

General Personnel

Workplace Harassment Prohibited

The School District expects the workplace environment to be productive, respectful, and free of unlawful harassment. District employees shall not engage in harassment or abusive conduct on the basis of an individual's race, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, citizenship status, disability, or other protected status identified in Board policy 5:10, *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*. Harassment of students, including, but not limited to, sexual harassment, is prohibited by Board policy 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*.

Sexual Harassment Prohibited

The School District shall provide a workplace environment free of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct, or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex, as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal law.

District employees shall not make unwelcome sexual advances or request sexual favors or engage in any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature when (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment; (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment.

Making a Complaint; Enforcement

A violation of this policy will result in discipline or discharge. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding harassment will likewise be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge. An employee's employment, compensation, or work assignment shall not be adversely affected by complaining or providing information about harassment. Retaliation against employees for bringing bona fide complaints or providing information about harassment is prohibited (see Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*).

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

Employees should report claims of harassment to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and/or use the *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, Board Policy 2.260. Employees may choose to report to a person of the employee's same sex.

There are no express time limits for initiating complaints and grievances under this policy; however, every effort should be made to file such complaints as soon as possible, while facts are known and potential witnesses are available.

Whom to Contact with a Report or Complaint

Nondiscrimination Coordinator/Complaint Manager:

Name: Melissa A. Bloom, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction & Personnel

Address: Pekin Community High School, 320 Stadium Drive, Pekin, IL 61554

Telephone No.: (309) 477-4228

The Superintendent shall also use reasonable measures to inform staff members and applicants of this policy, which shall include reprinting this policy in the appropriate handbooks.

LEGAL REF.: Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq., 29 C.F.R. §1604.11.
Title IX of the Education Amendments, 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq.; 34 C.F.R. §1604.11.
Ill. Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/2-101(E), 5/2-102(D), 5/5-102, and 5/5-102.2.
56 Ill. Admin.Code Parts 2500, 2510, 5210, and 5220.
Burlington Industries v. Ellerth, 118 S.Ct. 2257 (1998).
Faragher v. City of Boca Raton, 118 S.Ct. 2275 (1998).
Franklin v. Gwinnett Co. Public Schools, 112 S.Ct. 1028 (1992).
Harris v. Forklift Systems, 114 S.Ct. 367 (1993).
Jackson v. Birmingham Board of Education, 125 S.Ct. 1497 (2005).
Meritor Savings Bank v. Vinson, 106 S.Ct. 2399 (1986).
Oncale v. Sundown Offshore Services, 118 S.Ct. 998 (1998).
Porter v. Erie Foods International, Inc., 576 F.3d 629 (7th Cir. 2009).
Sangamon County Sheriff's Dept. v. Ill. Human Rights Com'n, 908 N.E.2d 39 (Ill., 2009).

CROSS REF.: 2.260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 5.10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited)

Adopted: November 19, 1996
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