

Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Cyberbullying - Student

The Board is committed to providing a positive and productive learning environment. Harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyberbullying by students is strictly prohibited. Retaliation against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry is also strictly prohibited. False charges shall also be regarded as a serious offense and will result in disciplinary action or other appropriate sanctions.

Students whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion. The district may also file a request with the Oregon Department of Transportation to suspend the driving privileges or the right to apply for driving privileges of a student 15 years of age or older who has been suspended or expelled at least twice for menacing another student or employee, willful damage or injury to district property or for the use of threats, intimidation, harassment or coercion. Students may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

The principal and the superintendent is responsible for ensuring that this policy is implemented.

Definitions

“District” includes district facilities, district premises and nondistrict property if the student is at any district-sponsored, district-approved or district-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the control of the district.

“Harassment, intimidation or bullying” means any act that substantially interferes with a student’s educational benefits, opportunities or performance, that takes place on or immediately adjacent to district grounds, at any district-sponsored activity, on district-provided transportation or at any official district bus stop, that may be based on, but not limited to, the protected class status of a person, having the effect of:

1. Physically harming a student or damaging a student’s property;
2. Knowingly placing a student in reasonable fear of physical harm to the student or damage to the student’s property;
3. Creating a hostile educational environment including interfering with the psychological well being of the student.

“Protected class” means a group of persons distinguished, or perceived to be distinguished, by race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, martial status, familial status, source of income or disability.

“Cyberbullying” is the use of any electronic communication device to harass, intimidate or bully.

“Retaliation” means harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyberbullying toward a person in response to a student for actually or apparently reporting or participating in the investigation of harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyberbullying or retaliation.

Reporting

The principal or designee will take reports and conduct a prompt investigation of any report of an act of harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyberbullying. Any employee who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy shall immediately report his/her concerns to the principal or designee who has overall responsibility for all investigations. Any student who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy or feels he/she has been harassed, intimidated or bullied and acts of being cyberbullied in violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report his/her concerns to the principal or designee who has overall responsibility for all investigations. This report may be made anonymously. A student may also report concerns to a teacher or counselor who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate district official.

The complainant shall be notified of the findings of the investigation and, as appropriate, that remedial action has been taken. The complainant may request that the superintendent review the actions taken in the initial investigation, in accordance with district complaint procedures.

The superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring annual notice of this policy is provided in a student or employee handbook, school and district Web site, and school and district office. Complaint procedures, as established by the district, shall be followed.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 163.190	ORS 339.240	OAR 581-021-0045
ORS 166.065	ORS 339.250	OAR 581-021-0046
ORS 166.155 to-166.165	ORS 339.254	OAR 581-021-0055
ORS 332.072	ORS 339.260	OAR 581-022-1140
ORS 332.107	ORS 339.351 to-339.364	

HB 2599 (2009)

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d (2006).

Cross Reference(s):

JBA/GBN - Sexual Harassment
JFCM - Threats of Violence