
WCASD EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TO: Board of School Directors
FROM: Tammi L. Florio, Ed.D.
 Sara M. Missett, Ed.D.
 Leigh Ann Ranieri, Ed.D.
 Robert Sokolowski, Ed.D.
 Michael Wagman
SUBJECT: Education Committee Agenda for Monday, August 17, 2020
DATE: August 13, 2020

At the August 17th Education Committee Meeting we will review board policies and guidelines that have been affected by the amended federal regulations implementing Title IX, the federal statute addressing discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities. The regulations are effective on August 14, 2020. There are umbrella policies, 103: for students and 104: for employees and guidelines providing for specific procedures and processes for addressing discrimination/harassment/retaliation versus Title IX sexual harassment. A summary follows:

Policy/AG #		Name	Changes
103 (STUDENTS)	Revised/ new name	Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students <i>(formerly known as Nondiscrimination/Discriminatory Harassment – School and Classroom Practices)</i>	Updated with Title IX language, appointment of Title IX Coordinator and complaint procedures moved to AG
103AG1	Revised/ new name	Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form <i>(formerly known as Report Form for Complaints of Discrimination/Discriminatory Harassment-School and Classroom Practices)</i>	Report form revised and updated with Title IX language
103AG2	New	Discrimination Complaint Procedures	Complaint procedures moved from policy to AG
103AG3	New	Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints	Title IX complaint procedures
104 (STAFF)	Revised/ new name	Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students <i>(formerly known as Nondiscrimination/Discriminatory Harassment - Employment Practices)</i>	Updated with Title IX language, appointment of Title IX Coordinator and complaint procedures moved to AG

Policy/AG #		Name	Changes
104AG1	Revised/ new name	Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form <i>(formerly known as Report Form for Complaints of Discrimination/Discriminatory Harassment-Employment Practices)</i>	Report form revised and updated with Title IX language
104AG2	New	Discrimination Complaint Procedures	Complaint procedures moved from policy to AG
104AG3	New	Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints	Title IX complaint procedures

Since there were no agenda items for Pupil Services this month, the annual independent contractor agreements for para-professional, nurse, and physicians will be reviewed during Monday's Education Committee meeting.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

cc: Dr. Jim Scanlon, Superintendent



WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Education Committee

August 17, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

AGENDA

- ★ Approval of the Education Committee Portion of the Combined Education/Property and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes – July 27 2020 (see attached) S. Tiernan
- ★ Approval of Revised Policy 103 Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students (*formerly known as Nondiscrimination/Discriminatory Harassment – School and Classroom Practices*) B. Sokolowski
- ★ Approval of Revised Administrative Guideline 103AG1 Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form (*formerly known as Report Form for Complaints of Discrimination/ Discriminatory Harassment-School and Classroom Practices*) B. Sokolowski
- ★ Approval of New Administrative Guideline 103AG2 Discrimination Complaint Procedures B. Sokolowski
- ★ Approval of New Administrative Guideline 103AG3 Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints B. Sokolowski
- ★ Approval of Revised Policy 104 Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students (*formerly known as Nondiscrimination/Discriminatory Harassment - Employment Practices*) B. Sokolowski
- ★ Approval of Revised Administrative Guideline 104AG1 Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form (*formerly known as Report Form for Complaints of Discrimination/Discriminatory Harassment-Employment Practices*) B. Sokolowski
- ★ Approval of New Administrative Guideline 104AG2 Discrimination Complaint Procedures B. Sokolowski
- ★ Approval of New Administrative Guideline 104AG3 Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints B. Sokolowski
- ★ Approval of the following Annual Para-Professional, Nurse and Physicians Contracts: L. Ranieri
 - ACS Consultants, Inc.
 - Bayada Home Health Care, Inc.
 - Chadds Ford Alternacare Inc. dba CritiCare

- Delta-T Group, Inc.
- Educational Based Services, Inc.
- EPIC Health Services (PA), LLC d/b/a Aveanna Healthcare
- General Healthcare Resources, LLC dba GHR Education
- Integrity Workface Solutions, LLC
- Pennhurst Group, LLC dba Epic Developmental Services
- US Medical Staffing, Inc.
- Dr. Kalkiewicz
- Dr. Montgomery

★ Committee Voting Item



**WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Pupil Services and Education Committees**

**Meeting Minutes
July 27, 2020
ZOOM Meeting**

Start: 6:15 PM

Finish: 6:34 PM

Attending Committee Members: Sue Tiernan (Chair: Education Committee), Joyce Chester (Chair: Pupil Services Committee), Kate Shaw, Daryl Durnell

Other Board Members: Chris McCune, Karen Herrmann, Gary Bevilacqua, Brian Gallen, Randell Spackman

Administration: Jim Scanlon, Robert Sokolowski, Leigh Ann Ranieri, Sara Missett, Tammi Florio, Michael Wagman

Items listed on the Pupil Services and Education Committee Regular Agenda of July 27, 2020:

1. Approval of the Education Committee Meeting Minutes of June 15, 2020
2. Approval of Revised Policy 016 Electronic Communication
3. Approval of New Administrative Guideline 204AG3 – Attendance Guidelines West Chester Cyber Program
4. Approval of Revised Policy 218 Student Discipline
5. Approval of Revised Policy 227 Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
6. Approval of Revised Policy 237 Use of Personal Technology/Electronic Devices
7. Approval of Revised Policy 815.2 Communications with Students
8. Approval of Revised Policy 816.2 Use of Livestream Video on School District Property

A. Committee Actions and Outcomes:

1. Approval of the Education Committee Meeting Minutes of June 15, 2020 **VOTE: 4 - 0**
2. Approval of Policy 016 Revision - Electronic Communication **VOTE: 4 - 0**
3. Approval of New Administrative Guideline 204AG3 – Attendance Guidelines West Chester Cyber Program **VOTE: 4 - 0**
4. Approval of Policy 218 Revision - Student Discipline **VOTE: 4 - 0**
5. Approval of Policy 227 Revision - Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia **VOTE: 4 - 0**
6. Approval of Policy 237 Revision - Use of Personal Technology/Electronic Devices **VOTE: 4 - 0**
7. Approval of Policy 815.2 Revision - Communications with Students **VOTE: 4 - 0**
8. Approval of Policy 816.2 Revision - Use of Livestream Video on School District Property **VOTE: 4 - 0**

B. Items to be placed on upcoming Board Agenda:

1. Policy Revisions
 - a. Policy 016 Revision – Electronic Communication
 - b. Policy 218 Revision – Student Discipline
 - c. Policy 227 Revision – Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
 - d. Policy 237 Revision – Use of Personal Technology/Electronic Devices
 - e. Policy 815.2 Revision – Communications with Students
 - f. Policy 816.2 Revision – Use of Livestream Video on School District Property
2. Approval of New Administrative Guideline 204AG3 – Attendance Guidelines West Chester Cyber Program

C. Items to be placed on the upcoming Board Consent Agenda:

None

D. Items to be discussed at a later date:

None



Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Discrimination.Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students - revised and new title
Code	103
Status	Review
Adopted	August 1, 2015
Last Revised	March 25, 2019

Authority

The Board declares it to be the policy of this district to provide an equal opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential through the programs **and activities** offered in the schools without discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)[\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)[\[6\]](#)[\[7\]](#)[\[8\]](#)[\[9\]](#)[\[10\]](#)[\[11\]](#)[\[12\]](#)[\[13\]](#)[\[14\]](#)[\[15\]](#)[\[16\]](#)[\[17\]](#)[\[18\]](#)[\[19\]](#)

The Board also declares it to be the policy of this district to comply with federal law and regulations under Title IX prohibiting sexual harassment, which is a form of unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex. Such discrimination shall be referred to throughout this policy as Title IX sexual harassment. Inquiries regarding the application of Title IX to the district may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education, or both.

The district ~~strives~~ **is committed** to ~~the aim~~ **maintenance of** a safe, positive learning environment for all students that is free from discrimination. Discrimination is inconsistent with the **rights of students and the** educational and programmatic goals of the district and is prohibited on school **property, and** grounds, ~~at school~~ **at or, in the course of, district-sponsored** programs or activities, **including** ~~and on~~ any conveyance providing transportation to or from a school entity or school-sponsored ~~activities~~.

Violations of this policy, including acts of retaliation as described in this policy, or knowingly providing false information, may result in disciplinary consequences under applicable Board policy and procedures.[\[18\]](#)[\[19\]](#)[\[20\]](#)[\[21\]](#)

The Board directs that the foregoing statement of Board policy be included in each student and staff handbook, and that this policy and related administrative guidelines be posted to the district's website.

The Board requires a notice stating that the district does not discriminate in any manner, including Title IX sexual harassment, in any district education program or activity, to be issued to all students, parents/guardians, employment applicants, employees and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the district. All discrimination notices and information shall include the

title, office address, telephone number and email address of the individual(s) designated as the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator.

~~The district shall provide to all students, without discrimination, course offerings, counseling, assistance, services, employment, athletics and extracurricular activities. The district shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and mental impairments that constitute handicaps and disabilities, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations.~~

Reports of Title IX Sexual Harassment and Other Discrimination and Retaliation

The Board encourages students and third parties who believe they or others have been subject to **Title IX sexual harassment, other discrimination or retaliation** to promptly report such incidents to designated employees **the building principal. A person who is not an intended victim or target of discrimination but is adversely affected by the offensive conduct may file a report of discrimination.**

The student's parents/guardians or any other person with knowledge of conduct that may violate this policy is encouraged to immediately report the matter to the building principal.

~~The Board directs that verbal and written complaints of discrimination shall be investigated promptly, and appropriate corrective or preventative action be taken when allegations are substantiated. The Board directs that when a complaint of discrimination brought pursuant to this policy is not proven to be discriminatory, it should be reviewed for possible action under other Board policies.~~

A school employee who suspects or is notified that a student has been subject to conduct that constitutes a violation of this policy shall immediately report the incident to the building principal, as well as properly making any mandatory police or child protective services reports required by law.[22]

~~The building principal or designee shall be responsible to promptly complete the following duties upon receipt of a report of discrimination or retaliation from a student, employee or third party:~~

~~If the building principal is the subject of a complaint, the student, third party or a reporting employee shall report the incident directly to the Title IX Coordinator.~~

~~Inform the complainant or third party about this policy including the right to an investigation of both oral and written complaints of discrimination.~~

~~Provide relevant information on resources available in addition to the school complaint procedure, such as making reports to the police, available assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs and community health resources including counseling resources.~~

~~Immediately notify the Compliance Officer of the complaint. The Compliance Officer shall assess whether the investigation should be conducted by the building principal, another district employee, the Compliance Officer or an attorney and shall promptly assign the investigation to that individual.~~

~~After consideration of the allegations and in consultation with the Compliance Officer and other appropriate individuals, promptly implement interim measures as appropriate to protect the complainant and others as necessary from violation of this policy during the course of the investigation.~~

The complainant or the individual making the report may use the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form (103AG1) for purposes of reporting an incident or incidents in writing; however, verbal reports of an incident or incidents shall be accepted, documented and the procedures of this policy and the relevant administrative guidelines followed.

The building principal shall promptly notify the Title IX Coordinator of all reports of discrimination, Title IX sexual harassment or retaliation. The Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant regarding the report to gather additional information as necessary, and to discuss the availability of supportive measures. The Title IX Coordinator shall consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures.

The Title IX Coordinator shall conduct an assessment to determine whether the reported circumstances are most appropriately addressed through the Discrimination Complaint Procedures prescribed in Administrative Guideline 103AG2, or if the reported circumstances meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment and are most appropriately addressed through the Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints in Administrative Guideline 103AG3, or other Board policies.

Disciplinary Procedures When Reports Allege Title IX Sexual Harassment

When a report alleges Title IX sexual harassment, disciplinary sanctions may not be imposed until the completion of the grievance process for formal complaints outlined in 103AG3. The district shall presume that the respondent is not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination has been made at the completion of the grievance process for formal complaints.[18][20][23][24]

When an emergency removal, as described in 103AG3, is warranted to address an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of an individual, and it is not feasible to continue educational services remotely or in an alternative setting, the normal procedures for suspension and expulsion shall be conducted to accomplish the removal, including specific provisions to address a student with a disability where applicable. [18][19][20][23]

When an emergency removal is not required, disciplinary sanctions shall be considered in the course of the Title IX grievance process for formal complaints. Following the issuance of the written determination and any applicable appeal, any disciplinary action specified in the written determination or appeal decision shall be implemented in accordance with the normal procedures for suspensions, expulsions or other disciplinary actions, including specific provisions to address a student with a disability where applicable.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations, the filing of a complaint **report** and the investigation **related to any form of discrimination or retaliation, including Title IX sexual harassment**, shall be handled in accordance with **applicable law, regulations, this policy, administrative guidelines, and** the district's legal and investigative obligations.

Retaliation

The Board prohibits retaliation **by the district or any other person** against any person for:

Reporting or making a **formal complaint of any form** ~~report~~ of discrimination or **retaliation, including Title IX sexual harassment.**

Testifying, assisting, participating **or refusing to participate** in a related investigation **process or other proceeding.** ~~or hearing,~~

Acting in opposition to practices the person reasonably believes to be discriminatory.

The district, its employees and others are prohibited from intimidating, threatening, coercing, or discriminating against anyone for actions described above. Individuals are encouraged to contact the Title IX Coordinator immediately if retaliation is believed to have occurred.

Definitions

Complainant shall mean an individual who is alleged to be the victim.

Respondent shall mean an individual alleged to be the perpetrator of the discriminatory or harassing conduct.

Discriminatory Harassment

Discrimination shall mean to treat individuals differently, or to harass by students, employees or third parties on the basis of **or victimize based on a protected classification including** race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, **or** handicap/disability. ~~or for participation in reports or investigations of alleged discrimination is a form of discrimination and is subject to this policy. A person who is not necessarily an intended victim or target of such harassment but is adversely affected by the offensive conduct may file a report of discrimination on his/her own behalf.~~ [20][21][22][23][24][25][26]

Harassment is a form of discrimination based on protected classification listed in For purposes of this policy, **harassment shall consist** of unwelcome conduct such as graphic, written, electronic, verbal or nonverbal acts including offensive jokes, slurs, epithets and name-calling, ridicule or mockery, insults or put-downs, offensive objects or pictures, physical assaults or threats, intimidation, or other conduct that may be harmful or humiliating or interfere with a person's school or school-related performance and which relates to an individual's or group's race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability when such conduct is:

Sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive; and

A reasonable person in the complainant's position would find that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment such that it deprives or adversely interferes with or limits an individual or group of the ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or opportunities offered by a school.

Sexual Harassment

sexual harassment Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination on the basis of gender and is subject to this policy. For purposes of this policy, shall consist of unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; and other inappropriate verbal, nonverbal, written, graphic or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

Submission to such conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a student's status in any educational or other programs offered by a school; or

Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for educational or other program decisions affecting a student; or

Such conduct deprives a student or group of individuals of educational aid, benefits, services or treatment; or

Such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that a reasonable person in the complainant's position would find that it unreasonably interferes with the complainant's performance in school or school-related programs, or otherwise creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive school or school-related environment such that it unreasonably interferes with the complainant's access to or participation in school or school-related programs.

Federal law declares sexual violence a form of sexual harassment. **Sexual violence** means physical or sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent

~~due to the victim's age, victim's use of drugs or alcohol or victim's intellectual competence. An individual may also be unable to give consent due to an intellectual or other disability. Sexual violence includes but is not limited to rape, sexual assault, sexual battery and sexual coercion.~~

Definitions Related to Title IX Sexual Harassment

Formal complaint shall mean a document filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging Title IX sexual harassment and requesting that the district investigate the allegation under the grievance process for formal complaints. The authority for the Title IX Coordinator to sign a formal complaint does not make the Title IX Coordinator a party in the grievance process for formal complaints. The phrase "document filed by a complainant" refers to a document or electronic submission that contains the complainant's physical or digital signature, or otherwise indicates that the complainant is the person filing the formal complaint. [27][30]

Supportive measures shall mean nondisciplinary, nonpunitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the complainant or the respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed. [30]

Supportive measures shall be designed to restore or preserve equal access to the educational program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the educational environment, or to deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may include, but are not limited to: [30]

Counseling.

Extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments.

Modifications of class schedules.

Campus escort services.

Mutual restrictions on contact between the parties.

Increased security.

Monitoring of certain areas of the campus.

Assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs.

Assistance from community health resources including counseling resources.

Supportive measures may also include, when in accordance with applicable law, regulation or Board policy, assessments or evaluations to determine eligibility for special education or related services, or the need to review an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Service Agreement based on a student's behavior. [17][18][23] [24][31]

Title IX sexual harassment means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following: [30]

A district employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or district service on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct, commonly referred to as quid pro quo sexual harassment.

Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to a district education program or activity.

Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking.

Dating violence means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim and where the existence of such a relationship is determined by the following factors: [32]

Length of relationship.

Type of relationship.

Frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Domestic violence includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving federal funding, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.[32]

Sexual assault means a sexual offense under state or federal law that is classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.[33]

Stalking, under Title IX means stalking on the basis of sex, for example when the stalker desires to date a victim. Stalking means to engage in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to either:[32]

Fear for their safety or the safety of others.

Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Such conduct must have taken place during a district education program or activity and against a person in the United States to qualify as sexual harassment under Title IX. An education program or activity includes the locations, events or circumstances over which the district exercises substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the harassment occurs. Title IX applies to all of a district's education programs or activities, whether such programs or activities occur on-campus or off-campus. [26][27][30]

Delegation of Responsibility

In order to maintain a program of nondiscrimination practices that is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, the Board designates the Director of Human Resources or designee as the district's Compliance Officer **and Title IX Coordinator.**

The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator can be contacted at:

Address: 782 Springdale Drive, Exton PA 19341

email: julmer@wcasd.net

Phone: 484-266-1006

~~All nondiscrimination statements notices or information shall include the position, office address and telephone number, and email address of the Compliance Officer.~~

~~The Compliance Officer shall publish and disseminate this policy and complaint procedure at least annually to students, parents/guardians, employees and the public to notify them of where and how to initiate complaints under this policy.~~

The Compliance Officer **and Title IX Coordinator shall fulfill designated** responsibilities to ensure adequate nondiscrimination procedures are in place, to recommend new procedures or modifications to procedures and to monitor the implementation of the district's nondiscrimination procedures in the following areas **as appropriate**:

Curriculum and Materials - Review of curriculum guides, textbooks and supplemental materials for discriminatory bias.

Training-**Provide** ~~Provision~~ of training for students and staff to **prevent**, identify and alleviate problems of discrimination.

Resources - Maintain and provide information to staff on resources available to **complainants** ~~alleged victims~~ in addition to the school complaint procedure **or Title IX procedures**, such as making reports to the police, available **supportive measures such as** assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs and community health resources including counseling resources.

Student Access - Review of programs, activities and practices to ensure that all students have equal access and are not segregated except when permissible by law or regulation.

District Support - Assurance that like aspects of the school programs **and activities** receive like support as to staffing and compensation, facilities, equipment, and related areas.

Student Evaluation - Review of ~~tests~~, **assessments**, procedures, and guidance and counseling materials for stereotyping and discrimination.

Reports/Formal Complaints - Monitor and provide technical assistance to ~~building principals or designee~~ **individuals involved** in **managing informal reports and formal** ~~processing~~ complaints.

Guidelines

Title IX Sexual Harassment Training Requirements

The Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), decision-maker(s), or any individual designated to facilitate an informal resolution process related to Title IX sexual harassment shall receive training, as required or appropriate to their specific role.

All training materials shall promote impartial investigations and adjudications of formal complaints of Title IX sexual harassment without relying on sex stereotypes.

All training materials shall be posted on the district's website.

Disciplinary Consequences

A student who is determined to be responsible for violation of this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with the Code of Student Conduct, which may include but is not limited to:[18][19][20]

Loss of school privileges.

Permanent transfer to another school building, classroom or school bus.

Exclusion from school-sponsored activities.

Detention.

Suspension.

Expulsion.

Referral to law enforcement officials.

An employee who violates this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with the applicable Board policy, collective bargaining agreement and individual contract, up to and including dismissal and/or referral to law enforcement officials.[21] [36]

Reports of Discrimination

Any reports of discrimination that are reviewed by the Title IX Coordinator and do not meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment but are based on race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability shall follow the Discrimination Complaint Procedures in Administrative Guideline 103AG2.

Reports of Title IX Sexual Harassment

Any reports deemed by the Title IX Coordinator to meet the definition of sexual harassment under Title IX shall follow the Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints in Administrative Guideline 103AG3.

Other Reports

Any reports reviewed by the Title IX Coordinator which do not meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment or discrimination of a protected class, will be processed under the relevant Board policy.

~~–Complaint Procedure Student/Third Party~~

~~–Step 1 Reporting~~

~~A student or third party who believes s/he has been subject to conduct by any student, employee, or third party that constitutes a violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report the incident to the building principal. Any person with knowledge of conduct that may violate this policy, is encouraged to immediately report the matter to the building principal.~~

~~[27]A school employee who suspects or is notified that a student has been subject to conduct that constitutes a violation of this policy shall immediately report the incident to the building principal, as well as properly making any mandatory police or child protective services reports required by law.~~

~~If the building principal is the subject of a complaint, the student, third party or employee shall report the incident directly to the Compliance Officer.~~

~~The complainant or reporting employee may be encouraged to use the district's report form, available from the building principal, or Compliance Officer, or to otherwise put the complaint in writing; however, oral complaints shall be accepted, documented and the procedures of this policy implemented. The person accepting the verbal or written complaint may provide factual information on the complaint and the investigative process, the impact of choosing to seek confidentiality and the right to file criminal charges. In all other respects, the person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally and professionally, setting aside personal biases that might favor or disfavor the complainant or those accused of a violation of this policy.~~

~~–Step 2 Investigation~~

~~The investigator shall assess the anticipated scope of the investigation, who needs to be interviewed and what records may be relevant to the investigation.~~

~~The investigator shall conduct an adequate, reliable and impartial investigation. The complainant and the accused shall be provided the opportunity to present witnesses and other evidence during the course of the investigation.~~

~~The investigation may consist of individual interviews with the complainant, the accused, and others with knowledge relative to the allegations. The investigator may also evaluate any other information and materials relevant to the investigation. The person making the report, parties, parents/guardians and witnesses shall be informed of the prohibition against retaliation for anyone's participation in the process and that conduct believed to be retaliatory should be reported. All individuals providing statements or other information or participating in the investigation shall be instructed to keep the matter confidential and to report any concerns about confidentiality to the investigator.~~

~~[27]If the investigation reveals that the conduct being investigated may involve a violation of criminal law, the investigator shall promptly inform law enforcement authorities about the allegations in accordance with existing procedures. [28][29]~~

~~The obligation to conduct this investigation shall not be negated by the fact that a criminal or child protective services investigation of the allegations is pending or has been concluded. The investigator should coordinate with any other ongoing investigations of the allegations, including agreeing to requests for a short delay in fulfilling the district's investigative responsibilities during the fact finding portion of a criminal or child protective services investigation. Such delays shall not extend beyond the time necessary to prevent interference with or disruption of the criminal or child protective services investigation.~~

~~–Step 3 Investigative Report~~

~~The investigator shall prepare and submit a written report to the Compliance Officer within twenty (20) days, of the initial report of alleged discrimination, unless the nature of the allegations, anticipated extent of the investigation or the availability of witnesses requires the investigator and the Compliance Officer to establish a different due date. The parties shall be notified of the anticipated date the investigative report will be completed and of any changes to the anticipated due date during the course of the investigation.~~

~~The report shall include a summary of the investigation, a determination of whether the complaint has been substantiated as factual, the information and evaluation that formed the basis for this determination, whether the conduct violated this policy and of any other violations of law or Board policy which may warrant further district action, and a recommended disposition of the complaint. An investigation into discriminatory harassment or sexual harassment shall consider the record as a whole and the totality of circumstances in determining whether a violation of this policy has occurred, recognizing that persistent and pervasive conduct, when taken together, may be a violation even when the separate incidents are not severe.~~

~~The complainant and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of the investigation, including the recommended disposition within a reasonable time of the submission of the written report.~~

~~–Step 4 District Action~~

~~If the investigation results in a finding that some or all of the allegations of the complaint are proven and therefore constitute a violation of this policy, the district shall take prompt, corrective action designed to ensure that such conduct ceases and that no retaliation occurs. The district shall promptly take appropriate steps to prevent the recurrence of the prohibited conduct and to address the discriminatory effect the prohibited conduct had on the complainant and the school or school program environment. District staff shall document the corrective action taken and, where not~~

prohibited by law, inform the complainant. The Compliance Officer shall follow up by assessing the effectiveness of the corrective action at reasonable intervals.

~~If an investigation results in a finding that a different policy was violated separately from or in addition to violations of this policy, or that there are circumstances warranting further action, such matters shall be addressed at the conclusion of this investigation or through disciplinary or other appropriate referrals where further evaluation or investigation is necessary.~~

~~Disciplinary actions shall be consistent with the Code of Student Conduct, Board policies and administrative regulations, district procedures, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and state and federal laws.~~

Appeal Procedure

~~If the complainant or the accused is not satisfied with a finding made pursuant to the policy or with recommended corrective action, s/he may submit a written appeal to the Compliance Officer within fifteen (15) days. If the Compliance Officer investigated the complaint, such appeal shall be made to the Superintendent.~~

~~The individual receiving the appeal shall review the investigation and the investigative report and may also conduct or designate another person to conduct a reasonable supplemental investigation to assess the sufficiency and propriety of the prior investigation.~~

~~The person handling the appeal shall prepare a written response to the appeal within twenty (20) days. Copies of the response shall be provided to the complainant, the accused and the investigator who conducted the initial investigation.~~

Miscellaneous

Right to Alternative Complaint Procedure –

Nothing in this policy shall deny the right of any individual to pursue other avenues of recourse to address concerns relating to prohibited harassment including initiating civil action, filing a complaint with outside agencies or seeking redress under state or federal law.

False Charges—

~~Students who knowingly make false charges of harassment or retaliation shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion.~~

Legal

1. 22 PA Code 12.1
2. 22 PA Code 12.4
3. 22 PA Code 15.1 et seq
4. 22 PA Code 4.4
5. 24 P.S. 1310
6. 24 P.S. 1601-C et seq
7. 24 P.S. 5004
8. 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq
9. 29 U.S.C. 794
10. 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq
11. 42 U.S.C. 1981 et seq
12. 42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq
13. 43 P.S. 951 et seq
14. Pol. 103.1

15. Pol. 218
16. Pol. 247
17. Pol. 249
18. U.S. Const. Amend. XIV, Equal Protection Clause
19. 24 P.S. 1301
20. 29 CFR 1604.11
21. 29 CFR 1606.8
22. Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education, 526 U.S. 629 (1999)
23. Franklin v. Gwinnett County Public Schools, 503 U.S. 60 (1992)
24. Office for Civil Rights - Guidance on Schools' Obligations to Protect Students from Student-on-Student Harassment on the Basis of Sex; Race, Color and National Origin; and Disability (Oct. 26, 2010)
25. Office for Civil Rights - Resources for Addressing Racial Harassment
26. Office for Civil Rights - Revised Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students or Third Parties Title IX (January 2001)
27. Pol. 806
28. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2709
29. Pol. 815
- 20 U.S.C. 1232g
- 28 CFR Part 35
- 28 CFR Part 41
- 34 CFR Part 99
- 34 CFR Part 100
- 34 CFR Part 104
- 34 CFR Part 106
- 34 CFR Part 110
- Pol. 113
- Pol. 122
- Pol. 123
- Pol. 138
- Pol. 216
- Pol. 701

103AG1 DISCRIMINATION/SEXUAL HARASSMENT/RETALIATION REPORT FORM

The Board declares it to be the policy of this district to provide a safe, positive learning and working environment that is free from sexual harassment, discrimination, and retaliation. If you have experienced, or if you have knowledge of, any such actions, we encourage you to complete this form. The Title IX Coordinator will be happy to support you by answering any questions about the report form, reviewing the report form for completion and assisting as necessary with completion of the report. The Title IX Coordinator's contact information is:

Position: Director of Human Resources

Address: 782 Springdale Drive Exton PA 19341

Email: julmer@wcasd.net

Phone Number: 484-266-1006

Retaliation Prohibited

The district, its employees and others are prohibited from intimidating, threatening, coercing, or discriminating against you for filing this report. Please contact the Title IX Coordinator immediately if you believe retaliation has occurred.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations and the filing of a report shall be handled in accordance with applicable law, regulations, Board policy, procedures, and the district's legal and investigative obligations. The school will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the report, consistent with a request for confidentiality as long as doing so does not preclude the school from responding effectively to the report. If you have any questions regarding how the information contained in this report may be used, please discuss them with the Title IX Coordinator prior to filing the report. Once this report is filed, the district has an obligation to investigate the information provided.

Note: For purposes of Title IX sexual harassment, this Report Form serves initially as an informal report, not a formal complaint of Sexual Harassment under Title IX.

I. Information About the Person Making This Report:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

School Building: _____

I am a:

- Student Parent/Guardian Employee Volunteer Visitor
 Other _____ (please explain relationship to the district)

If you are not the victim of the reported conduct, please identify the alleged victim:

Name: _____

- The alleged victim is: Your Child Another Student A District Employee
 Other: _____ (please explain relationship to the alleged victim)

II. Information About the Person(s) You Believe is/are Responsible for the Harassment or Discrimination You are Reporting

What is/are the name(s) of the individual(s) you believe is/are responsible for the conduct you are reporting?

Name(s):

The reported individual(s) is/are:

- Student(s) Employee(s)
 Other _____ (please explain relationship to the district)

III. Description of the Conduct You are Reporting

In your own words, please do your best to describe the conduct you are reporting as clearly as possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary:

When did the reported conduct occur? (Please provide the specific date(s) and time(s) if possible):

Where did the reported conduct take place?

Please provide the name(s) of any person(s) who was/were present, even if for only part of the time.

Please provide the name(s) of any other person(s) that may have knowledge or related information surrounding the reported conduct.

Have you reported this conduct to any other individual prior to giving this report?

Yes No

If yes, who did you tell about it?

If you are the victim of the reported conduct, how has this affected you?

I affirm that the information reported above is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Signature of Person Making the Report

Date

Received By

Date

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

This section is to be completed by the Title IX Coordinator based on reviewing the report with the complainant or other individual making the report.

The purpose of this form is to assist the Title IX Coordinator in gathering information necessary to properly assess the circumstances surrounding the reported conduct to determine if the allegations fall under the definition of Title IX sexual harassment or if the matter merits review and action under the Code of Student Conduct and/or other Board policies. The Title IX Coordinator shall gather as much information as possible in cases of incomplete or anonymous reports (including those that may be received through the Safe2Say Something program) to assess the report.

Upon receipt of the report, The Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant regarding the report to gather additional information as necessary, and to discuss the availability of supportive measures as described in Policy 103 and 103AG3. The Title IX Coordinator shall consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures.

I. Reporter Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

School Building: _____

Reporter is a:

Student Parent/Guardian Employee Volunteer Visitor

Other _____ (please explain relationship to the district)

If the reporter is not the victim of the reported conduct, please identify the alleged victim:

Name: _____

The alleged victim is: Reporter's Child Another Student Another Employee

Other: _____ (please explain relationship to the alleged victim)

II. Respondent Information

Please state the name(s) of the individual(s) believed to have conducted the reported violation:

Name(s):

The reported respondent(s) is/are:

- Student(s) Employee(s)
- Other _____ (please explain relationship to the district)

III. Level of Report:

- Informal Formal (see additional information below on Title IX formal complaints)

IV. Type of Report:

- Title IX Sexual Harassment Discrimination Retaliation Other _____

Nature of the Report (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Race | <input type="checkbox"/> Age |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Color | <input type="checkbox"/> Creed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religion | <input type="checkbox"/> Sex |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Harassment (Title IX) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Origin | <input type="checkbox"/> Ancestry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marital Status | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handicap/Disability | |

V. Reported Conduct

Describe the reported conduct below, including specific actions, dates, times, locations and any other details necessary to properly assess the reported incident(s).

How often did the conduct occur?

Is it being repeated? Yes No

Do the circumstances involve a student identified as a student with a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act?

No.

Yes, please identify the student with a disability and contact the Director of Special Education.

Date Director of Special Education was contacted: _____

How has the conduct affected the alleged victim's ability to fully participate in the school's academic, programs, activities or school employment?

What is the alleged victim's relationship with the alleged respondent?

Insert names, descriptions, and/or contact information of individuals believed to have observed the conduct or who otherwise may have knowledge of the conduct and/or related circumstances.

Additional observations or evidence including pictures, texts, emails, video or other information submitted to the Title IX Coordinator.

VI. Safety Concerns

Are there safety concerns that may require Emergency Removal of or Administrative Leave for a respondent? (This requires an individualized safety and risk analysis as to whether there is an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of a student or other individual.)

No.

Yes, please describe:

VII. Other Reports

Has the conduct been reported to the police or any other agency?

No

Yes Date reported: _____ Agency: _____

VIII. Identification of Policies Implicated by Reported Conduct

Check all that apply:

Policy 103. Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students

Policy 104. Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff

Policy 247. Hazing

Policy 249. Bullying

Other _____

To meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment, the conduct must have taken place during a district education program or activity involving a person in the United States. An **education program or activity** includes the locations, events or circumstances over which the district exercises substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs. Title IX applies to all of a district's education programs or activities, whether such programs or activities occur on-campus or off-campus, including conveyance on district provided transportation.

Did the incident occur during a during a school program or activity involving a person in the United States?

Yes

No

To meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment, the conduct needs to satisfy one or more of the following (please check all that apply):

A district employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or district service on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct, commonly referred to as quid pro quo sexual harassment.

Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to a district education program or activity.

Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking.

Dating violence means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim and where the existence of such a relationship is determined by the following factors:

- Length of relationship.
- Type of relationship.
- Frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Domestic violence includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving federal funding, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

Sexual assault means a sexual offense under a state or federal law that is classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Stalking means stalking on the basis of sex, for example when the stalker desires to date a victim. Stalking means to engage in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to either:

1. Fear for their safety or the safety of others.
2. Suffer substantial emotional distress.

IX. Recommended Course of Action

After consultation with the complainant and consideration of the reported information, the Title IX Coordinator directs the report to proceed under the provisions of (check all that apply):

No further action at this time. Reason:

Policy 247. Hazing

Policy 249. Bullying

Other

Policy 103 Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students: 103AG2

Discrimination Complaint Procedures

- Policy 104 Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff: 104AG2
Discrimination Complaint Procedures
- Policy 103. Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students: 103AG3 Title IX
Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints
- Policy 104. Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff: 104AG3 Title IX
Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints

X. Title IX Information to Complainant

What supportive measures were discussed with the complainant, and what were the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures?

Upon designating a course of action under Title IX sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator will promptly:

1. Explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint.
2. Inform the complainant of the continued availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint.
3. The Title IX Coordinator shall contact a student complainant's parents/guardians and provide them with information regarding the report and Title IX sexual harassment procedures and grievance process for formal complaints.

If the complainant/reporter, school staff or others with professional knowledge relating to the complainant's health and well-being indicate that notifying the parents/guardians could cause serious harm to the health or well-being of the complainant or other person(s), the Title IX Coordinator will determine, in consultation with such individuals and upon advice of legal counsel, whether to withhold or delay notification of the report from the complainant's parents/guardians.

4. Determine what supportive measures may be offered to the respondent.
5. Determine whether the complainant wishes this report to be treated as a formal complaint.

XI. Title IX Coordinator Signature

I recommend the above course of action based on my consultation with the complainant and the information available at this time.

Title IX Coordinator: _____

Date: _____

XII. Title IX Formal Complaint Action

The Title IX Coordinator shall have the complainant check the appropriate box and sign and date below to indicate whether or not the complainant wishes to have this form serve as a formal complaint pursuant to Title IX.

I would like my report to be treated as a formal complaint pursuant to Title IX.

Yes No

Complainant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

If the complainant does not wish this report to be treated as a formal complaint pursuant to Title IX, the Title IX Coordinator must assess whether actions limited to supportive measures are a sufficient response to alleged behavior, or whether a formal complaint process is necessary to investigate and address the situation adequately. For example, if disciplinary action would be warranted if allegations are true, if the respondent is an employee, or if further investigation is needed to assess the extent of the behavior and impact on others, it may be clearly unreasonable not to initiate the formal complaint process. The Title IX Coordinator may consult with the school solicitor and other district officials in making this decision.

As Title IX Coordinator, I have determined that, notwithstanding the complainant's preference, it is necessary to proceed with the Grievance Process for Formal Complaints for the following reasons:

Therefore, I am signing this form for the purpose of serving as the formal complaint initiating that process:

Title IX Coordinator's Signature: _____

Date: _____



Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Discrimination Complaint Procedures - new
Code	103AG2
Status	Review

DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

All reports of discrimination and retaliation brought pursuant to the district's discrimination policy shall also be reviewed for conduct which may not be proven discriminatory under Policy 103 but merits review and possible action under the Code of Student Conduct and other Board policies.

Definitions

Complainant shall mean an individual who is alleged to be the victim.

Respondent shall mean an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of the alleged conduct.

Discrimination shall mean to treat individuals differently, or to harass or victimize based on a protected classification including race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, or handicap/disability.

Harassment is a form of discrimination based on the protected classifications listed in this policy consisting of unwelcome conduct such as graphic, written, electronic, verbal or nonverbal acts including offensive jokes, slurs, epithets and name-calling, ridicule or mockery, insults or put-downs, offensive objects or pictures, physical assaults or threats, intimidation, or other conduct that may be harmful or humiliating or interfere with a person's school or school-related performance when such conduct is:

1. Sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive; and
2. A reasonable person in the complainant's position would find that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment such that it deprives or adversely interferes with or limits an individual or group of the ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or opportunities offered by a school.

Retaliation shall mean actions including, but not limited to, intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against a victim or other person because they report discrimination or harassment, participate in an investigation or other process addressing discrimination or harassment, or act in opposition to discriminatory practices.

Reasonable Accommodations

Throughout the discrimination complaint procedures, the district shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and intellectual impairments that constitute disabilities for all parties, and address barriers being experienced by disadvantaged students such as English learners and homeless students, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations and Board policy.

Required Reporting Under Other Policies

In addition to implementing the disciplinary complaint procedures, the building principal or Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall ensure that reported conduct which meets the definition of other laws, regulations or Board policies, is also appropriately addressed in accordance with the applicable laws, regulations or Board policies, including but not limited to, incidents under the Safe Schools Act, reports of educator misconduct, threats, or reports of suspected child abuse.

Timeframes

Reasonably prompt timeframes shall be established for completing each step of the discrimination complaint procedures, including timeframes for filing and resolving appeals.

The established timeframes included in these procedures may be adjusted to allow for a temporary delay or a limited extension of time for good cause. Written notice of the delay or extension and the reason for such action shall be provided to the complainant and the respondent, and documented with the records of the complaint. Good cause may include, but is not limited to, considerations such as:

1. The absence of a party or a witness.
2. Concurrent law enforcement activity.
3. Need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities.

PROCEDURES FOR COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION

Step 1 – Reporting

A student or individual who believes they have been subject to discrimination by any student, employee or third party is encouraged to immediately report the incident to the building principal using the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/ Retaliation Report Form or by making a general report verbally or in writing to the building principal.

Any person with knowledge of discrimination in violation of Board policy or this procedure is encouraged to immediately report the matter to the building principal.

A school employee who suspects or is notified that a student has been subject to discrimination shall immediately report the incident to the building principal. Additionally, employees who have reasonable cause to suspect that a child is the victim of child abuse, shall immediately report the suspected abuse, in accordance with applicable law, regulations and Board policy.

The building principal shall immediately notify the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator of the reported discrimination.

If the building principal is the subject of a complaint, the student, third party or employee shall report the incident directly to the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator.

The complainant or reporting individual shall be encouraged to use the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form, however, complaints shall be accepted in person, by telephone, by mail or email, or by any other means that results in the appropriate individual receiving the individual's verbal or written report. Verbal reports shall be documented using the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form, and these procedures shall be implemented.

The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall review reports and complaints, and may gather additional information from the individual submitting the report and other parties identified in the report using the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form. The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant regarding the report to gather additional information as necessary.

The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall conduct an assessment to determine whether the reported circumstances are most appropriately addressed through the Discrimination Complaint Procedures prescribed in this administrative guideline, or if the reported circumstances meet the definition and parameters of Title IX sexual harassment, or other applicable Board policies.

If the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator determines that the report should be addressed through the discrimination complaint procedures, the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall be notified and the complaint procedures in this administrative guideline implemented.

When any party is an identified student with a disability, or thought to be a student with a disability, the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall notify the Director of Special Education and coordinate to determine whether additional steps must be taken for the party, while the discrimination complaint procedures are implemented.

Step 2 – Initial Communications

The complainant shall be informed about the Board's policy on discrimination, including the right to an investigation of both verbal and written reports of discrimination.

The building principal or designee, in consultation with the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator, where appropriate may implement appropriate measures to protect the complainant and others if necessary during the course of the investigation.

The building principal or designee may provide to the complainant factual information on the complaint and the investigative process, the impact of choosing to seek

confidentiality and the right to file criminal charges. The person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally and professionally.

The building principal or designee shall seek to obtain consent from parents/guardians to initiate an investigation where the complainant or alleged victim is under age eighteen (18), and inform parents/guardians of the complainant that the complainant may be accompanied by a parent/guardian during all steps of the complaint procedure. When a parent/guardian requests confidentiality and will not consent to the alleged victim's participation in an investigation, the building principal or designee shall explain that the school shall take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with that request for confidentiality as long as doing so does not preclude the school from responding effectively to the discrimination and preventing discrimination that affects other students, or where it does not impact other legal obligations of the district.

The building principal or Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall provide relevant information on resources available in addition to the discrimination complaint procedure, such as making reports to the police, available assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs and community health resources, including counseling resources.

Informal Remedies -

At any time after a complaint has been reported, if the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator believes the circumstances are appropriate, the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator may, but is not required to, offer the parties involved in the complaint the opportunity to participate in informal remedies to address the reported conduct. Informal remedies can take many forms, depending on the particular case. Examples include, but are not limited to, mediation, facilitated discussions between the parties, restorative practices, acknowledgment of responsibility by a respondent, apologies, a requirement to engage in specific services, or other measures to support the parties.

If the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the parties, the district employee facilitating the informal remedies shall document the nature of the complaint and the proposed resolution of the matter, have both parties sign the documentation to indicate agreement with the resolution and receive a copy, and forward it to the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator.

The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall contact the complainant to determine if the resolution was effective and to monitor the agreed upon remedies, and shall document all appropriate actions.

*If the informal remedies result in the final resolution of the complaint, the following steps are not applicable.

Step 3 – Investigation

The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall assess whether the investigation should be conducted by the building principal, another district employee, the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator or an attorney and shall promptly assign the investigation to that individual.

The investigator shall assess the anticipated scope of the investigation, who needs to be interviewed and what records or evidence may be relevant to the investigation.

The investigator shall conduct an adequate, reliable and impartial investigation. The complainant and the respondent may suggest additional witnesses and provide other evidence during the course of the investigation.

The investigation may consist of individual interviews with the complainant, the respondent, and others with knowledge relative to the allegations. The investigator may also evaluate any other information and materials relevant to the investigation. The person making the report, parties, parents/guardians and witnesses shall be informed of the prohibition against retaliation for anyone's participation in the process and that conduct believed to be retaliatory should be reported. All individuals providing statements or other information or participating in the investigation shall be instructed to keep the matter confidential and to report any concerns about confidentiality to the investigator.

If the investigation reveals that the conduct being investigated may involve a violation of criminal law, the investigator shall promptly notify the law enforcement authorities about the allegations in accordance with existing procedures.

The obligation to conduct this investigation shall not be negated by the fact that a criminal or child protective services investigation of the allegations is pending or has been concluded. The investigator should coordinate with any other ongoing investigations of the allegations, including agreeing to requests for a delay in fulfilling the district's investigative responsibilities during the fact-finding portion of a criminal or child protective services investigation. Such delays shall not extend beyond the time necessary to prevent interference with or disruption of the criminal or child protective services investigation, and the reason for such delay shall be documented by the investigator.

Step 4 – Investigative Report

The investigator shall prepare and submit a written report to the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator within thirty (30) school days of the initial report of alleged discrimination, unless the nature of the allegations, anticipated extent of the investigation or the availability of witnesses requires the investigator and the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator to establish a different due date. The parties shall be notified of the anticipated date the investigative report will be completed and of any changes to the anticipated due date during the course of the investigation.

The investigative report shall include a summary of the investigation, a determination of whether the complaint has been substantiated as factual, the information and evaluation that formed the basis for this determination, whether the conduct violated Board Policy 103 and of any other violations of law or Board policy which may warrant further district action, and a recommended disposition of the complaint. An investigation into discrimination shall consider the record as a whole and the totality of circumstances in determining whether a violation of Board policy has occurred, recognizing that persistent and pervasive conduct, when taken together, may be a violation even when the separate incidents are not severe.

The complainant and the respondent shall be informed of the outcome of the investigation, including the recommended disposition, within a reasonable time of the submission of the written investigative report, to the extent authorized by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and other applicable laws.

Step 5 – District Action

If the investigation results in a finding that some or all of the allegations of the discrimination complaint are founded and constitute a violation of Board policy, the district shall take prompt, corrective action designed to ensure that such conduct ceases and that no retaliation occurs. The district shall promptly take appropriate steps to prevent the recurrence of the prohibited conduct and to address the discriminatory effect the prohibited conduct had on the complainant and the district education program or activity. District staff shall document the corrective action taken and, where not prohibited by law, inform the complainant. The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall follow up by assessing the effectiveness of the corrective action at reasonable intervals.

If an investigation results in a finding that a different policy was violated separately from or in addition to violations of Policy 103 or these procedures, or that there are circumstances warranting further action, such matters shall be addressed at the conclusion of this investigation or through disciplinary or other appropriate referrals where further evaluation or investigation is necessary.

Disciplinary actions shall be consistent with the Code of Student Conduct, Board policies and administrative regulations, district procedures, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and state and federal laws and regulations.

Appeal Procedure

If the complainant or the respondent is not satisfied with a finding made pursuant to these procedures or with recommended corrective action, they may submit a written appeal to the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator within fifteen (15) school days of receiving notification of the outcome of the investigation. If the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator investigated the complaint, such appeal shall be made to the Superintendent.

The individual receiving the appeal shall review the investigation and the investigative report and may also conduct or designate another person to conduct a reasonable supplemental investigation to assess the sufficiency and propriety of the prior investigation.

The person handling the appeal shall prepare a written response to the appeal within twenty (20) school days.

Copies of the response shall be provided to the complainant, the respondent and the investigator who conducted the initial investigation.



Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints - new
Code	103AG3
Status	Review

TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT PROCEDURES AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS FOR FORMAL COMPLAINTS

Definitions

Actual knowledge means notice of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment to the district's Title IX Coordinator or any district official who has the authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the district, or to any employee of an elementary and secondary school, other than the respondent.

Exculpatory evidence means evidence tending to exonerate the accused or helps to establish their innocence.

Inculpatory evidence means evidence tending to incriminate the accused or indicate their guilt.

Formal complaint means a document filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging Title IX sexual harassment and requesting that the district investigate the allegation. The authority for the Title IX Coordinator to sign a formal complaint does not make the Title IX Coordinator the complainant or other party during the grievance process. The phrase "**document filed by a complainant**" refers to a document or electronic submission that contains the complainant's physical or digital signature, or otherwise indicates that the complainant is the person filing the formal complaint.

Retaliation shall mean actions including, but not limited to, intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against a victim or other person because they report conduct that may constitute Title IX sexual harassment in accordance with Board policy and procedures, participate in an investigation or other process addressing Title IX sexual harassment, or act in opposition to discriminatory practices.

The following actions shall not constitute retaliation:

1. An individual exercising free speech under the rights protected by the First Amendment.

2. The assignment of consequences consistent with Board policy and the Code of Student Conduct when an individual knowingly makes a materially false statement in bad faith in an investigation. The fact that the charges of discrimination were unfounded or unsubstantiated shall not be the sole reason to conclude that any party made a materially false statement in bad faith.

Supportive measures mean nondisciplinary, nonpunitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the complainant or the respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed.

Supportive measures shall be designed to restore or preserve equal access to the education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the educational environment, or to deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may include, but are not limited to:

1. Counseling.
2. Extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments.
3. Modifications of class schedules.
4. Campus escort services.
5. Mutual restrictions on contact between the parties.
6. Increased security.
7. Monitoring of certain areas of the campus.
8. Assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs.
9. Assistance from community health resources including counseling resources.

Supportive measures may also include, when in accordance with applicable law, regulation or Board policy assessments or evaluations to determine eligibility for special education or related services, or the need to review an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Service Agreement based on a student's behavior.

Title IX sexual harassment means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

1. A district employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or district service on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct, commonly referred to as quid pro quo sexual harassment.
2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to a district education program or activity.

3. Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking.

a. **Dating Violence** means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim and where the existence of such a relationship is determined by the following factors:

1. Length of relationship.
2. Type of relationship.
3. Frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Domestic violence includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving federal funding, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

b. **Sexual assault** means an offense classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

c. **Stalking**, under Title IX means stalking on the basis of sex, for example when the stalker desires to date a victim. Stalking means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to either:

1. Fear for their safety or the safety of others.
2. Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Such conduct must have taken place during a district education program or activity and against a person in the United States to qualify as sexual harassment subject to Title IX regulations. An **education program or activity** includes the locations, events or circumstances over which the district exercises substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the harassment occurs.

TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT PROCEDURES

General Response – (with or without a formal complaint)

Any person, whether the alleged victim or not, may report Title IX sexual harassment using the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/ Retaliation Report Form or by making a general report verbally or in writing to the building principal, or by using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report. Upon receipt of a report, school staff shall immediately notify the building principal.

A report may be made at any time, including during nonbusiness hours. Verbal reports shall be documented by the Title IX Coordinator or employee receiving the report using the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/ Retaliation Report Form, and these procedures shall be implemented appropriately.

District staff who become aware of harassment affecting a student or staff member shall promptly report it to the building principal.

When the district has actual knowledge of Title IX sexual harassment, the district is required to respond promptly and in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent, meaning not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances.

All sexual harassment reports and complaints received by the building principal shall be promptly directed to the Title IX Coordinator, in accordance with Board policy. The Title IX Coordinator shall use the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/ Retaliation Report Form to gather additional information from the reporter and/or other parties identified in the report, to determine if the allegations meet the definition and parameters for Title IX sexual harassment.

The Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant regarding the report to gather additional information as necessary, and to discuss the availability of supportive measures. The Title IX Coordinator shall consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures.

The Title IX Coordinator shall initially assess whether the reported conduct:

1. Meets the definition of Title IX sexual harassment.
2. Occurred in a district program or activity under the control of the district and against a person in the United States.
3. Involves other Board policies or the Code of Student Conduct.
4. Indicates, based on an individualized safety and risk analysis, that there is an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of an individual.
5. Involves a student identified as a student with a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

If the result of this initial assessment determines that none of the allegations fall within the scope of Title IX sexual harassment, but the matter merits review and possible action under the Code of Student Conduct and other Board policies or 103AG2 addressing Discrimination Complaints, then the Title IX Coordinator shall redirect the report to the appropriate administrator to address the allegations.

If the result of the initial assessment determines that the allegations may constitute Title IX sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator shall promptly explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint and inform the complainant of the continued availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint.

The Title IX Coordinator shall contact the parents/guardians and provide them with information regarding the report and Title IX sexual harassment procedures and grievance process for formal complaints.

If the complainant, school staff or others with professional knowledge relating to the complainant's health and well-being indicate that notifying the parents/guardians could cause serious harm to the health or well-being of the complainant or other person(s), the Title IX Coordinator will determine, in consultation with such individuals and upon advice of legal counsel, whether to withhold or delay notification of the report from the complainant's parents/guardians.

The Title IX Coordinator shall also determine what supportive measures may be offered to the respondent.

If either party is an identified student with a disability, or thought to be disabled, the Title IX Coordinator shall contact the Director of Special Education to coordinate the required actions in accordance with Board policy.

Confidentiality regarding the supportive measures offered and the identity of the following individuals shall be maintained, except as may be permitted by law or regulations relating to the conduct of any investigation:

1. Individuals making a report or formal complaint.
2. Complainant(s).
3. Respondent(s).
4. Witnesses.

The district shall treat complainants and respondents equitably by:

1. Offering supportive measures to the complainant and may offer such measures to the respondent.
2. Following the grievance process for formal complaints before imposing disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures on the respondent.

Disciplinary Procedures When Reports Allege Title IX Sexual Harassment -

When reports allege Title IX sexual harassment, disciplinary sanctions may not be imposed until the completion of the grievance process for formal complaints. The district shall presume that the respondent is not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination has been made at the completion of the grievance process for formal complaints.

When an emergency removal, as described below, is warranted to address an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of an individual, and it is not feasible to continue educational services remotely or in an alternative setting, the normal procedures for suspension and expulsion shall be conducted to accomplish the removal, including specific provisions to address a student with a disability where applicable.

When an emergency removal is not required, disciplinary sanctions will be considered in the course of the Title IX grievance process for formal complaints. Following the issuance of the written determination and any applicable appeal, any disciplinary action specified in the written determination or appeal decision shall be implemented in accordance with the normal procedures for suspensions, expulsions or other disciplinary actions, including specific provisions to address a student with a disability where applicable.

Supportive Measures -

All supportive measures provided by the district shall remain confidential, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the district to provide the supportive measures.

When any party is an identified student with a disability, or thought to be a student with a disability, the Title IX Coordinator shall notify the Director of Special Education and coordinate to determine whether additional steps must be taken as supportive measures for the party while the Title IX procedures are implemented.

Reasonable Accommodations -

Throughout the Title IX sexual harassment procedures, the district shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and intellectual impairments that constitute disabilities for any party, and address barriers being experienced by disadvantaged students such as English learners and homeless students, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations and Board policy.

Emergency Removal -

If the district has determined, based on an individualized safety and risk analysis, that there is an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual due to the allegations of Title IX sexual harassment, the respondent may be removed from the district's education program or activity or moved to an alternative setting, consistent with all rights under federal and state laws and regulations, and Board policy, including but not limited to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. If the respondent is an identified student with a disability, or thought to be disabled, the Title IX Coordinator shall contact the Director of Special Education to coordinate the required actions in accordance with Board policy. The respondent shall be provided with notice and provided an opportunity for due process, in accordance with law, regulations and Board policy. When expulsion is necessary because continuation of educational services is not feasible, the Board's written adjudication of expulsion shall address the pending Title IX process and the impact of the outcome of the Title IX process on a student's emergency removal status.

Administrative Leave -

When an employee, based on an individualized safety and risk analysis, poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of any student or other individual, the employee may be removed on an emergency basis.

An accused nonstudent district employee may be placed on administrative leave during the pendency of the grievance process for formal complaints, consistent with all rights under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, and in accordance with state law and regulations, Board policy and an applicable collective

bargaining agreement or individual contract.

Required Reporting Under Other Policies -

In addition to implementing the Title IX sexual harassment procedures, the Title IX Coordinator shall ensure that reported conduct which meets the definition of other laws, regulations or Board policies, is also appropriately addressed in accordance with the applicable laws, regulations or Board policies, including but not limited to, incidents under the Safe Schools Act, reports of educator misconduct, threats, or reports of suspected child abuse.

Timeframes

Reasonably prompt timeframes shall be established for the conclusion of the grievance process for formal complaints, including timeframes for the informal resolution process and timeframes for filing and resolving appeals.

The established timeframes included in these procedures may be adjusted to allow for a temporary delay or a limited extension of time for good cause. Written notice of the delay or extension and the reason for such action shall be provided to the complainant and the respondent, and documented with the records of the complaint. Good cause may include, but is not limited to, considerations such as:

1. The absence of a party, a party's advisor or a witness.
2. Concurrent law enforcement activity.
3. Need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities.

Redirection or Dismissal of Title IX Formal Complaints

Formal complaints may be dismissed, if at any time during the investigation or written determination steps described below:

1. A complainant provides written notification of withdrawal of any allegations or of the formal complaint.
2. The respondent is no longer enrolled or employed by the district in a district program or activity.
3. Specific circumstances prevent the district from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations.

Only alleged conduct that occurred in the district's education program or activity, and against a person in the United States, may qualify as Title IX sexual harassment within the district's jurisdiction. If it is determined during the investigation or written determination steps below that none of the allegations, if true, would meet the definition and parameters of Title IX sexual harassment within the district's jurisdiction, the Title IX Coordinator shall dismiss the formal complaint under Title IX. If the matter merits review and possible action under the Code of Student Conduct and other Board policies or 103AG2 addressing Discrimination Complaints, then the Title IX Coordinator shall redirect the report to the appropriate administrator to address the allegations.

Written notification shall be promptly issued to the parties simultaneously of any allegations found not to qualify or that are dismissed in compliance with Title IX. Written notification shall state whether the allegations will continue to be addressed pursuant to the Code of Student Conduct and other Board policies or 103AG2 addressing Discrimination Complaints.

A dismissal may be appealed via the appeal procedures set forth in this administrative guideline.

Consolidation of Title IX Formal Complaints

The district may consolidate formal complaints against more than one (1) respondent, or by more than one (1) complainant against one or more respondents, or by one (1) individual against another individual, where the allegations of sexual harassment arise out of the same facts or circumstances.

GRIEVANCE PROCESS FOR FORMAL COMPLAINTS

Step 1 – Formal Complaint

The district is required to initiate the grievance process for formal complaints when a complainant or the complainant's parent/guardian files a formal complaint. The Title IX Coordinator is also authorized to initiate this process despite a complainant's wishes when actions limited to supportive measures are not a sufficient response to alleged behavior, or when a formal complaint process is necessary to investigate and address the situation adequately. For example, if disciplinary action would be warranted if allegations are true, if the respondent is an employee, or if further investigation is needed to assess the extent of the behavior and impact on others, it may be clearly unreasonable not to initiate the formal complaint process. Only the Title IX Coordinator is authorized to initiate the formal complaint process despite a complainant's wishes, but the Title IX Coordinator may consult with the school solicitor and other district officials in making this decision.

The complainant or the Title IX Coordinator shall use the designated section of the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/ Retaliation Report Form to file or sign a formal complaint.

The Title IX Coordinator shall assess whether the investigation should be conducted by the building principal, another district employee, the Title IX Coordinator or an attorney and shall promptly assign the investigation to that individual.

The Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, or any individual designated to facilitate the informal resolution process, each must have completed the required training for such roles as designated in Board policy and shall not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against an individual complainant or respondent, or for or against complainants or respondents in general.

The respondent shall be presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct until a written determination regarding responsibility has been made at the conclusion of the grievance process for formal complaints.

Notice Requirements -

Upon receipt of a formal complaint, or when the Title IX Coordinator signs a formal complaint to initiate the grievance process for formal complaints, the Title IX Coordinator shall provide written notice to all known parties, and the parents/guardians of known parties where applicable, providing the following information:

1. Notice of the district's grievance process for formal complaints and any informal resolution process that may be available.
2. Notice of the allegations potentially constituting Title IX sexual harassment, including sufficient details known at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview. Sufficient details include:
 - a. The identity of the parties involved, if known.
 - b. The conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment.
 - c. The date and location of the alleged incident(s), if known.
3. A statement that a written determination regarding responsibility shall be made at the conclusion of the grievance process for formal complaints and, until that time, the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct.
4. Notice that parties may have an advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney. The advisor may inspect and review evidence.
5. Notice that Board policy and the district's Code of Student Conduct prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information to school officials in connection with reports of misconduct or discrimination complaints.
6. Notice to all known parties of any additional allegations that the district decides to investigate during the course of the investigation.

Step 2 – Informal Resolution Process

The informal resolution process shall not offered or used to facilitate a resolution for any formal complaint where the allegations state that an employee sexually harassed a student.

At any time after a formal complaint has been filed, but prior to reaching a determination of responsibility, if the Title IX Coordinator believes the circumstances are appropriate, the Title IX Coordinator may offer the parties the opportunity to participate in an informal resolution process, which does not involve a full investigation and adjudication of the Title IX sexual harassment complaint.

The district 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 Title IX sexual harassment complaints. Similarly, a district may not require the parties to participate in an informal resolution process.

Informal resolutions can take many forms, depending on the particular case. Examples include, but are not limited to, mediation, facilitated discussions between the parties, restorative practices, acknowledgment of responsibility by a respondent, apologies, a requirement to engage in specific services, or supportive measures.

When offering an informal resolution process, the Title IX Coordinator shall:

1. Provide the parties a written notice disclosing the following:
 - a. The allegations.
 - b. 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 for formal complaints.
 - c. Any consequences resulting from participating in the informal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained or could be shared.
2. Obtain the parties' voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution process. As part of the consent process, all parties shall be informed of the rights being waived by agreeing to the informal resolution process, and shall acknowledge such agreement in writing.
3. The informal resolution process shall be conducted within ten (10) school days of the parties' signed agreement for the informal resolution process.

If the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the parties, the district employee facilitating the informal resolution process shall document the nature of the complaint and the proposed resolution of the matter, have both parties sign the documentation and receive a copy, and forward it to the Title IX Coordinator. Within twenty (20) school days after the complaint is resolved in this manner, the Title IX Coordinator shall contact the complainant to determine if the resolution was effective and to monitor the agreed upon remedies. The Title IX Coordinator shall document the informal resolution process, responses from all parties, and an explanation of why the district's response was not deliberately indifferent to the reported complaint of sexual harassment.

***If Step 2 Informal Resolution Process results in the final resolution of the complaint, the following steps are not applicable.**

Step 3 – Investigation

The designated investigator, if other than the Title IX Coordinator, shall work with the Title IX Coordinator to assess the scope of the investigation, who needs to be interviewed and what records or evidence may be relevant to the investigation. The investigation stage shall be concluded within thirty (30) school days.

When investigating a formal complaint, the investigator shall:

1. Bear the burden of proof and gather evidence and conduct interviews sufficient to reach a written determination. During the process of gathering evidence, unless the district obtains the voluntary, written consent of the party, or the party's parent/guardian when legally required, the district cannot access, consider, disclose or otherwise use a party's records which are protected by legal privilege, such as those records 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 providing treatment to the party.
2. Objectively evaluate all available evidence, including inculpatory and exculpatory evidence.
3. Provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence.
4. Not restrict the ability of either party to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence.

However, the district may request a nondisclosure agreement be signed by the parties and their advisor(s), if any, stating that they will not disseminate or disclose evidence and documents exchanged in the investigation.

5. Provide the parties with the same opportunities to have others present during any interview or other meeting, including an advisor of the party's choice. The district may establish restrictions, applicable to both parties, regarding the extent to which the advisor may participate.
6. Provide written notice to any party whose participation is invited or expected during the investigation process with the following information, in sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate:
 - a. Date.
 - b. Time.
 - c. Location.
 - d. Participants.
 - e. Purpose of all investigative interviews or other meetings.
7. 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, including evidence the district does not intend to rely on to reach a determination regarding responsibility and any inculpatory and exculpatory evidence, whether obtained from a party or other source.

If at any point the investigation expands to include additional allegations that were not included in the initial notice provided upon initiation of the grievance process for formal complaints, the investigator shall alert the Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator shall provide written notice of the new allegations to the known parties.

Prior to the completion of the investigative report, the investigator shall:

1. Send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the evidence subject to inspection and review in electronic or hard copy format.
2. Provide the parties at least ten (10) school days following receipt of the evidence to submit a written response.
3. Consider the written response prior to drafting the investigative report.

The investigator shall draft an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence and shall provide the investigative report to all parties and to the designated decision-maker.

If the investigation reveals that the conduct being investigated may involve a violation of criminal law, the investigator shall promptly inform law enforcement authorities about the allegations and make any additional required reports, in accordance with law, regulations and Board policy.

The obligation to conduct this investigation shall not be negated by the fact that a criminal or child protective services investigation of the allegations is pending or has been concluded. The investigator should coordinate with any other ongoing investigations of the allegations, including agreeing to request for a delay in fulfilling the district's investigative responsibilities during the fact-finding portion of a criminal or child protective services investigation. Such delays shall not extend beyond the time necessary to prevent interference with or disruption of the criminal or child protective services investigation and the reason for such delay shall be documented by the investigator.

In the course of an investigation, it is possible that conduct other than, or in addition to, Title IX sexual harassment may be identified as part of the same incident or set of circumstances. The fact that there may be Title IX sexual harassment involved does not preclude the district from addressing other identified violations of the Code of Student Conduct or Board policy. If such other conduct is being investigated and addressed together with Title IX sexual harassment as part of the Title IX grievance process for formal complaints, disciplinary action normally should not be imposed until the completion of the Title IX grievance process for formal complaints. A decision whether and when to take such action should be made in consultation with the school solicitor.

Step 4 – Written Determination and District Action

Designation of Decision-Maker -

To avoid any conflict of interest or bias, the decision-maker cannot be the same person as the Title IX Coordinator or the investigator. The responsibility as the decision-maker for complaints of Title IX sexual harassment shall generally be designated to the Assistant Superintendent.

If the Assistant Superintendent has a conflict of interest or is a party in the formal complaint process, they shall disclose the conflict and the Title IX Coordinator shall designate another individual to serve as the decision-maker.

Written Determination Submissions -

A written determination of responsibility (written determination) must not be finalized less than ten (10) days after the investigator completes the investigative report and provides it to all parties. Before the decision-maker reaches a determination regarding responsibility, the decision-maker shall afford each party the opportunity to submit written, relevant questions that a party wants to be asked of any party or witness, shall provide each party with the answers, and shall allow for additional, limited follow-up questions from each party.

Relevant questions for a party or witness must be submitted by each party within three (3) school days following receipt of the investigative report. Follow-up questions must be submitted by each party within three (3) school days of being provided the answers to the initial questions.

Questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant as part of the follow-up questions and responses, 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 shall explain to the party proposing the questions about any decision to exclude a question as not relevant.

Written Determination -

The decision-maker must issue a written determination for the conduct alleged in formal complaints. To reach this determination, the decision-maker shall apply the preponderance of the evidence standard, meaning that the party bearing the burden of proof must present evidence which is more credible and convincing than that presented by the other party or which shows that the fact to be proven is more probable than not.

In considering evidence, the decision-maker shall ensure credibility determinations are not based on an individual's status as a complainant, respondent or witness.

After considering all relevant evidence, the decision-maker shall issue a written determination that includes:

1. Identification of the allegations potentially constituting Title IX sexual harassment.
2. A description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt or signing of the formal complaint through the written determination, including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, and methods used to gather other evidence.
3. Findings of fact supporting the determination.
4. Conclusions regarding the application of the district's Code of Student Conduct or Board policies to the facts.

5. A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including:
 - a. Determination regarding responsibility.
 - b. Disciplinary sanctions.
 - c. Remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the district's education program or activity that will be provided by the district to the complainant. Such remedies may be punitive or disciplinary and need not avoid burdening the respondent.
6. The procedures, deadline and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal.

The written determination shall be provided to the parties simultaneously. The determination becomes final either:

1. On the date that the district provides the parties with the written decision of the result of the appeal, if an appeal is filed;
2. Or, if an appeal is not filed, on the date on which an appeal would no longer be considered timely, in accordance with the timeframe established for appeals in this Attachment.

The Title IX Coordinator shall be responsible to ensure that any remedies are implemented by the appropriate district officials and for following up as needed to assess the effectiveness of such remedies. Disciplinary actions shall be consistent with the Code of Student Conduct, Board policies and administrative regulations, district procedures, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and state and federal laws and regulations, including specific requirements and provisions for students with disabilities.

Appeal Process

Districts must offer both parties the right to appeal a determination of responsibility and the right to appeal the district's dismissal of a Title IX formal complaint or any allegation in the Title IX formal complaint. The scope of appeals related to Title IX sexual harassment are limited to the following reasons for appeal as stated in the Title IX regulations:

1. A procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter.
2. New evidence that that could affect the outcome was not reasonably available at the time the decision to dismiss or determination of responsibility was made.
3. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against the individual complainant or respondent or for or

against complainants or respondents generally that affected the outcome of the matter.

Written notice of a party's appeal shall be submitted to the Title IX Coordinator within five (5) school days after the date of the written determination. Notice of appeal shall include a brief statement describing the basis for the appeal.

The Title IX Coordinator shall ensure that the designated appeal authority is not the same person as the decision-maker that reached the determination, the investigator, or the Title IX Coordinator. The designated appeal authority shall be the Superintendent.

For all appeals, the designated appeal authority shall:

1. Provide written notice to the other party when notice of an appeal is filed and implement appeal procedures equally for both parties.
2. Provide both parties a reasonable, equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of or challenging the stated basis for the appeal. Supporting statements shall describe in detail as applicable the procedural irregularities asserted to have affected the outcome of the determination, the nature of any new evidence asserted to have affected the outcome, and the nature of any bias asserted to have affected the outcome, with an explanation of how the outcome was affected by such factors. If evidence exists supporting the basis for appeal, it shall accompany the supporting statement, or it shall identify where such evidence may be found.

Supporting statements must be submitted to the appeal authority and provided to the other party within five (5) school days of the written notice of appeal.

Statements in opposition to the appeal shall be submitted within five (5) school days of the submission of supporting statements. If a statement in opposition to an appeal refers to any evidence beyond what is described in a supporting statement, it shall accompany the statement in opposition, or it shall identify where such evidence may be found.

The appeal authority may accept and consider evidence in support of or in opposition to an appeal in making any conclusions necessary to deciding the appeal. Alternatively, when the appeal authority determines that factors exist making it necessary for the decision-maker to further develop the evidentiary record relevant to the basis for appeal, the appeal authority may return the matter to the decision-maker for that limited purpose.

3. Determine whether the appeal meets the grounds for permitted reasons for appeal and justifies modifying the written determination.
4. Issue a written decision setting forth the respects, if any, in which the written determination is modified and the rationale for the result within twenty (20) school days.
5. Provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties. A copy of the written decision shall also be provided to the Title IX Coordinator.

Recordkeeping

The district shall maintain the following records for a of a minimum of seven (7) years after conclusion of procedures and implementation of disciplinary sanctions and/or remedies, or in the case of a complainant or respondent who is a minor, until the expiration of the longest statute of limitations for filing a civil suit applicable to any allegation:

1. Each Title IX sexual harassment investigation, including any written determination and any audio or audiovisual recording or transcript, and disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent, and any remedies provided to the complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the district's education program or activity.
2. Any appeal and the result.
3. Any informal resolution and the result.
4. All materials used to train the Title IX Coordinator, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process.
5. Records of any district actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of Title IX sexual harassment. In each instance, the district shall document the basis for its conclusion that its response was not deliberately indifferent, and document that it has taken measures designed to restore or preserve equal access to the district's education program or activity. If a district does not provide a complainant with supportive measures, then the district must document the reasons why such a response was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances. The documentation of certain bases or measures does not limit the district in the future from providing additional explanations or detailing additional measures taken.



Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff - rev and new title
Code	104
Status	Review
Adopted	August 1, 2015
Last Revised	March 25, 2019

Authority

The Board declares it to be the policy of this district to provide to all persons equal access to all categories of employment in this district, regardless of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, pregnancy, or handicap/disability. The district shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and mental impairments that constitute disabilities, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)[\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)[\[6\]](#)[\[7\]](#)[\[8\]](#)[\[9\]](#)[\[10\]](#)[\[11\]](#) [12]

The Board also declares it to be the policy of this district to comply with federal law and regulations under Title IX prohibiting sexual harassment, which is a form of unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex. Such discrimination shall be referred to throughout this policy as Title IX sexual harassment. Inquiries regarding the application of Title IX to the district may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education, or both.

The Board directs that the foregoing statement of Board policy be included in each student and staff handbook, and that this policy and related administrative guidelines be posted to the district's website.

The Board requires a notice stating that the district does not discriminate in any manner, including Title IX sexual harassment, in any district education program or activity, to be issued to all students, parents/guardians, employment applicants, employees and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the district. All discrimination notices and information shall include the title, office address, telephone number and email address of the individual(s) designated as the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator.

Reports of Title IX Sexual Harassment and Other Discrimination and Retaliation

The Board encourages employees and third parties who believe they or others have been subject to **Title IX sexual harassment, other discrimination or retaliation** to promptly report such incidents to **the building principal or building administrator. A person who is not an intended victim**

or target of discrimination but is adversely affected by the offensive conduct may file a report of discrimination. ~~designated employees.~~

If the building principal or building administrator is the subject of a complaint, the complainant or the individual making the report shall direct the report of the incident to the Title IX Coordinator.

The complainant or the individual making the report may use the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form (104AG1) for purposes of reporting an incident or incidents in writing; however, verbal reports of an incident or incidents shall be accepted, documented and the procedures of this policy and the relevant administrative guidelines followed.

The building principal or building administrator shall promptly notify the Title IX Coordinator of all reports of discrimination, Title IX sexual harassment or retaliation. The Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant regarding the report to gather additional information as necessary, and to discuss the availability of supportive measures. The Title IX Coordinator shall consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures.

The Title IX Coordinator shall conduct an assessment to determine whether the reported circumstances are most appropriately addressed through the Discrimination Complaint Procedures prescribed in 104AG2, or if the reported circumstances meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment and are most appropriately addressed through the Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints in 104AG3, or other Board policies.

Disciplinary Procedures when Reports Allege Title IX Sexual Harassment

When a report alleges Title IX sexual harassment, disciplinary sanctions may not be imposed until the completion of the grievance process for formal complaints outlined in 104AG3. The district shall presume that the respondent is not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination has been made at the completion of the grievance process for formal complaints.

Administrative Leave –

When an employee, based on an individualized safety and risk analysis, poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of any student or other individual, the employee may be removed on an emergency basis.

An accused, nonstudent district employee may be placed on administrative leave during the pendency of the grievance process for formal complaints, consistent with all rights under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, and in accordance with state law and regulations, Board policy and an applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual contract.

~~The Board directs that verbal and written complaints of discrimination shall be investigated promptly, and appropriate corrective action be taken when allegations are substantiated. The Board directs that any complaint of discrimination brought pursuant to this policy shall also be reviewed for conduct which may not be proven discriminatory under this policy but merits review and possible action under other Board policies.[12][13]~~

Confidentiality.

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations, the filing of a **report** ~~complaint~~, and the investigation **related to any form of discrimination or retaliation, including Title IX sexual harassment**, shall be handled in accordance with **applicable law, regulations**, this policy, **the administrative guidelines** and the district's legal and investigative obligations.

Retaliation

The Board prohibits retaliation **by the district or any other person** against any person for: [16]

~~making a r~~ **Reporting or making a formal complaint of any form** of discrimination **or retaliation, including Title IX sexual harassment.**

~~or~~ **Testifying, assisting**, participating or **refusing to participate** in a related investigation, **process or other proceeding** or hearing. ~~or~~

Acting in opposition to practices the person reasonably believes to be discriminatory.

The district, its employees and others are prohibited from intimidating, threatening, coercing, or discriminating against anyone for actions described above. Individuals are encouraged to contact the Title IX Coordinator immediately if they believe retaliation has occurred.

~~A complaint of retaliation shall be handled in the same manner as a complaint of discrimination.~~

Definitions

Complainant shall mean an individual who is alleged to be the victim.

Respondent shall mean an individual alleged to be the perpetrator of the discriminatory or harassing conduct.

Discrimination or Harassment

Discrimination shall mean to treat individuals differently, or to harass or victimize based on a protected classification including ~~Harassment by students, employees, or third parties on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, pregnancy, or handicap/disability is a form of discrimination and is subject to this policy. A person who is not necessarily an intended victim or target of such harassment but is adversely affected by the offensive conduct may file a report of discrimination on his/her own behalf.~~ [8][14][15][16][17][18]

For purposes of this policy, **hHarassment shall consist is a form of discrimination based on the protected classifications listed in this policy consisting** of unwelcome conduct such as graphic, written, electronic, verbal or nonverbal acts including offensive jokes, slurs, epithets and name-calling, ridicule or mockery, insults or put-downs, offensive objects or pictures, physical assaults or threats, intimidation, or other conduct that may be harmful or humiliating or interfere with a person's work performance and which relates to an individual's or group's race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, pregnancy, or handicap/disability **including** when such conduct is:

Submission to such conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an employee's status; or

Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for employment-related decisions affecting an employee; or

Such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive; and that a reasonable person in the complainant's position would find that it unreasonably interferes with the complainant's performance at work or otherwise creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment such that it alters the complainant's working conditions.

A reasonable person in the complainant's position would find that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive work environment such that it deprives or adversely interferes with or limits an individual or group of the ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or opportunities offered by a school.

For purposes of this policy, **sexual harassment** shall consist of unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; and other inappropriate verbal, nonverbal, written, electronic, graphic, or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:
Submission to such conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an employee's status; or

Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for employment related decisions affecting an employee; or

Such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that a reasonable person in the complainant's position would find that it unreasonably interferes with the complainant's performance at work or otherwise creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment such that it alters the complainant's working conditions.

Definitions Related to Title IX Sexual Harassment

Formal complaint shall mean a document filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging Title IX sexual harassment and requesting that the district investigate the allegation under the grievance process for formal complaints. The authority for the Title IX Coordinator to sign a formal complaint does not make the Title IX Coordinator a party in the grievance process for formal complaints. The phrase "document filed by a complainant" refers to a document or electronic submission that contains the complainant's physical or digital signature, or otherwise indicates that the complainant is the person filing the formal complaint. [15][18]

Supportive measures shall mean nondisciplinary, nonpunitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the complainant or the respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed.[18]

Supportive measures shall be designed to restore or preserve equal access to the educational program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the educational environment, or to deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may include, but are not limited to:[18]

Counseling or Employee Assistance Program.

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 locations.

Leaves of absence.

Increased security.

Monitoring of certain areas of the campus.

Assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs.

Assistance from community health resources including counseling resources.

Title IX sexual harassment means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following: [\[18\]](#)

A district employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or district service on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct, commonly referred to as quid pro quo sexual harassment.

Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to a district education program or activity.

Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking.

Dating violence means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim and where the existence of such a relationship is determined by the following factors: [\[19\]](#)

Length of relationship.

Type of relationship.

Frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Domestic violence includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving federal funding, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction. [\[19\]](#)

Sexual assault means a sexual offense under state or federal law that is classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. [\[20\]](#)

Stalking, under Title IX means stalking on the basis of sex, for example when the stalker desires to date a victim. Stalking means to engage in a course of conduct

directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to either: [19]

Fear for their safety or the safety of

others.

Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Such conduct must have taken place during a district education program or activity and against a person in the United States to qualify as sexual harassment under Title IX. An education program or activity includes the locations, events or circumstances over which the district exercises substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the harassment occurs. Title IX applies to all of a district's education programs or activities, whether such programs or activities occur on-campus or off-campus. [14][15][18]

Delegation of Responsibility

In order to maintain a program of nondiscrimination practices that is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, the Board designates the Director of Human Resources or designee as the district's Compliance Officer **and Title IX Coordinator**.

The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator can be contacted at:

Address: 782 Springdale Drive, Exton PA 19341

email: julmer@wcasd.net

Phone: 484-266-1006

~~All nondiscrimination notices or information shall include the position, office address, telephone number, and email address of the Compliance Officer.~~

~~The Compliance Officer shall publish and disseminate this policy and complaint procedure at least annually to students, parents/guardians, employees, and the public to notify them of where and how to initiate complaints under this policy.~~

The Compliance Officer **and Title IX Coordinator** shall **fulfill designated** be responsibilities to ensure adequate nondiscrimination procedures are in place, to recommend new procedures or modifications to procedures, and to monitor the implementation of **the district's** nondiscrimination procedures in the following areas, **as appropriate**:

Review - Review of personnel practices and actions for discriminatory bias and compliance with laws against discrimination to include monitoring and recommending corrective measures when appropriate to written position qualifications, job descriptions, and essential job functions; recruitment materials and practices; procedures for screening applicants; application and interviewing practices for hiring and promotions; district designed performance evaluations; review of planned employee demotions, non-renewal of contracts, and proposed employee disciplinary actions up to and including termination.

Training - ~~Provisions of~~ **Provide** training for supervisors and staff to prevent, identify, and alleviate problems of employment discrimination.

Resources - Maintain and provide information to staff on resources available to alleged victims in addition to the school complaint procedure **or Title IX procedures**, such as making reports to the police, **and** available **supportive measures such as** assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs, and community health resources including counseling resources.

Reports/Formal Complaints - Monitor and provide technical assistance to **individuals involved in managing informal reports and formal** building principals or designees in processing complaints.

The building principal or supervisor shall be responsible to promptly complete the following duties upon receipt of a report of discrimination or retaliation from employees or third parties:

1. If the building principal or supervisor is the subject of the complaint, refer the complainant to the Compliance Officer to carry out these responsibilities.
2. Inform the employee or third party about this policy including the right to an investigation of both verbal and written complaints of discrimination.
3. Provide relevant information on resources available in addition to the school complaint procedure such as making reports to the police, available assistance from domestic violence and rape crisis programs, and community health resources including counseling resources.
4. Immediately notify the Compliance Officer of the complaint. The Compliance Officer shall assess whether the investigation should be conducted by the building principal, another employee, the Compliance Officer, or an attorney and shall promptly assign the investigation to that individual.
5. After consideration of the allegations and in consultation with the Compliance Officer and other appropriate individuals, promptly implement interim measures as appropriate to protect the complainant and others as necessary from violation of this policy during the course of the investigation.

Guidelines

Title IX Sexual Harassment Training Requirements

The Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), decision-maker(s), or any individual designated to facilitate an informal resolution process related to Title IX sexual harassment shall receive the following training, as required or appropriate to their specific role.

All training materials shall promote impartial investigations and adjudications of formal complaints of Title IX sexual harassment without relying on sex stereotypes.

All training materials shall be posted on the district's website.

Disciplinary Consequences

An employee who violates this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with the applicable Board policy, collective bargaining agreement and individual contract, up to and including dismissal and/or referral to law enforcement officials.[22] [23][24] [25]

Reports of Discrimination

Any reports of discrimination that are reviewed by the Title IX Coordinator and do not meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment but are based on race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, genetic information, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability shall follow the Discrimination Complaint Procedures in Administrative Guideline 104AG2.

Reports of Title IX Sexual Harassment

Any reports deemed by the Title IX Coordinator to meet the definition of sexual harassment under Title IX shall follow the Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints in Administrative Guideline 104AG3.

Other Reports

Any reports reviewed by the Title IX Coordinator which do not meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment or discrimination of a protected class, will be processed under the relevant Board policy.

Right to an Alternative Complaint Procedure

Nothing in this policy shall deny the right of any individual to pursue other avenues of recourse to address concerns relating to prohibited harassment including initiating civil action, filing a complaint with outside agencies or seeking redress under state or federal law.

Complaint Procedure—Employee/Third Party

Step 1—Reporting

~~An employee or third party who believes s/he has been subject to conduct by any student, employee, or third party that constitutes a violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report the matter to the building principal or supervisor. Any person with knowledge of conduct which may violate this policy is encouraged to immediately report the matter to the building principal or supervisor.~~

~~If the building principal or supervisor is the subject of a complaint, the employee or third party shall report the incident directly to the Compliance Officer. The complainant or reporting employee may be encouraged to use the district's report form available from the building principal, supervisor or Compliance Officer, or to put the complaint in writing; however, oral complaints shall be accepted, documented and the procedures of this policy implemented. The person accepting the verbal or written complaint may provide factual information on the complaint and the investigative process, the impact of choosing to seek confidentiality, and the right to file criminal charges. In all other respects, the person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally, and professionally, setting aside personal biases that might favor or disfavor the complainant or those accused of a violation of this policy.~~

Step 2—Investigation

~~The Compliance Officer shall ensure that the individual assigned to investigate the complaint has an appropriate understanding of the relevant laws pertaining to discrimination issues and this policy and how to conduct investigations.~~

~~The investigator shall work with the Compliance Officer to assess the anticipated scope of the investigation, who needs to be interviewed and what records may be relevant to the investigation.~~

~~The investigator shall conduct an adequate, reliable and impartial investigation. The complainant and the accused may suggest additional witnesses and provide other evidence during the course of the investigation. When the initial complaint involves allegations relating to conduct which took place outside of school or school sponsored activities, the investigation may include inquiries related to these allegations to determine whether they resulted in continuing effects such as harassment in school settings.~~

~~The investigation may consist of individual interviews with the complainant, the accused, and others with knowledge relative to the allegations. The investigator may also evaluate any other information~~

and materials relevant to the investigation. The person reporting the alleged discrimination, parties, parents/guardians, and witnesses shall be informed of the prohibition against retaliation for anyone's participation in the process and that conduct believed to be retaliatory should be reported. All individuals providing statements or other information or participating in the investigation shall be instructed to keep the matter confidential and to report any concerns about confidentiality to the investigator.

If the investigation reveals that the conduct being investigated may involve a violation of criminal law, the investigator shall promptly inform law enforcement authorities about the allegations. [13] [19] [20]

The obligation to conduct this investigation shall not be negated by the fact that a criminal or child protective services investigation of the allegations is pending or has been concluded. The investigator should coordinate with any other ongoing investigations of the allegations, including agreeing to requests for a short delay in fulfilling the district's investigative responsibilities during the fact-finding portion of a criminal or child protective services investigation. Such delays shall not extend beyond the time necessary to prevent interference with or disruption of the criminal or child protective services investigation.

Step 3 — Investigative Report

The investigator shall prepare and submit a written report to the Compliance Officer within twenty (20) days of the initial report of alleged discrimination, unless the nature of the allegations, anticipated extent of the investigation, or the availability of witnesses requires the investigator and the Compliance Officer to establish a different due date. The parties shall be notified of the anticipated date the investigative report will be completed and of any changes to the anticipated due date during the course of the investigation.

The report shall include a summary of the investigation, a determination of whether the complaint has been substantiated as factual, the information and evaluation that formed the basis for this determination, whether the conduct violated this policy, and any other violation of law or Board policy which may warrant further district action, and a recommended disposition of the complaint. An investigation into discriminatory harassment or sexual harassment shall consider the record as a whole and the totality of circumstances in determining whether a violation of this policy has occurred, recognizing that persistent and pervasive conduct, when taken together, may be a violation even when the separate incidents are not severe.

The complainant and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of the investigation, for example, whether the investigator believes the allegations to be founded or unfounded, within a reasonable time of the submission of the written report. The accused shall not be notified of the individual remedies offered or provided to the complainant.

Step 4 — District Action

If the investigation results in a finding that some or all of the allegations of the complaint are established and constitute a violation of this policy, the district shall take prompt, corrective action designed to ensure that such conduct ceases and that no retaliation occurs. The district shall promptly take appropriate steps to prevent the recurrence of the prohibited conduct and to address the discriminatory effect the prohibited conduct had on the complainant and the school or school program environment. District staff shall document the corrective action taken and, where not prohibited by law, inform the complainant. The Compliance Officer shall follow up by assessing the effectiveness of the corrective action at reasonable intervals.

If an investigation results in a finding that a different law or Board policy was violated separately from or in addition to violations of this policy, or that there are circumstances warranting further action, such matters shall be addressed at the conclusion of this investigation or through disciplinary or other appropriate referrals where further evaluation or investigation is necessary.

~~Disciplinary actions shall be consistent with Board policies and administrative regulations, district procedures, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and state and federal laws.~~

Appeal Procedure

- ~~1. If the complainant or the accused is not satisfied with a finding made pursuant to the policy or with the recommended corrective action, s/he may submit a written appeal to the Compliance Officer within fifteen (15) days. If the Compliance Officer investigated the complaint, such appeal shall be made to the Superintendent.~~
- ~~2. The individual receiving the appeal shall review the investigation and the investigative report and may also conduct or designate another person to conduct a reasonable supplemental investigation to assess the sufficiency and propriety of the prior investigation.~~
- ~~3. The person handling the appeal shall prepare a written response to the appeal within twenty (20) days. Copies of the response shall be provided to the complainant, the accused, and the investigator who conducted the initial investigation.~~

Legal

1. 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq
2. 29 U.S.C. 206
3. 29 U.S.C. 621 et seq
4. 29 U.S.C. 794
5. 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq
6. 42 U.S.C. 1981 et seq
7. 42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq
8. 42 U.S.C. 2000ff et seq
9. 43 P.S. 336.3
10. 43 P.S. 951 et seq
11. U.S. Const. Amend. XIV, Equal Protection Clause
12. Pol. 317
13. Pol. 806
14. 29 CFR 1604.11
15. 29 CFR 1606.8
16. EEOC Enforcement Guidance on Harris v. Forklift Sys., Inc., November 9, 1993
17. EEOC Enforcement Guidance on Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors, June 18, 1999
18. EEOC Policy Guidance on Current Issues of Sexual Harassment, March 19, 1990
19. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2709
20. Pol. 815
- 16 PA Code 44.1 et seq
- 28 CFR 35.140
- 28 CFR Part 41
- 29 CFR Parts 1600-1691

**104AG1 DISCRIMINATION/SEXUAL HARASSMENT/RETALIATION
REPORT FORM**

The Board declares it to be the policy of this district to provide a safe, positive learning and working environment that is free from sexual harassment, other discrimination and retaliation. If you have experienced, or if you have knowledge of, any such actions, we encourage you to complete this form. The Title IX Coordinator will be happy to support you by answering any questions about the report form, reviewing the report form for completion and assisting as necessary with completion of the report. The Title IX Coordinator's contact information is:

Position:

Address:

Email:

Phone Number:

Retaliation Prohibited

The district, its employees and others are prohibited from intimidating, threatening, coercing, or discriminating against you for making this report. Please contact the Title IX Coordinator immediately if you believe retaliation has occurred.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations and the filing of a report shall be handled in accordance with Board policy, procedures, and the district's legal and investigative obligations. The school will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the report, consistent with a request for confidentiality as long as doing so does not preclude the school from responding effectively to the report. If you have any questions regarding how the information contained in this report may be used, please discuss them with the Title IX Coordinator prior to filing the report. Once this report is filed, the district has an obligation to investigate the information provided.

Note: For purposes of Title IX sexual harassment, this Report Form serves initially as an informal report, not a formal complaint of Sexual Harassment under Title IX.

I. Information About the Person Making This Report:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Assigned School Building(s):

I am a:

Employee Volunteer Visitor

Other _____ (please explain relationship to the district)

If you are not the victim of the reported conduct, please identify the alleged victim:

Name: _____

The alleged victim is:

Another Employee Student

Other: _____ (please explain relationship to the alleged victim)

II. Information About the Person(s) You Believe is/are Responsible for the Harassment, Retaliation or Other Discrimination You are Reporting

What is/are the name(s) of the individual(s) you believe is/are responsible for the conduct you are reporting?

Name(s):

The reported individual(s) is/are:

Student(s) Employee(s)

Other _____ (please explain relationship to the district)

III. Description of the Conduct You are Reporting

In your own words, please do your best to describe the conduct you are reporting as clearly as possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary:

When did the reported conduct occur? (Please provide the specific date(s) and time(s) if possible):

Where did the reported conduct take place?

Please provide the name(s) of any person(s) who was/were present, even if for only part of the time.

Please provide the name(s) of any other person(s) that may have knowledge or related information surrounding the reported conduct.

Have you reported this conduct to any other individual prior to giving this report?

Yes No

If yes, who did you tell about it?

If you are the victim of the reported conduct, how has this affected you?

I certify that the information I have provided in this complaint is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false information provided herein is subject to penalties contained in 18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Signature of Person Making the Report

Date

Received By

Date

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

This section is to be completed by the Title IX Coordinator based on reviewing the report with the complainant or other individual making the report.

The purpose of this form is to assist the Title IX Coordinator in gathering information necessary to properly assess the circumstances surrounding the reported conduct to determine if the allegations fall under the definition of Title IX sexual harassment or if the matter merits review and action under other Board policies. The Title IX Coordinator shall gather as much information as possible in cases of incomplete or anonymous reports (including those that may be received through the Safe2Say Something program) to assess the report.

Upon receipt of the report, The Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant regarding the report to gather additional information as necessary, and to discuss the availability of supportive measures as described in Policy 104 and 104AG3. The Title IX Coordinator shall consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures.

I. Reporter Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Assigned School Building(s):

Reporter is a:

Employee Volunteer Visitor

Other _____ (please explain relationship to the district)

If the reporter is not the victim of the reported conduct, please identify the alleged victim:

Name: _____

The alleged victim is:

Another Employee Student

Other: _____ (please explain relationship to the alleged victim)

II. Respondent Information

Please provide the name(s) of the individual(s) believed to have conducted the reported violation:

Name(s):

The reported respondent(s) is/are:

- Student(s) Employee(s)
- Other _____ (please explain relationship to the district)

III. Level of Report:

- Informal Formal (see additional information below on Title IX formal complaints)

IV. Type of Report:

- Title IX Sexual Harassment Discrimination Retaliation Other _____

Nature of the Report (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Race | <input type="checkbox"/> Age |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Color | <input type="checkbox"/> Creed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religion | <input type="checkbox"/> Sex |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Harassment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Origin | <input type="checkbox"/> Ancestry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marital Status | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handicap/Disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Genetic Information |

V. Reported Conduct

Describe the reported conduct below, including specific actions, dates, times, locations and any other details necessary to properly assess the reported incident(s).

How often did the conduct occur?

Is it being repeated? Yes No

Do the circumstances involve a student identified as a student with a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act?

No.

Yes, please identify the student with a disability and contact the Director of Special Education.

Date Director of Special Education was contacted: _____

How has the conduct affected the alleged victim's ability to fully participate in the school's programs or activities in the course of school employment?

What is the alleged victim's relationship with the alleged respondent?

Insert names, descriptions, and/or contact information of individuals believed to have observed the conduct or who otherwise may have knowledge of the conduct and/or related circumstances.

Additional observations or evidence including pictures, texts, emails, video or other information submitted to the Title IX Coordinator.

VI. Safety Concerns

Are there safety concerns that may require Emergency Removal or Administrative Leave of a respondent? (This requires an individualized safety and risk analysis as to whether there is an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of an individual.)

No.

Yes, please describe:

VII. Other Reports

Has the conduct been reported to the police or any other agency?

No

Yes Date reported: _____ Agency: _____

VIII. Identification of Policies Implicated by Reported Conduct

Check all that apply:

Policy 103. Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students

Policy 104. Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff

Other _____

To meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment, the conduct must have taken place during a district education program or activity involving a person in the United States. An **education program or activity** includes the locations, events or circumstances over which the district exercises substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs. Title IX applies to all of a district's education programs or activities, whether such programs or activities occur on-campus or off-campus, including conveyance on district provided transportation.

Did the incident occur during a school program or activity involving a person in the United States?

Yes

No

To meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment, the conduct needs to satisfy one or more of the following (please check all that apply):

A district employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or district service on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct, commonly referred to as quid pro quo sexual harassment.

Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to a district education program or activity.

Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking.

Dating violence means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim and where the existence of such a relationship is determined by the following factors:

- Length of relationship.
- Type of relationship.
- Frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Domestic violence includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving federal funding, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

Sexual assault means a sexual offense under a state or federal law that is classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Stalking means stalking on the basis of sex, for example when the stalker desires to date a victim. Stalking means to engage in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to either:

1. Fear for their safety or the safety of others.
2. Suffer substantial emotional distress.

IX. Recommended Course of Action

After consultation with the complainant and consideration of the reported information, the Title IX Coordinator directs the report to proceed under the provisions of (check all that apply):

No further action at this time. Reason:

Policy 104 Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff: 104AG2
Discrimination Complaint Procedures

Policy 104. Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff: 104AG3: Title IX
Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints

Other _____

X. Title IX Information to Complainant

What supportive measures were discussed with the complainant, and what were the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures?

Upon designating a course of action under Title IX sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator will promptly:

1. Explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint.
2. Inform the complainant of the continued availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint.
3. Determine what supportive measures may be offered to the respondent.
4. Determine whether the complainant wishes this report to be treated as a formal complaint.

XI. Title IX Coordinator Signature

I recommend the above course of action based on my consultation with the complainant and the information available at this time.

Title IX Coordinator: _____

Date: _____

XII. Title IX Formal Complaint Action

The Title IX Coordinator shall have the complainant check the appropriate box and sign and date below to indicate whether or not the complainant wishes to have this form serve as a formal complaint pursuant to Title IX.

I would like my report to be treated as a formal complaint of sexual harassment pursuant to Title IX.

Yes No

Complainant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

If the complainant does not wish this report to be treated as a formal complaint pursuant to Title IX, the Title IX Coordinator must assess whether actions limited to supportive measures are a sufficient response to alleged behavior, or whether instead a formal complaint process is necessary to investigate and address the situation adequately. For example, if disciplinary action would be warranted if allegations are true, if the respondent is a supervisor, or if further investigation is needed to assess the extent of the behavior and impact on others, it may be clearly unreasonable not to initiate the formal complaint process. The Title IX Coordinator may consult with the school solicitor and other district official in making this decision.

As Title IX Coordinator, I have determined that, notwithstanding the complainant's preference, it is necessary to proceed with the Grievance Process for Formal Complaints for the following reasons:

Therefore, I am signing this form for the purpose of serving as the formal complaint initiating that process:

Title IX Coordinator's Signature: _____

Date: _____



Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Discrimination Complaint Procedures - staff - new
Code	104AG2
Status	Review

DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

All reports of discrimination and retaliation brought pursuant to the district's discrimination policy shall also be reviewed for conduct which may not be proven discriminatory under Policy 104 but merits review and possible action under other Board policies or the Code of Student Conduct for students.

Definitions

Complainant shall mean an individual who is alleged to be the victim.

Respondent shall mean an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of the alleged conduct.

Discrimination shall mean to treat individuals differently, or to harass or victimize based on a protected classification including race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, or handicap/disability.

Harassment is a form of discrimination based on the protected classifications listed in the policy consisting of unwelcome conduct such as graphic, written, electronic, verbal or nonverbal acts including offensive jokes, slurs, epithets and name-calling, ridicule or mockery, insults or put-downs, offensive objects or pictures, physical assaults or threats, intimidation, or other conduct that may be harmful or humiliating or interfere with a person's school or school-related work performance, including when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an employee's status; or
2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for employment-related decisions affecting an employee; or
3. Such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that a reasonable person in the complainant's position would find that it unreasonably interferes with the complainant's performance at work or otherwise creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment such that it alters the complainant's working conditions.

Retaliation shall mean actions including, but not limited to, intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against a victim or other person because they report discrimination or harassment,

participate in an investigation or other process addressing discrimination or harassment, or act in opposition to discriminatory practices.

Reasonable Accommodations

Throughout the discrimination complaint procedures, the district shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and intellectual impairments that constitute disabilities for all parties, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations and Board policy.

Required Reporting Under Other Policies

In addition to implementing the disciplinary complaint procedures, the building principal, building administrator or Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall ensure that reported conduct which meets the definition of other laws, regulations or Board policies, is also appropriately addressed in accordance with the applicable laws, regulations or Board policies, including but not limited to, incidents under the Safe Schools Act, reports of educator misconduct, threats, or reports of suspected child abuse.

Timeframes

Reasonably prompt timeframes shall be established for completing each step of the discrimination complaint procedures, including timeframes for filing and resolving appeals.

The established timeframes included in these procedures may be adjusted to allow for a temporary delay or a limited extension of time for good cause. Written notice of the delay or extension and the reason for such action shall be provided to the complainant and the respondent, and documented with the records of the complaint. Good cause may include, but is not limited to, considerations such as:

1. The absence of a party or a witness.
2. Concurrent law enforcement activity.
3. Need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities.

PROCEDURES FOR COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION

Step 1 – Reporting

An employee or individual who believes they have been subject to discrimination by any district student, employee or third party is encouraged to immediately report the incident to the building principal using the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form or by making a general report verbally or in writing to the building principal or building administrator. A person who is not an intended victim or target of discrimination but is adversely affected by the offensive conduct may file a report of discrimination.

If a student is identified as a party in the report, parents/guardians have the right to act on behalf of the student.

Any person with knowledge of discrimination in violation of Board policy or this procedure is encouraged to immediately report the matter to the building principal or building administrator.

The building principal or building administrator shall immediately notify the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator of the reported discrimination.

If the building principal or building administrator is the subject of a complaint, the person making the report shall report the incident directly to the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator.

The complainant or reporting individual shall be encouraged to use the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form; however, complaints shall be accepted in person, by telephone,

by mail or email, or by any other means that results in the appropriate individual receiving the individual's verbal or written report. Verbal reports shall be documented using the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form, and these procedures shall be implemented.

The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall review reports and complaints, and may gather additional information from the individual submitting the report and other parties identified in the report using the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form. The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant regarding the report to gather additional information as necessary.

The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall conduct an assessment to determine whether the reported circumstances are most appropriately addressed through the Discrimination Complaint Procedures prescribed in this administrative guideline, or if the reported circumstances meet the definition and parameters of Title IX sexual harassment and are most appropriately addressed through the Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints in 104AG3, or other applicable Board policies.

If the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator determines that the report should be addressed through the discrimination complaint procedures, the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall be notified and the complaint procedures in this administrative guideline implemented.

When a party is an identified student with a disability, or thought to be a student with a disability, the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall notify the Director of Special Education and coordinate to determine whether additional steps must be taken for the party, while the discrimination complaint procedures are implemented.

Step 2 – Initial Communications

The complainant shall be informed about the Board's policy on discrimination, including the right to an investigation of both verbal and written reports of discrimination.

The building principal, building administrator or designee, in consultation with the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator, where appropriate may implement appropriate measures to protect the complainant and others if necessary during the course of the investigation.

The building principal, building administrator or designee may provide to the complainant factual information on the complaint and the investigative process, the impact of choosing to seek confidentiality and the right to file criminal charges. The person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally and professionally.

The building principal or Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall provide relevant information on resources available in addition to the discrimination complaint procedure, such as making reports to the police, available assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs and community health resources, including counseling resources.

Informal Remedies -

At any time after a complaint has been reported, if the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator believes the circumstances are appropriate, the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator may, but is not required to, offer the parties involved in the complaint the opportunity to participate in informal remedies to address the reported conduct. Informal remedies can take many forms, depending on the particular case. Examples include, but are not limited to, mediation, facilitated discussions between the parties, acknowledgment of responsibility by a respondent, apologies, a requirement to engage in specific services such as an Employee Assistance Program, or other measures to support the parties.

If the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the parties, the district employee facilitating the informal remedies shall document the nature of the complaint and the proposed resolution of the

matter, have both parties sign the documentation to indicate agreement with the resolution and receive a copy, and forward it to the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator.

The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall contact the complainant to determine if the resolution was effective and to monitor the agreed upon remedies, and shall document all appropriate actions.

*If the informal remedies result in the final resolution of the complaint, the following steps are not applicable.

Step 3 – Investigation

The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall assess whether the investigation should be conducted by the building principal, building administrator another district employee, the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator or an attorney and shall promptly assign the investigation to that individual.

The investigator shall assess the anticipated scope of the investigation, who needs to be interviewed and what records or evidence may be relevant to the investigation.

The investigator shall conduct an adequate, reliable and impartial investigation. The complainant and the respondent may suggest additional witnesses and provide other evidence during the course of the investigation.

The investigation may consist of individual interviews with the complainant, the respondent, and others with knowledge relative to the allegations. The investigator may also evaluate any other information and materials relevant to the investigation. The person making the report, parties, parents/guardians, if applicable, and witnesses shall be informed of the prohibition against retaliation for anyone's participation in the process and that conduct believed to be retaliatory should be reported. All individuals providing statements or other information or participating in the investigation shall be instructed to keep the matter confidential and to report any concerns about confidentiality to the investigator.

If the investigation reveals that the conduct being investigated may involve a violation of criminal law, the investigator shall promptly notify the law enforcement authorities about the allegations in accordance with existing policies.

The obligation to conduct this investigation shall not be negated by the fact that a criminal or child protective services investigation of the allegations is pending or has been concluded. The investigator should coordinate with any other ongoing investigations of the allegations, including agreeing to requests for a delay in fulfilling the district's investigative responsibilities during the fact-finding portion of a criminal or child protective services investigation. Such delays shall not extend beyond the time necessary to prevent interference with or disruption of the criminal or child protective services investigation, and the reason for such delay shall be documented by the investigator.

Step 4 – Investigative Report

The investigator shall prepare and submit a written report to the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator within thirty (30) school days of the initial report of alleged discrimination, unless the nature of the allegations, anticipated extent of the investigation or the availability of witnesses requires the investigator and the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator to establish a different due date. The parties shall be notified of the anticipated date the investigative report will be completed and of any changes to the anticipated due date during the course of the investigation.

The investigative report shall include a summary of the investigation, a determination of whether the complaint has been substantiated as factual, the information and evaluation that formed the basis for this determination, whether the conduct violated Board Policy 104 and of any other violations of law or Board policy which may warrant further district action, and a recommended disposition of the complaint. An investigation into discrimination shall consider the record as a whole and the totality of

circumstances in determining whether a violation of Board policy has occurred, recognizing that persistent and pervasive conduct, when taken together, may be a violation even when the separate incidents are not severe.

The complainant and the respondent shall be informed of the outcome of the investigation, including the recommended disposition, within a reasonable time of the submission of the written investigative report, to the extent authorized by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and other applicable laws.

Step 5 – District Action

If the investigation results in a finding that some or all of the allegations of the discrimination complaint are founded and constitute a violation of Board policy, the district shall take prompt, corrective action designed to ensure that such conduct ceases and that no retaliation occurs. The district shall promptly take appropriate steps to prevent the recurrence of the prohibited conduct and to address the discriminatory effect the prohibited conduct had on the complainant and the district education program or activity. District staff shall document the corrective action taken and, where not prohibited by law, inform the complainant. The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall follow up by assessing the effectiveness of the corrective action at reasonable intervals.

If an investigation results in a finding that a different policy was violated separately from or in addition to violations of Policy 104 or these procedures, or that there are circumstances warranting further action, such matters shall be addressed at the conclusion of this investigation or through disciplinary or other appropriate referrals where further evaluation or investigation is necessary.

Disciplinary actions shall be consistent with Board policies and administrative regulations, the Code of Student Conduct for students, district procedures, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and state and federal laws and regulations.

Appeal Procedure

If the complainant or the respondent is not satisfied with a finding made pursuant to these procedures or with recommended corrective action, they may submit a written appeal to the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator within fifteen (15) school days of receiving notification of the outcome of the investigation. If the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator investigated the complaint, such appeal shall be made to the Superintendent.

The individual receiving the appeal shall review the investigation and the investigative report and may also conduct or designate another person to conduct a reasonable supplemental investigation to assess the sufficiency and propriety of the prior investigation.

The person handling the appeal shall prepare a written response to the appeal within twenty (20) school days.

Copies of the response shall be provided to the complainant, the respondent and the investigator who conducted the initial investigation.



Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints - new
Code	104AG3
Status	Review

Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures and Grievance Process for Formal Complaints

Definitions

Actual knowledge means notice of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment to the district's Title IX Coordinator or any district official who has the authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the district, or to any employee of an elementary and secondary school, other than the respondent.

Exculpatory evidence means evidence tending to exonerate the accused or helps to establish their innocence.

Inculpatory evidence means evidence tending to incriminate the accused or indicate their guilt.

Formal complaint means a document filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging Title IX sexual harassment and requesting that the district investigate the allegation. The authority for the Title IX Coordinator to sign a formal complaint does not make the Title IX Coordinator the complainant or other party during the grievance process. The phrase "**document filed by a complainant**" refers to a document or electronic submission that contains the complainant's physical or digital signature, or otherwise indicates that the complainant is the person filing the formal complaint.

Retaliation shall mean actions including, but not limited to, intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against a victim or other person because they report conduct that may constitute Title IX sexual harassment, in accordance with Board policy and procedures, participate in an investigation or other process addressing Title IX sexual harassment, or act in opposition to discriminatory practices.

The following actions shall not constitute retaliation:

1. An individual exercising free speech under the rights protected by the First Amendment.
2. The assignment of consequences consistent with Board policy when an individual knowingly makes a materially false statement in bad faith in an investigation. The fact that the charges of discrimination were unfounded or unsubstantiated shall not be the sole reason to conclude that any party made a materially false statement in bad faith.

Supportive measures mean nondisciplinary, nonpunitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the complainant or the respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed.

Supportive measures shall be designed to restore or preserve equal access to the education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the educational environment, or to deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may include, but are not limited to:

1. Counseling or Employee Assistance Program.
2. Extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments.
3. Modifications of work or class schedules.
4. Campus escort services.
5. Mutual restrictions on contact between the parties.
6. Changes in work locations.
7. Leaves of absence.
8. Increased security.
9. Monitoring of certain areas of the campus.
10. Assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs.
11. Assistance from community health resources including counseling resources.

Title IX sexual harassment means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

1. A district employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or district service on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct, commonly referred to as quid pro quo sexual harassment.
2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to a district education program or activity.
3. Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking.

a. **Dating Violence** means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim and where the existence of such a relationship is determined by the following factors:

- Length of relationship.
- Type of relationship.
- Frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

b. **Domestic violence** includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving federal funding, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

c. **Sexual assault** means an offense classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

d. **Stalking**, under Title IX means stalking on the basis of sex, for example when the stalker desires to date a victim. Stalking means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to either:

- Fear for their safety or the safety of others.
- Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Such conduct must have taken place during a district education program or activity and against a person in the United States to qualify as sexual harassment subject to Title IX regulations. An **education program or activity** includes the locations, events or circumstances over which the district exercises substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the harassment occurs.

TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT PROCEDURES

General Response – (with or without a formal complaint).

Any person, whether the alleged victim or not, may report Title IX sexual harassment using the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form or by making a general report verbally or in writing to the building principal or building administrator, or by using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report. Upon receipt of a report, school staff shall immediately notify the building principal or building administrator.

A report may be made at any time, including during nonbusiness hours. Verbal reports shall be documented by the Title IX Coordinator or employee receiving the report using the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form, and these procedures shall be implemented appropriately.

District staff who become aware of harassment or other discrimination affecting a staff member shall promptly report it to the building principal or building administrator.

If a student is identified as a party in the report, parents/guardians have the right to act on behalf of the student at any time.

When the district has actual knowledge of Title IX sexual harassment, the district is required to respond promptly and in a manner, that is not deliberately indifferent, meaning not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances.

All sexual harassment reports and complaints received by the building principal or building administrator shall be promptly directed to the Title IX Coordinator, in accordance with Board policy. The Title IX Coordinator shall use the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form to gather additional information from the reporter and/or other parties identified in the report, to determine if the allegations meet the definition and parameters for Title IX sexual harassment.

The Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant regarding the report to gather additional information as necessary, and to discuss the availability of supportive measures. The Title IX Coordinator shall consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures.

The Title IX Coordinator shall initially assess whether the reported conduct:

1. Meets the definition of Title IX sexual harassment.
2. Occurred in a district program or activity under the control of the district and against a person in the United States.
3. Involves other Board policies or the Code of Student Conduct.
4. Indicates, based on an individualized safety and risk analysis, that there is an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of an individual.
5. Involves a student identified as a student with a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

If the result of this initial assessment determines that none of the allegations fall within the scope of Title IX sexual harassment, but the matter merits review and possible action under other Board policies, the Code of Student Conduct or 104AG 2 addressing Discrimination Complaints, then the

Title IX Coordinator shall redirect the report to the appropriate administrator to address the allegations.

If the result of the initial assessment determines that the allegations may constitute Title IX sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator shall promptly explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint and inform the complainant of the continued availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint.

The Title IX Coordinator shall also determine what supportive measures may be offered to the respondent.

If any party is an identified student with a disability, or thought to be disabled, the Title IX Coordinator shall contact the Director of Special Education to coordinate the required actions in accordance with Board policy.

Confidentiality regarding the supportive measures offered and the identity of the following individuals shall be maintained, except as may be permitted by law or regulations relating to the conduct of any investigation:

1. Individuals making a report or formal complaint.
2. Complainant(s).
3. Respondent(s).
4. Witnesses.

The district shall treat complainants and respondents equitably by:

1. Offering supportive measures to the complainant and may offer such measures to the respondent.
2. Following the grievance process for formal complaints before imposing disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures on the respondent.

Supportive Measures -

All supportive measures provided by the district shall remain confidential, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the district to provide the supportive measures.

When a party is an identified student with a disability, or thought to be a student with a disability, the Title IX Coordinator shall notify the Director of Special Education and coordinate to determine whether additional steps must be taken as supportive measures for the party while the Title IX procedures are implemented.

Reasonable Accommodations –

Throughout the Title IX sexual harassment procedures, the district shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and intellectual impairments that constitute disabilities for any party, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations and Board policy.

Employee Disciplinary Procedures When Reports Allege Title IX Sexual Harassment -

When reports allege Title IX sexual harassment, disciplinary sanctions may not be imposed until the completion of the grievance process for formal complaints. The district shall presume that the respondent is not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination has been made at the completion of the grievance process for formal complaints.

Administrative Leave –

When an employee, based on an individualized safety and risk analysis, poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of any student or other individual, the employee may be removed on an emergency basis.

An accused, nonstudent, district employee may be placed on administrative leave during the pendency of the grievance process for formal complaints, consistent with all rights under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, and in accordance with state law and regulations, Board policy and an applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual contract.

Required Reporting Under Other Policies -

In addition to implementing the Title IX sexual harassment procedures, the Title IX Coordinator shall ensure that reported conduct which meets the definition of other laws, regulations or Board policies, is also appropriately addressed in accordance with the applicable laws, regulations or Board policies, including but not limited to, incidents under the Safe Schools Act, reports of educator misconduct, threats, or reports of suspected child abuse.

Timeframes

Reasonably prompt timeframes shall be established for the conclusion of the grievance process for formal complaints, including timeframes for the informal resolution process and timeframes for filing and resolving appeals.

The established timeframes included in these procedures may be adjusted to allow for a temporary delay or a limited extension of time for good cause. Written notice of the delay or extension and the reason for such action shall be provided to the complainant and the respondent, and documented with the records of the complaint. Good cause may include, but is not limited to, considerations such as:

1. The absence of a party, a party's advisor or a witness.
2. Concurrent law enforcement activity.
3. Need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities.

Redirection or Dismissal of Title IX Formal Complaints

Formal complaints may be dismissed, if at any time during the investigation or written determination steps described below:

1. A complainant provides written notification of withdrawal of any allegations or of the formal complaint.
2. The respondent is no longer enrolled or employed by the district in a district program or activity.
3. Specific circumstances prevent the district from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations.

Only alleged conduct that occurred in the district's education program or activity, and against a person in the United States, may qualify as Title IX sexual harassment within the district's jurisdiction. If it is determined during the investigation or written determination steps below that none of the allegations, if true, would meet the definition and parameters of Title IX sexual harassment within the district's jurisdiction, the Title IX Coordinator shall dismiss the formal complaint under Title IX. If the matter merits review and possible action under other Board policies,

the Code of Student Conduct or 104AG2 addressing Discrimination Complaints, then the Title IX Coordinator shall redirect the report to the appropriate administrator to address the allegations.

Written notification shall be promptly issued to the parties simultaneously of any allegations found not to qualify or that are dismissed in compliance with Title IX. Written notification shall state whether the allegations will continue to be addressed pursuant to other Board policies, the Code of Student Conduct or 104AG2 addressing Discrimination Complaints.

A dismissal may be appealed via the appeal procedures set forth in this administrative guideline.

Consolidation of Title IX Formal Complaints

The district may consolidate formal complaints against more than one (1) respondent, or by more than one (1) complainant against one or more respondents, or by one (1) individual against another individual, where the allegations of sexual harassment arise out of the same facts or circumstances.

GRIEVANCE PROCESS FOR FORMAL COMPLAINTS

Step 1 – Formal Complaint

The district is required to initiate the grievance process for formal complaints when a complainant files a formal complaint. The Title IX Coordinator is also authorized to initiate this process despite a complainant's wishes when actions limited to supportive measures are not a sufficient response to alleged behavior, or when a formal complaint process is necessary to investigate and address the situation adequately. For example, if disciplinary action would be warranted if allegations are true, if the respondent is a supervisor, or if further investigation is needed to assess the extent of the behavior and impact on others, it may be clearly unreasonable not to initiate the formal complaint process. Only the Title IX Coordinator is authorized to initiate the formal complaint process despite a complainant's wishes, but the Title IX Coordinator may consult with the school solicitor and other district officials in making this decision.

The complainant or the Title IX Coordinator shall use the designated section of the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Retaliation Report Form to file or sign a formal complaint.

The Title IX Coordinator shall assess whether the investigation should be conducted by the building principal, another district employee, the Title IX Coordinator or an attorney and shall promptly assign the investigation to that individual.

The Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, or any individual designated to facilitate the informal resolution process; each must have completed the required training for such roles as designated in Board policy and shall not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against an individual complainant or respondent, or for or against complainants or respondents in general.

The respondent shall be presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct until a written determination regarding responsibility has been made at the conclusion of the grievance process for formal complaints.

Notice Requirements -

Upon receipt of a formal complaint, or when the Title IX Coordinator signs a formal complaint to initiate the grievance process for formal complaints, the Title IX Coordinator shall provide written notice to all known parties, and the parents/guardians of known parties if applicable, providing the following information:

1. Notice of the district's grievance process for formal complaints and any informal resolution process that may be available.

2. Notice of the allegations potentially constituting Title IX sexual harassment, including sufficient details known at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview. Sufficient details include:
 - a. The identity of the parties involved, if known.
 - b. The conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment.
 - c. The date and location of the alleged incident(s), if known.
3. A statement that a written determination regarding responsibility shall be made at the conclusion of the grievance process for formal complaints and, until that time, the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct.
4. Notice that parties may have an advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney. The advisor may inspect and review evidence.
5. Notice that Board policy and the district's Code of Student Conduct prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information to school officials in connection with reports of misconduct or discrimination complaints.
6. Notice to all known parties of any additional allegations that the district decides to investigate during the course of the investigation.

Step 2 – Informal Resolution Process

The informal resolution process shall not be offered or used to facilitate a resolution for any formal complaint where the allegations state that an employee sexually harassed a student.

At any time after a formal complaint has been filed, but prior to reaching a determination of responsibility, if the Title IX Coordinator believes the circumstances are appropriate, the Title IX Coordinator may offer the parties the opportunity to participate in an informal resolution process, which does not involve a full investigation and adjudication of the Title IX sexual harassment complaint.

The district 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 Title IX sexual harassment complaints. Similarly, a district may not require the parties to participate in an informal resolution process.

Informal resolutions can take many forms, depending on the particular case. Examples include, but are not limited to, mediation, facilitated discussions between the parties, acknowledgment of responsibility by a respondent, apologies, a requirement to engage in specific services such as an Employee Assistance Program, or supportive measures.

When offering an informal resolution process, the Title IX Coordinator shall:

1. Provide the parties a written notice disclosing the following:
 - a. The allegations.
 - b. 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 for formal complaints.

- c. Any consequences resulting from participating in the informal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained or could be shared.
2. Obtain the parties' voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution process. As part of the consent process, all parties shall be informed of the rights being waived by agreeing to the informal resolution process, and shall acknowledge such agreement in writing.
3. The informal resolution process shall be conducted within ten (10) school day of the parties' signed agreement for the informal resolution process.

If the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the parties, the district employee facilitating the informal resolution process shall document the nature of the complaint and the proposed resolution of the matter, have both parties sign the documentation and receive a copy, and forward it to the Title IX Coordinator. Within twenty (20) school days after the complaint is resolved in this manner, the Title IX Coordinator shall contact the complainant to determine if the resolution was effective and to monitor the agreed upon remedies. The Title IX Coordinator shall document the informal resolution process, responses from all parties, and an explanation of why the district's response was not deliberately indifferent to the reported complaint of sexual harassment.

***If Step 2 Informal Resolution Process results in the final resolution of the complaint, the following steps are not applicable.**

Step 3 – Investigation

The designated investigator, if other than the Title IX Coordinator, shall work with the Title IX Coordinator to assess the scope of the investigation, who needs to be interviewed and what records or evidence may be relevant to the investigation. The investigation stage shall be concluded within thirty (30) days.

When investigating a formal complaint, the investigator shall:

1. Bear the burden of proof, gather evidence, and conduct interviews sufficient to reach a written determination. During the process of gathering evidence, unless the district obtains the voluntary, written consent of the party, or the party's parent/guardian when legally required, the district cannot access, consider, disclose or otherwise use a party's records which are protected by legal privilege, such as those records 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 providing treatment to the party.
2. Objectively evaluate all available evidence, including inculpatory and exculpatory evidence.
3. Provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence.
4. Not restrict the ability of either party to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence.

However, the district may request a nondisclosure agreement be signed by the parties and their advisor(s), if any, stating that they will not disseminate or disclose evidence and documents exchanged in the investigation.

5. Provide the parties with the same opportunities to have others present during any interview or other meeting, including an advisor of the party's choice. The district may establish restrictions,

applicable to both parties, regarding the extent to which the advisor may participate.

6. Provide written notice to any party whose participation is invited or expected during the investigation process with the following information, in sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate:
 - a. Date.
 - b. Time.
 - c. Location.
 - d. Participants.
 - e. Purpose of all investigative interviews or other meetings.
7. 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, including evidence the district does not intend to rely on to reach a determination regarding responsibility and any inculpatory and exculpatory evidence, whether obtained from a party or other source.

If at any point the investigation expands to include additional allegations that were not included in the initial notice provided upon initiation of the grievance process for formal complaints, the investigator shall alert the Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator shall provide written notice of the new allegations to the known parties.

Prior to the completion of the investigative report, the investigator shall:

1. Send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the evidence subject to inspection and review in electronic or hard copy format.
2. Provide the parties at least ten (10) school days following receipt of the evidence to submit a written response.
3. Consider the written response prior to drafting the investigative report.

The investigator shall draft an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence and shall provide the investigative report to all parties and to the designated decision-maker.

If the investigation reveals that the conduct being investigated may involve a violation of criminal law, the investigator shall promptly inform law enforcement authorities about the allegations, make any additional required reports, in accordance with law, regulations, and Board policy.

The obligation to conduct this investigation shall not be negated by the fact that a criminal or child protective services investigation of the allegations is pending or has been concluded. The investigator should coordinate with any other ongoing investigations of the allegations, including agreeing to request for a delay in fulfilling the district's investigative responsibilities during the fact-finding portion of a criminal or child protective services investigation. Such delays shall not extend beyond the time necessary to prevent interference with or disruption of the criminal or child protective services investigation and the reason for such delay shall be documented by the investigator.

In the course of an investigation, it is possible that conduct other than, or in addition to, Title IX sexual harassment may be identified as part of the same incident or set of circumstances. The fact that there may be Title IX sexual harassment involved does not preclude the district from addressing other identified violations of Board policy or the Code of Student Conduct. If such other conduct is being investigated and addressed together with Title IX sexual harassment as part of the Title IX

grievance process for formal complaints, disciplinary action normally should not be imposed until the completion of the Title IX grievance process for formal complaints; however, an employee may be placed on administrative leave in accordance with the provisions of this administrative guideline. A decision whether and when to take disciplinary action should be made in consultation with the school solicitor.

Step 4 – Written Determination and District Action

Designation of Decision-Maker -

To avoid any conflict of interest or bias, the decision-maker cannot be the same person as the Title IX Coordinator or the investigator. The responsibility as the decision-maker for complaints of Title IX sexual harassment shall generally be designated to the Assistant Superintendent.

If the Assistant Superintendent has a conflict of interest or is a party in the formal complaint process, they shall disclose the conflict and the Title IX Coordinator shall designate another individual to serve as the decision-maker.

Written Determination Submissions -

A written determination of responsibility (written determination) must not be finalized less than ten (10) days after the investigator completes the investigative report and provides it to all parties. Before the decision-maker reaches a determination regarding responsibility, the decision-maker shall afford each party the opportunity to submit written, relevant questions that a party wants to be asked of any party or witness, shall provide each party with the answers, and shall allow for additional, limited follow-up questions from each party.

Relevant questions for a party or witness must be submitted by each party within three (3) school days following receipt of the investigative report. Follow-up questions must be submitted by each party within three (3) school days of being provided the answers to the initial questions.

Questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant as part of the follow-up questions and responses, 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 shall explain to the party proposing the questions about any decision to exclude a question as not relevant.

Written Determination -

The decision-maker must issue a written determination for the conduct alleged in formal complaints. To reach this determination, the decision-maker shall apply the preponderance of the evidence standard, meaning that the party bearing the burden of proof must present evidence which is more credible and convincing than that presented by the other party or which shows that the fact to be proven is more probable than not.

In considering evidence, the decision-maker shall ensure credibility determinations are not based on an individual's status as a complainant, respondent or witness.

After considering all relevant evidence, the decision-maker shall issue a written determination that includes:

1. Identification of the allegations potentially constituting Title IX sexual harassment.

2. A description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt or signing of the formal complaint through the written determination, including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, and methods used to gather other evidence.
3. Findings of fact supporting the determination.
4. Conclusions regarding the application of the district's Board policies or Code of Student Conduct to the facts.
5. A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including:
 - a. Determination regarding responsibility.
 - b. Disciplinary sanctions.
 - c. Remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the district's education program or activity that will be provided by the district to the complainant. Such remedies may be punitive or disciplinary and need not avoid burdening the respondent.
6. The procedures, deadline and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal.

The written determination shall be provided to the parties simultaneously. The determination becomes final either:

1. On the date that the district provides the parties with the written decision of the result of the appeal, if an appeal is filed;
2. Or, if an appeal is not filed, on the date on which an appeal would no longer be considered timely, in accordance with the timeframe established for appeals in the administrative guidelines.

The Title IX Coordinator shall be responsible to ensure that any remedies are implemented by the appropriate district officials and for following up as needed to assess the effectiveness of such remedies. Disciplinary actions shall be consistent with Board policies and administrative regulations, the Code of Student Conduct, district procedures, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and state and federal laws and regulations, including specific requirements and provisions for students with disabilities.

Appeal Process

Districts must offer both parties the right to appeal a determination of responsibility and the right to appeal the district's dismissal of a Title IX formal complaint or any allegation in the Title IX formal complaint. The scope of appeals related to Title IX sexual harassment are limited to the following reasons for appeal as stated in the Title IX regulations:

1. A procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter.
2. New evidence that could affect the outcome was not reasonably available at the time the decision to dismiss or determination of responsibility was made.
3. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against the individual complainant or respondent or for or against complainants or respondents generally that affected the outcome of the matter.

Written notice of a party's appeal shall be submitted to the Title IX Coordinator within five (5) school days after the date of the written determination. Notice of appeal shall include a brief statement

describing the basis for the appeal.

The Title IX Coordinator shall ensure that the designated appeal authority is not the same person as the decision-maker that reached the determination, the investigator, or the Title IX Coordinator. The designated appeal authority shall be the Superintendent.

For all appeals, the designated appeal authority shall:

1. Provide written notice to the other party when notice of an appeal is filed and implement appeal procedures equally for both parties.
2. Provide both parties a reasonable, equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of or challenging the stated basis for the appeal. Supporting statements shall describe in detail as applicable the procedural irregularities asserted to have affected the outcome of the determination, the nature of any new evidence asserted to have affected the outcome, and the nature of any bias asserted to have affected the outcome, with an explanation of how the outcome was affected by such factors. If evidence exists supporting the basis for appeal, it shall accompany the supporting statement, or it shall identify where such evidence may be found.

Supporting statements must be submitted to the appeal authority and provided to the other party within five (5) school days of the written notice of appeal.

Statements in opposition to the appeal shall be submitted within five (5) school days of the submission of supporting statements. If a statement in opposition to an appeal refers to any evidence beyond what is described in a supporting statement, it shall accompany the statement in opposition, or it shall identify where such evidence may be found.

The appeal authority may accept and consider evidence in support of or in opposition to an appeal in making any conclusions necessary to deciding the appeal. Alternatively, when the appeal authority determines that factors exist making it necessary for the decision-maker to further develop the evidentiary record relevant to the basis for appeal, the appeal authority may return the matter to the decision-maker for that limited purpose.

3. Determine whether the appeal meets the grounds for permitted reasons for appeal and justifies modifying the written determination.
4. Issue a written decision setting forth the respects, if any, in which the written determination is modified and the rationale for the result within twenty (20) school days.
5. Provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties. A copy of the written decision shall also be provided to the Title IX Coordinator.

Recordkeeping

The district shall maintain the following records for a period of a minimum of seven (7) years after the conclusion of procedures and implementation of disciplinary sanctions and/or remedies, or in the case of a complainant or respondent who is a minor, until the expiration of the longest statute of limitations for filing a civil suit applicable to any allegation:

1. Each Title IX sexual harassment investigation, including any written determination and any audio or audiovisual recording or transcript, and disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent, and any remedies provided to the complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the district's education program or activity.

2. Any appeal and the result.
3. Any informal resolution and the result.
4. All materials used to train the Title IX Coordinator, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process.
5. Records of any district actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of Title IX sexual harassment. In each instance, the district shall document the basis for its conclusion that its response was not deliberately indifferent, and document that it has taken measures designed to restore or preserve equal access to the district's education program or activity. If a district does not provide a complainant with supportive measures, then the district must document the reasons why such a response was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances. The documentation of certain bases or measures does not limit the district in the future from providing additional explanations or detailing additional measures taken.