employee, unpaid intern, or job applicant's religious beliefs and practices, including the wearing or carrying of religious clothing, jewelry or artifacts, and hair styles, facial hair, or body hair, which are part of an individual's observance of their religious beliefs.
- 6.** Require employers to reasonably accommodate employees or job applicants with disabilities to enable them to perform the essential functions of a job.
- 7.** Permit job applicants, unpaid interns, volunteers, and employees to file complaints with DFEH against an employer, employment agency, or labor union that fails to grant equal employment as required by law.
- 8.** Prohibit discrimination against any job applicant, unpaid intern, or employee in hiring, promotions, assignments, termination, or any term, condition, or privilege of employment.
- 9.** Require employers, employment agencies, and unions to preserve applications, personnel records, and employment referral records for a minimum of two years.
- 10.** Require employers to provide leaves of up to four months to employees disabled because of pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition.
- 11.** Require an employer to provide reasonable accommodations requested by an employee, on the advice of their health care provider, related to their pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition.

12. Require employers of 5 or more persons to allow eligible employees to take up to 12 weeks leave in a 12-month period: to care for their own serious health condition; to care for a child of any age, spouse, domestic partner, parent, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling with a serious health condition; to bond with a new child (by birth, adoption, or foster placement); or for certain military exigencies.

13. Require employment agencies to serve all applicants equally, refuse discriminatory job orders, and prohibit employers and employment agencies from making discriminatory pre-hiring inquiries or publishing help-wanted advertisements that express a discriminatory hiring preference.

14. Prohibit unions from discriminating in member admissions or dispatching members to jobs.

15. Prohibit retaliation against a person who opposes, reports, or assists another person to oppose unlawful discrimination.

FILING A COMPLAINT

The law provides for remedies for individuals who experience prohibited discrimination or harassment in the workplace. These remedies include hiring, front pay, back pay, promotion, reinstatement, cease-and-desist orders, expert witness fees, reasonable attorney's fees and costs, punitive damages, and emotional distress damages.

Job applicants, unpaid interns, and employees: If you believe you have experienced discrimination or harassment you may file a complaint with DFEH. Independent contractors and volunteers: If you believe you have been harassed, you may file a complaint with DFEH.

Complaints must be filed within three years* of the last act of discrimination/harassment. For victims who are under the age of eighteen, not later than three years after the last act of discrimination/harassment or one year after the victim's eighteenth birthday, whichever is later.

To schedule an appointment, contact the Communication Center below.

If you have a disability that requires a reasonable accommodation, the DFEH can assist you by scribing your intake by phone or, for individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing or have speech disabilities, through the California Relay Service (711), or you can contact us below.

DFEH is committed to providing access to our materials in an alternative format as a reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities when requested.

Government Code section 12950 and California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 11013, require all employers to post this document. It must be conspicuously posted in hiring offices, on employee bulletin boards, in employment agency waiting rooms, union halls, and other places employees gather. Any employer whose workforce at any facility or establishment consists of more than 10% of non-English speaking persons must also post this notice in the appropriate language or languages.

CONTACT US

Toll Free: (800) 884-1684
TTY: (800) 700-2320
contact.center@dfeh.ca.gov
www.dfeh.ca.gov

* Effective 1/1/2020.

TRANSGENDER RIGHTS IN THE WORKPLACE

DFEH



WHAT DOES “TRANSGENDER” MEAN?

Transgender is a term used to describe people whose gender identity differs from the sex they were assigned at birth. Gender expression is defined by the law to mean a “person’s gender-related appearance and behavior whether or not stereotypically associated with the person’s assigned sex at birth.” Gender identity and gender expression are protected characteristics under the Fair Employment and Housing Act. That means that employers may not discriminate against someone because they identify as transgender or gender non-conforming. This includes the perception that someone is transgender or gender non-conforming.

WHAT IS A GENDER TRANSITION?

1. “Social transition” involves a process of socially aligning one’s gender with the internal sense of self (e.g., changes in name and pronoun, bathroom facility usage, participation in activities like sports teams).

2. “Physical transition” refers to medical treatments an individual may undergo to physically align their body with internal sense of self (e.g., hormone therapies or surgical procedures).

A person does not need to complete any particular step in a gender transition in order to be protected by the law. An employer may not condition its treatment or accommodation of a transitioning employee upon completion of a particular step in a gender transition.

FAQ FOR EMPLOYERS

▪ What is an employer allowed to ask?

Employers may ask about an employee’s employment history, and may ask for personal references, in addition to other non-discriminatory questions. An interviewer should not ask questions designed to detect a person’s gender identity, including asking about their marital status, spouse’s name, or relation of household members to one another. Employers should not ask questions about a person’s body or whether they plan to have surgery.

▪ How do employers implement dress codes and grooming standards?

An employer who requires a dress code must enforce it in a non-discriminatory manner. This means that, unless an employer can demonstrate business necessity, each employee must be allowed to dress in accordance with their gender identity and gender expression. Transgender or gender non-conforming employees may not be held to any different standard of dress or grooming than any other employee.

▪ What are the obligations of employers when it comes to bathrooms, showers, and locker rooms?

All employees have a right to safe and appropriate restroom and locker room facilities. This includes the right to use a restroom or locker room that corresponds to the employee’s gender identity, regardless of the employee’s assigned sex at birth. In addition, where possible, an employer should provide an easily accessible unisex single stall bathroom for use by any employee who desires increased privacy, regardless of the underlying reason. Use of a unisex single stall restroom should always be a matter of choice. No employee should be forced to use one either as a matter of policy or due to harassment in a gender-appropriate facility. Unless exempted by other provisions of state law, all single-user toilet facilities in any business establishment, place of public accommodation, or state or local government agency must be identified as all-gender toilet facilities.

FILING A COMPLAINT

If you believe you are a victim of discrimination you may, within three years* of the discrimination, file a complaint of discrimination by contacting DFEH.

To schedule an appointment, contact the Communication Center below.

If you have a disability that requires a reasonable accommodation, the DFEH can assist you by scribing your intake by phone or, for individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing or have speech disabilities, through the California Relay Service (711), or you can contact us below.

CONTACT US

Toll Free: (800) 884-1684
TTY: (800) 700-2320
contact.center@dfeh.ca.gov
www.dfeh.ca.gov

* Effective 1/1/2020.

[POSTER MUST BE AT LEAST 8.5x11" AND 12 PT. FONT; MUST BE POSTED PROMINENTLY IN ALL BATHROOMS AND LOCKER ROOMS]

SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS PROHIBITED IN SCHOOL

1. The District will take action to ensure that this campus is free of sexual harassment. All students have a right to an education that is free from sexual harassment and/or sexual discrimination.
2. Sexual harassment is acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility, whether or not sexual in nature, that are based on sex, gender identity, or gender expression, or that have the purpose or effect of producing a negative impact on the student's academic performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.
3. The District has a policy and complaint procedure for sexual harassment prevention and investigation. Copies are available at [LOCATION].
4. Students are encouraged to report all sexual harassment, even if only reasonably suspected.
 - a. A student should report sexual harassment to their Principal or [UCP Coordinator]. Reports of sexual harassment may be made anonymously or confidentially, although this may limit the District's ability to respond to the report.
 - b. The District will begin investigating the report within ten (10) school days.
 - c. The reporting student will be provided an opportunity to present information to the investigator during the investigation.
 - d. Typically, the District will provide a final written report of its investigation within [60 calendar days/30 calendar days and the reporting student will have an opportunity to respond to that report.]
5. In addition to the above, students may report allegations of sexual harassment to [TITLE IX COORDINATOR] at [TELEPHONE] or [EMAIL].
6. Beyond those rights described in Item #1, students have the following rights related to an investigation of sexual harassment:
 - a. All students, whether they are the reporting student, the student accused, or the student suffering from sexual harassment have the right to be safe, regardless of the investigation. They have the right to an investigation and resolution. Students have the right to present evidence to support their report. Students have a right to support from the District while the investigation is taking place. Students have the right to be provided information from the District on how to file a complaint, the District's investigation process, and other filings rights.
 - b. Additionally, students who have suffered sexual harassment have a right to have prompt action taken to stop any harassment, prevent recurrence and address continuing effect. They have the right to a full investigation, whether or not a proper report was made.
 - c. Furthermore, students accused of sexual harassment have the right to present evidence in their defense during the investigation. They have a right to equal access and information, and a resolution to an investigation.

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT
IS PROHIBITED
IN THE SCHOOL AND WORK ENVIRONMENT**

1. The District will take action to ensure that this campus is free of sexual harassment.
2. The District has a policy and complaint procedure. Copies are available at _____.
3. Employees and students may report allegations of sexual harassment to _____ at _____.
4. If you have any questions or concerns, please see _____ at _____.

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission **Guidance on Investigations of Complaints**

FROM: EEOC Enforcement Guidance on Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors

Effective Investigative Process

An employer should set up a mechanism for a prompt, thorough, and impartial investigation into alleged harassment. As soon as management learns about alleged harassment, it should determine whether a detailed fact-finding investigation is necessary. For example, if the alleged harasser does not deny the accusation, there would be no need to interview witnesses, and the employer could immediately determine appropriate corrective action.

If a fact-finding investigation is necessary, it should be launched immediately. The amount of time that it will take to complete the investigation will depend on the particular circumstances. If, for example, multiple individuals were allegedly harassed, then it will take longer to interview the parties and witnesses.

It may be necessary to undertake intermediate measures before completing the investigation to ensure that further harassment does not occur. Examples of such measures are making scheduling changes so as to avoid contact between the parties; transferring the alleged harasser; or placing the alleged harasser on non-disciplinary leave with pay pending the conclusion of the investigation. The complainant should not be involuntarily transferred or otherwise burdened, since such measures could constitute unlawful retaliation.

The employer should ensure that the individual who conducts the investigation will objectively gather and consider the relevant facts. The alleged harasser should not have supervisory authority over the individual who conducts the investigation and should not have any direct or indirect control over the investigation. Whoever conducts the investigation should be well-trained in the skills that are required for interviewing witnesses and evaluating credibility.

Questions to Ask Parties and Witnesses

When detailed fact-finding is necessary, the investigator should interview the complainant, the alleged harasser, and third parties who could reasonably be expected to have relevant information. Information relating to the personal lives of the parties outside the workplace would be relevant only in unusual circumstances. When interviewing the parties and witnesses, the investigator should refrain from offering his or her opinion.

The following are examples of questions that may be appropriate to ask the parties and potential witnesses. Any actual investigation must be tailored to the particular facts.

Questions to Ask the Complainant:

- Who, what, when, where, and how: *Who* committed the alleged harassment? *What* exactly occurred or was said? *When* did it occur and is it still ongoing? *Where* did it occur? *How often* did it occur? *How* did it affect you?
- How did you react? What response did you make when the incident(s) occurred or afterwards?
- How did the harassment affect you? Has your job been affected in any way?
- Are there any persons who have relevant information? Was anyone present when the alleged harassment occurred? Did you tell anyone about it? Did anyone see you immediately after episodes of alleged harassment?
- Did the person who harassed you harass anyone else? Do you know whether anyone complained about harassment by that person?
- Are there any notes, physical evidence, or other documentation regarding the incident(s)?
- How would you like to see the situation resolved?
- Do you know of any other relevant information?

Questions to Ask the Alleged Harasser:

- What is your response to the allegations?
- If the harasser claims that the allegations are false, ask why the complainant might lie.
- Are there any persons who have relevant information?
- Are there any notes, physical evidence, or other documentation regarding the incident(s)?
- Do you know of any other relevant information?

Questions to Ask Third Parties:

- What did you see or hear? When did this occur? Describe the alleged harasser's behavior toward the complainant and toward others in the workplace.
- What did the complainant tell you? When did s/he tell you this?
- Do you know of any other relevant information?
- Are there other persons who have relevant information?

Credibility Determinations

If there are conflicting versions of relevant events, the employer will have to weigh each party's credibility. Credibility assessments can be critical in determining whether the alleged harassment in fact occurred. Factors to consider include:

- **Inherent plausibility:** Is the testimony believable on its face? Does it make sense?
- **Demeanor:** Did the person seem to be telling the truth or lying?
- **Motive to falsify:** Did the person have a reason to lie?
- **Corroboration:** Is there **witness testimony** (such as testimony by eye-witnesses, people who saw the person soon after the alleged incidents, or people who discussed the incidents with him or her at around the time that they occurred) or **physical evidence** (such as written documentation) that corroborates the party's testimony?
- **Past record:** Did the alleged harasser have a history of similar behavior in the past?

None of the above factors are determinative as to credibility. For example, the fact that there are no eye-witnesses to the alleged harassment by no means necessarily defeats the complainant's credibility, since harassment often occurs behind closed doors. Furthermore, the fact that the alleged harasser engaged in similar behavior in the past does not necessarily mean that he or she did so again.

Reaching a Determination

Once all of the evidence is in, interviews are finalized, and credibility issues are resolved, management should make a determination as to whether harassment occurred. That determination could be made by the investigator, or by a management official who reviews the investigator's report. The parties should be informed of the determination.

In some circumstances, it may be difficult for management to reach a determination because of direct contradictions between the parties and a lack of documentary or eye-witness corroboration. In such cases, a credibility assessment may form the basis for a determination, based on factors such as those set forth above.

If no determination can be made because the evidence is inconclusive, the employer should still undertake further preventive measures, such as training and monitoring.

ANSWERS TO PRE-TEST

1. **False.** Nothing in the law requires an alleged victim to confront the alleged perpetrator of sexual harassment.
2. **False.** While there may be several appropriate ways to address reported sexual harassment, corrective actions should not penalize the victim.
3. **True.** California Government Code section 12940, which outlines unlawful employment practices, including sexual harassment, provides in part: “An employee of an entity subject to this subdivision is **personally liable** for any harassment prohibited by this section that is perpetrated by the employee. . . .”
4. **True.** Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that the working/academic environment is free from discrimination, including sexual harassment, even if a supervisor doesn’t know to a certainty that sexual harassment has occurred.
5. **False.** The effect of the conduct on the victim, not the intent of the harasser, determines whether behavior is sexual harassment. An expectation that employees will conduct themselves as professionals within the workplace will help ensure that harassment does not occur. Employees might consider what legitimate business or academic purpose is served by their conduct.
6. **True.** Harassment of an individual based on sexual orientation or identity is prohibited.
7. **False.** A supervisor should not discourage an employee or a student from filing a police report. Sexual harassment can also be criminal assault.
8. The School can take various steps to prevent sexual harassment, including adopting and distributing a policy that prohibits such conduct, training employees regarding preventing such harassment, providing effective processes for filing and investigating complaints, taking all complaints seriously, and assuring employees that retaliation for filing valid complaint will not be tolerated.
9. Any questions about the process or responsibilities for school staff should be directed to human resources, the Superintendent or _____.