

Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing/Cyberbullying - Students

The Board is committed to providing a positive and productive learning and working environment. To this end, hazing, harassment, intimidation, menacing or bullying, and acts of cyberbullying, by students is strictly prohibited and shall not be tolerated in the district. 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 school administrator and the superintendent is responsible for ensuring that this policy is implemented.

Definitions:

1. “District” includes district facilities, district premises and non-district 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.
2. “Hazing” includes, but is not limited to, any act that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or as a condition or precondition of attaining membership in or affiliation with any district-sponsored activity or grade level attainment, (i.e. personal servitude, sexual stimulation/sexual assault, forced consumption of any drink, alcoholic beverage, drug or controlled substance, forced exposure to the elements, forced prolonged exclusion from social contact, sleep deprivation or any other forced activity that could adversely affect the mental or physical health or safety of a student); requires, encourages, authorizes or permits another to be subject to wearing or carrying any obscene or physically burdensome article, assignment of pranks to be performed or other such activities intended to degrade or humiliate regardless of the person’s willingness to participate.
3. “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 school grounds, at any school-sponsored activity, on school-provided transportation or at any official school bus stop, and that has the effect of:

- a. Physically harming a student or damaging a student's property;
 - b. Knowingly placing a student in reasonable fear of physical harm to the student or damage to the student's property;
 - c. Creating a hostile educational environment, including interfering with the psychological well-being of the student.
4. "Protected class" means a group of persons distinguished, or perceived to be distinguished by race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, familial status, source of income or disability.
 6. "Menacing" includes, but is not limited to, any act intended to place a school employee student or third party in fear of imminent serious physical injury.
 7. "Cyberbullying" is the use of any electronic communication device that defames, intimidates, harasses or is otherwise intended to harm, insult or humiliate another in a deliberate, repeated or hostile and unwanted manner under a person's true or false identity. In addition, any electronic communication which disrupts or prevents a safe and positive educational or working environment may also be considered cyberbullying.
 8. "Retaliation" means hazing, harassment, intimidation, menacing 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 hazing, harassment, intimidation, menacing or bullying and acts of cyberbullying or retaliation.

Reporting

An administrator 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 administrator 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 hazed, harassed, intimidated, menaced or bullied and acts of being cyberbullied in violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report his/her concerns to the administrator 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.

Complaints against the principal shall be filed with the superintendent. Complaints against the superintendent shall be filed with the Board chair.

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 district encourages incorporation into existing training programs for students and staff information related to the prevention of, and the appropriate response to, acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyberbullying.

The superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring annual notice of this policy is provided in a student or employee handbook, school and district's Web site, and school and district office.

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	

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