Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District  
Human Resources Office  

I have read and will abide by the following Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District Board Policies and Administrative Regulations:

*Initial next to each Board Policy/Administrative Regulation/Exhibit listed and sign below:*

_____ Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting Procedures (for all employees)
  • Board Policy 5141.4 (adopted: February 27, 2003; revised: July 14, 2005)
  • Administrative Regulation 5141.4 (approved: July 26, 2007; revised: October 13, 2011)

_____ Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment (for all employees)
  • Board Policy 4031 (approved February 8, 2001; revised July 22, 2010)
  • Administrative Regulation 4031 (approved: February 8, 2001; revised: July 22, 2010)

_____ Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace (for all employees)
  • Board Policy 4020 (adopted: February 8, 2001; revised: September 21, 2011)

_____ Employee Use of Technology (for all employees)
  • Board Policy 4040 (adopted: February 7, 2002; revised: January 24, 2008)
  • Administrative Regulation 4040 (approved: February 7, 2002; revised: January 24, 2008)
  • Employee Acceptable Use Agreement for Technology & Electronic Resources 2014-15

_____ Nondiscrimination in Employment (for all employees)
  • Board Policy 4030 (adopted: February 26, 2004; revised: April 11, 2013)
  • Administrative Regulation 4030 (approved: February 8, 2001)

_____ Professional Standards (for certificated employees only)
  • Board Policy 4119.21 (adopted: February 8, 2001; revised: April 4, 2002; revised: February 11, 2010; revised: February 28, 2013)
  • Code of Ethics of the Education Profession (version: April 4, 2002)

_____ Professional Standards (for classified employees only)
  • Board Policy 4219.21 adopted February 8, 2001; revised: April 4, 2002; revised: February 28, 2013)
  • Code of Ethics – Classified Employees (version: February 8, 2010)

_____ Professional Standards (for management employees only)
  • Board Policy 4319.21 adopted February 8, 2001; revised: April 4, 2002; revised: February 28, 2013)
  • California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders – Management Employees (version: February 28, 2013)
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Board Policy/Regulations</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sexual Harassment (for certificated employees only)</td>
<td>• Board Policy 4119.11 (adopted: October 27, 2005)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sexual Harassment (for classified employees only)</td>
<td>• Board Policy 4219.11 (adopted: October 27, 2005)</td>
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<td>Sexual Harassment (for management employees only)</td>
<td>• Board Policy 4319.11 (adopted: October 27, 2005)</td>
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<td>Sexual Harassment – Students (for all employees)</td>
<td>• Board Policy 5145.7 (adopted: March 8, 2001; revised: November 8, 2012)</td>
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<td>Tobacco-Free Schools (for all employees)</td>
<td>• Board Policy 3513.3 (adopted: October 23, 2003; revised: September 8, 2011)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uniform Complaint Procedures (for all employees)</td>
<td>• Board Policy 1312.3 (adopted: October 23, 2003; revised: March 14, 2013)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Print Name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
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A copy of this signature sheet and the Board Policies/Regulations noted above are on the District website at:

http://www.pvpusd.k12.ca.us/staff/policies/
**Palos Verdes Peninsula USD | BP 5141.4 Students**

**Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting**

**Child Abuse Prevention**

The Board of Education recognizes the district's responsibility to educate students about the dangers of child abuse so that they will acquire the skills and techniques needed to identify unsafe situations and to react appropriately and promptly.

The district's instructional program shall include age-appropriate and culturally sensitive child abuse prevention curriculum. This curriculum shall explain students' right to live free of abuse, inform them of available support resources, and teach them how to obtain help and disclose incidents of abuse. The curriculum also shall include training in self-protection techniques.

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

The Superintendent or designee shall seek to incorporate community resources into the district's child abuse prevention programs. To the extent feasible, the Superintendent or designee shall use these community resources to provide parents/guardians with instruction in parenting skills and child abuse prevention.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

**Child Abuse Reporting**

The Board recognizes that child abuse has severe consequences and that the district has a responsibility to protect students by facilitating the prompt reporting of known and suspected incidents of child abuse. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the identification and reporting of such incidents in accordance with law.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

Employees who are mandated reporters, as defined by law and administrative regulation, are obligated to report all known or suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect. Mandated reporters shall not investigate any suspected incidents but rather shall cooperate with agencies responsible for investigating and prosecuting cases of child abuse and neglect.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training regarding the reporting duties of mandated reporters.

In the event that training is not provided to mandated reporters, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the California Department of Education the reasons that such training is not provided. (Penal Code 11165.7)

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE

32280-32288 Comprehensive school safety plans

33308.1 Guidelines on procedure for filing child abuse complaints

44690-44691 Staff development in the detection of child abuse and neglect

44807 Duty concerning conduct of students

48906 Notification when student released to peace officer

48987 Dissemination of reporting guidelines to parents

49001 Prohibition of corporal punishment

51220.5 Parenting skills education

PENAL CODE

152.3 Duty to report murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act

273a Willful cruelty or unjustifiable punishment of child; endangering life or health

288 Definition of lewd or lascivious act requiring reporting

11164-11174.4 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

15630-15637 Dependent adult abuse reporting

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4650 Filing complaints with CDE, special education students

Management Resources:

CDE LEGAL ADVISORIES

0514.93 Guidelines for parents to report suspected child abuse

WEB SITES

California Attorney General's Office, Crime and Violence Prevention Center: http://safestate.org

California Department of Education, Safe Schools: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss
California Department of Social Services, Children and Family Services Division:  
http://www.childsworld.ca.gov


Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Adopted: February 27, 2003 Palos Verdes Estates, California

Revised: July 14, 2005
Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting

Definitions

Child abuse or neglect includes the following: (Penal Code 11165.5, 11165.6)

1. A physical injury or death inflicted by other than accidental means on a child by another person

2. Sexual abuse of a child, including sexual assault or sexual exploitation, as defined in Penal Code 11165.1

3. Neglect of a child as defined in Penal Code 11165.2

4. Willful harming or injuring of a child or the endangering of the person or health of a child as defined in Penal Code 11165.3

5. Unlawful corporal punishment or injury as defined in Penal Code 11165.4

Child abuse or neglect does not include:

1. A mutual affray between minors (Penal Code 11165.6)

2. An injury caused by reasonable and necessary force used by a peace officer acting within the course and scope of his/her employment (Penal Code 11165.6)

(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)

3. An injury resulting from the exercise by a teacher, vice principal, principal, or other certificated employee of the same degree of physical control over a student that a parent/guardian would be privileged to exercise, not exceeding the amount of physical control reasonably necessary to maintain order, protect property, protect the health and safety of students, or maintain proper and appropriate conditions conducive to learning (Education Code 44807)

4. An injury caused by a school employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to persons or damage to property, to protect himself/herself, or to obtain weapons or other dangerous objects within the control of the student (Education Code 49001)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

5. Physical pain or discomfort caused by athletic competition or other such recreational activity voluntarily engaged in by the student (Education Code 49001)

Mandated reporters include, but are not limited to, teachers; instructional aides; teacher's aides or assistants; classified employees; certificated pupil personnel employees; administrative officers or supervisors of child attendance; administrators and employees of a licensed day care facility; Head Start
teachers; district police or security officers; licensed nurses or health care providers; and administrators, presenters, and counselors of a child abuse prevention program. (Penal Code 11165.7)

Reasonable suspicion means that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing when appropriate on his/her training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect. However, reasonable suspicion does not require certainty that child abuse or neglect has occurred nor does it require a specific medical indication of child abuse or neglect. (Penal Code 11166)

Reportable Offenses

A mandated reporter shall make a report using the procedures provided below whenever, in his/her professional capacity or within the scope of his/her employment, he/she has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect. (Penal Code 11166)

Any mandated reporter who has knowledge of or who reasonably suspects that a child is suffering serious emotional damage or is at a substantial risk of suffering serious emotional damage, based on evidence of severe anxiety, depression, withdrawal, or untoward aggressive behavior toward self or others, may make a report to the appropriate agency. (Penal Code 11166.05, 11167)

Any district employee who reasonably believes that he/she has observed the commission of a murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act by use of force, violence, duress, menace, or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury against a victim who is a child under age 14 shall notify a peace officer. (Penal Code 152.3, 288)

Responsibility for Reporting

The reporting duties of mandated reporters are individual and cannot be delegated to another person. (Penal Code 11166)

When two or more mandated reporters jointly have knowledge of a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect, the report may be made by a member of the team selected by mutual agreement and a single report may be made and signed by the selected member of the reporting team. Any member who has knowledge that the member designated to report has failed to do so shall thereafter make the report. (Penal Code 11166)

No supervisor or administrator shall impede or inhibit a mandated reporter from making a report. (Penal Code 11166)

Any person not identified as a mandated reporter who has knowledge of or observes a child whom he/she knows or reasonably suspects has been a victim of child abuse or neglect may report the known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect to the appropriate agency. (Penal Code 11166)

Reporting Procedures

1. Initial Telephone Report
Immediately or as soon as practicable after knowing or observing suspected child abuse or neglect, a mandated reporter shall make an initial report by telephone to any police department (excluding a school district police/security department), sheriff's department, county probation department if designated by the county to receive such reports, or county welfare department. (Penal Code 11165.9, 11166)

Lomita Sheriff Station

(310) 539-1661

When the initial telephone report is made, the mandated reporter shall note the name of the official contacted, the date and time contacted, and any instructions or advice received.

2. Written Report

Within 36 hours of knowing or observing the information concerning the incident, the mandated reporter shall then prepare and either send, fax, or electronically submit to the appropriate agency a written follow-up report, which includes a completed Department of Justice form (SS 8572). (Penal Code 11166, 11168)

The Department of Justice form may be obtained from the district office or other appropriate agencies, such as the county probation or welfare department or the police or sheriff's department.

Reports of suspected child abuse or neglect shall include, if known: (Penal Code 11167)

a. The name, business address, and telephone number of the person making the report and the capacity that makes the person a mandated reporter

b. The child's name and address, present location, and, where applicable, school, grade, and class

c. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the child's parents/guardians

d. The name, address, telephone number, and other relevant personal information about the person who might have abused or neglected the child

e. The information that gave rise to the reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect and the source(s) of that information

The mandated reporter shall make a report even if some of this information is not known or is uncertain to him/her. (Penal Code 11167)

The mandated reporter may give to an investigator from an agency investigating the case, including a licensing agency, any information relevant to an incident of child abuse or neglect or to a report made for serious emotional damage pursuant to Penal Code 11166.05. (Penal Code 11167)

3. Internal Reporting
The mandated reporter shall not be required to disclose his/her identity to his/her supervisor, the principal, or the Superintendent or designee. (Penal Code 11166)

However, employees reporting child abuse or neglect to an appropriate agency are encouraged, but not required, to notify the principal as soon as possible after the initial telephone report to the appropriate agency. When so notified, the principal shall inform the Superintendent or designee.

The principal so notified shall provide the mandated reporter with any assistance necessary to ensure that reporting procedures are carried out in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation. At the mandated reporter's request, the principal may assist in completing and filing the necessary forms.

Reporting the information to an employer, supervisor, principal, school counselor, co-worker, or other person shall not be a substitute for making a mandated report to the appropriate agency. (Penal Code 11166)

Training

Training of mandated reporters shall include identification and mandated reporting of child abuse and neglect. (Penal Code 11165.7)

Training shall also include guidance in the appropriate discipline of students, physical contact with students, and maintenance of ethical relationships with students to avoid actions that may be misinterpreted as child abuse.

(cf. 4119.21/4219.21/4319.21 - Professional Standards)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

Victim Interviews by Social Services

Whenever a representative from the Department of Social Services or another government agency investigating suspected child abuse or neglect deems it necessary, a suspected victim may be interviewed during school hours, on school premises, concerning a report of suspected child abuse or neglect that occurred within the child's home or out-of-home care facility. The child shall be given the choice of being interviewed in private or in the presence of any adult school employee or volunteer aide selected by the child. (Penal Code 11174.3)

A staff member or volunteer aide selected by a child may decline to be present at the interview. If the selected person accepts, the principal or designee shall inform him/her of the following requirements: (Penal Code 11174.3)
1. The purpose of the selected person's presence at the interview is to lend support to the child and enable him/her to be as comfortable as possible.

2. The selected person shall not participate in the interview.

3. The selected person shall not discuss the facts or circumstances of the case with the child.

4. The selected person is subject to the confidentiality requirements of the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, a violation of which is punishable as specified in Penal Code 11167.5.

If a staff member agrees to be present, the interview shall be held at a time during school hours when it does not involve an expense to the school. (Penal Code 11174.3)

Release of Child to Peace Officer

When a child is released to a peace officer and taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse or neglect, the Superintendent or designee and/or principal shall not notify the parent/guardian, but rather shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the child's parent/guardian. It is the responsibility of the peace officer or agent to notify the parent/guardian of the situation. (Education Code 48906)

(cf. 145.11 - Questioning and Apprehension by Law Enforcement)

Parent/Guardian Complaints

Upon request, the Superintendent or designee shall provide parents/guardians with a copy of this administrative regulation which contains procedures for reporting suspected child abuse occurring at a school site to appropriate agencies. For parents/guardians whose primary language is not English, such procedures shall be in their primary language and, when communicating orally regarding those procedures, an interpreter shall be provided.

To file a complaint against a district employee or other person suspected of child abuse or neglect at a school site, parents/guardians may file a report by telephone, in person, or in writing with any appropriate agency identified above under "Reporting Procedures." If a parent/guardian makes a complaint about an employee to any other employee, the employee receiving the information shall notify the parent/guardian of procedures for filing a complaint with the appropriate agency. The employee also is obligated pursuant to Penal Code 11166 to file a report himself/herself using the procedures described above for mandated reporters.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

In addition, if the child is enrolled in special education, a separate complaint may be filed with the California Department of Education pursuant to 5 CCR 4650.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Notifications
The Superintendent or designee shall provide to all new employees who are mandated reporters a statement that informs them of their status as mandated reporters, their reporting obligations under Penal Code 11166, and their confidentiality rights under Penal Code 11167. The district also shall provide these new employees with a copy of Penal Code 11165.7, 11166, and 11167. (Penal Code 11165.7, 11166.5)

Before beginning employment, any person who will be a mandated reporter by virtue of his/her position shall sign a statement indicating that he/she has knowledge of the reporting obligations under Penal Code 11166 and will comply with those provisions. The signed statement shall be retained by the Superintendent or designee. (Penal Code 11166.5)

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

Employees who work with dependent adults shall be notified of legal responsibilities and reporting procedures pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 15630-15637.

The Superintendent or designee also shall notify all employees that:

1. A mandated reporter who reports a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect shall not be held civilly or criminally liable for making a report and this immunity shall apply even if the mandated reporter acquired the knowledge or reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect outside of his/her professional capacity or outside the scope of his/her employment. Any other person making a report shall not incur civil or criminal liability unless it can be proven that he/she knowingly made a false report or made a report with reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the report. (Penal Code 11172)

2. If a mandated reporter fails to report an incident of known or reasonably suspected child abuse or neglect, he/she may be guilty of a crime punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment. (Penal Code 11166)

3. No employee shall be subject to any sanction by the district for making a report. (Penal Code 11166)

Regulation PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: July 26, 2007 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: July 24, 2008

revised: October 28, 2010

revised: October 13, 2011
Complaints Concerning Discrimination In Employment

Complaint Procedure

Any complaint by an employee or job applicant alleging discrimination or harassment shall be addressed in accordance with the following procedures:

1. Notice and Receipt of Complaint: Any employee or job applicant (the "complainant") who believes he/she has been subjected to prohibited discrimination or harassment shall promptly inform his/her supervisor, the district's Coordinator for Nondiscrimination in Employment, or the Superintendent.

The complainant may file a written complaint in accordance with this procedure, or if he/she is an employee, may first attempt to resolve the situation informally with his/her supervisor.

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

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

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

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

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

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

The Coordinator shall meet with the complainant to describe the district's complaint procedure and discuss the actions being sought by the complainant in response to the allegation. The Coordinator shall inform the complainant that the allegations will be kept confidential to the extent possible, but that some information may be revealed as necessary to conduct an effective investigation.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

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

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)
If the Coordinator determines that a detailed fact-finding investigation is necessary, he/she shall begin the investigation immediately. As part of this investigation, the Coordinator should interview the complainant, the person accused, and other persons who could be expected to have relevant information.

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

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

3. Written Report on Findings and Corrective Action: No more than 30 days after receiving the complaint, the Coordinator shall conclude the investigation and prepare a written report of his/her findings. This timeline may be extended for good cause. If an extension is needed, the Coordinator shall notify the complainant and explain the reasons for the extension.

The report shall include the decision and the reasons for the decision and shall summarize the steps taken during the investigation. If a determination has been made that discrimination or harassment occurred, the report also shall include any corrective action(s) that have been or will be taken to address the behavior, correct the effect on the complainant, and ensure that retaliation or further discrimination or harassment does not occur.

The report shall be presented to the complainant, the person accused, and the Superintendent or designee.

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

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

Other Remedies

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

1. To file a valid complaint with DFEH, within one year of the alleged discriminatory act(s), unless an exception exists pursuant to Government Code 12960 (Government Code 12960)
2. To file a valid complaint directly with EEOC, within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory act(s) (42 USC 2000e-5)

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

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

GOVERNMENT CODE

12920-12921 Nondiscrimination

12940-12948 Discrimination prohibited; unlawful practices, generally

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

621-634 Age Discrimination in Employment Act

794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2001d-2001d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964

2001e-2001e-17 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended


2001h-2-2001h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.101-35.190 Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX

Management Resources:

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

Enforcement Guidance: Reasonable Accommodation and Undue Hardship under the Americans with Disabilities Act, October 2002

Enforcement Guidance: Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors, June 1999

WEB SITES

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


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

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

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(cf. 3580 - District Records)

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(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

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WEB SITES

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


Regulation PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: February 8, 2001 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: July 22, 2010
Drug And Alcohol-Free Workplace

The Board of Education believes that the maintenance of a drug- and alcohol-free workplace is essential to staff and student safety and to help ensure a productive and safe work and learning environment.

(cf. 4112.41/4212.41/4312.41 - Employee Drug Testing)

(cf. 4112.42/4212.42/4312.42 - Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers)

An employee shall not unlawfully manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, or use any controlled substance in the workplace. (Government Code 8355; 41 USC 701)

Employees are prohibited from being under the influence of controlled substances or alcohol while on duty. These prohibitions apply before, during and after school hours. A school district workplace is any place where school district work is performed, any school-owned or school-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities; any off-school sites when accommodating a school-sponsored or school-approved activity or function where students are under district jurisdiction; or during any period of time when an employee is supervising students on behalf of the district or otherwise engaged in district business.

(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify employees of the district's prohibition against drug use and the actions that will be taken for violation of such prohibition. (Government Code 8355; 41 USC 701)

An employee shall abide by the terms of this policy and shall notify the district, within five days, of his/her conviction for violation in the workplace of any criminal drug statute. (Government Code 8355; 41 USC 701)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the appropriate federal granting or contracting agency within 10 days after receiving notification, from an employee or otherwise, of any conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace. (41 USC 701)

In accordance with law and the district's collective bargaining agreements, the Superintendent or designee shall take appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including termination, against an employee for violating the terms of this policy and/or shall require the employee to satisfactorily participate in and complete a drug assistance or rehabilitation program approved by a federal, state, or local public health or law enforcement agency or other appropriate agency.

(cf. 4112 - Appointment and Conditions of Employment)

(cf. 4117.4 - Dismissal)

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
Drug-Free Awareness Program

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about: (Government Code 8355; 41 USC 701)

1. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace
2. The district's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace
3. Available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

44011 Controlled substance offense
44425 Conviction of controlled substance offenses as grounds for revocation of credential
44836 Employment of certificated persons convicted of controlled substance offenses
44940 Compulsory leave of absence for certificated persons
44940.5 Procedures when employees are placed on compulsory leave of absence
45123 Employment after conviction of controlled substance offense
45304 Compulsory leave of absence for classified persons

GOVERNMENT CODE

8350-8357 Drug-free workplace

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

7111-7117 Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 21
812 Schedule of controlled substances

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 41

701-707 Drug-Free Workplace Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 21

1308.01-1308.49 Schedule of controlled substances

COURT DECISIONS


Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs: http://www.adp.ca.gov

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


Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: February 8, 2001 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: February 27, 2003

revised: July 11, 2011

revised: September 21, 201
Employee Use Of Technology

The Board of Education recognizes that technological resources can enhance employee performance by offering effective tools to assist in providing a quality instructional program, facilitating communications with parents/guardians, students, and the community, supporting district and school operations, and improving access to and exchange of information. The Board expects all employees to learn to use the available technological resources that will assist them in the performance of their job responsibilities. As needed, employees shall receive professional development in the appropriate use of these resources.

(cf. 0440 - District Technology Plan)
(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)
(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)
(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)
(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

Employees shall be responsible for the appropriate use of technology and shall use the district's technological resources for purposes related to their employment.

(cf. 4119.25/4219.25/4319.25 - Political Activities of Employees)

Employees shall be notified that computer files and electronic communications, including email and voice mail, are not private. Technological resources shall not be used to transmit confidential information about students, employees, or district operations without authority.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

Online/Internet Services

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all district computers with Internet access have a technology protection measure that prevents access to visual depictions that are obscene or child pornography and that the operation of such measures is enforced. The Superintendent or designee may disable the technology protection measure during use by an adult to enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purpose. (20 USC 6777; 47 USC 254)
To ensure proper use, the Superintendent or designee may monitor the district's technological resources, including email and voice mail systems, at any time without advance notice or consent. If passwords are used, they must be known to the Superintendent or designee so that he/she may have system access.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish administrative regulations and an Acceptable Use Agreement which outline employee obligations and responsibilities related to the use of district technology. He/she also may establish guidelines and limits on the use of technological resources. Inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of the employee's user privileges, disciplinary action, and/or legal action in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

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

The Superintendent or designee shall provide copies of related policies, regulations, and guidelines to all employees who use the district's technological resources. Employees shall be required to acknowledge in writing that they have read and understood the district's Acceptable Use Agreement.

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9 - Employee Notifications)

Use of Cellular Phone or Mobile Communications Device

An employee shall not use a cellular phone or other mobile communications device for personal business while on duty, except in emergency situations and/or during scheduled work breaks.

Any employee that uses a cell phone or mobile communications device in violation of law, Board policy, or administrative regulation shall be subject to discipline and may be referred to law enforcement officials as appropriate.

(cf. 3513.1 - Cellular Phone Reimbursement)

(cf. 3542 - School Bus Drivers)

(cf. 4156.3/4256.3/4356.3 - Employee Property Reimbursement)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

51870-51874 Education technology

52270-52272 Education technology and professional development grants

52295.10-52295.55 Implementation of Enhancing Education Through Technology grant program

GOVERNMENT CODE
3543.1 Rights of employee organizations

PENAL CODE

502 Computer crimes, remedies

632 Eavesdropping on or recording confidential communications

VEHICLE CODE

23123 Wireless telephones in vehicles

23123.5 Mobile communication devices; text messaging while driving

23125 Wireless telephones in school buses

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6751-6777 Enhancing Education Through Technology Act, Title II, Part D, especially:

6777 Internet safety

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 47

254 Universal service discounts (E-rate)

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 47

54.520 Internet safety policy and technology protection measures, E-rate discounts

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: http://www.csba.org

American Library Association: http://www.ala.org

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


Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: February 7, 2002 Palos Verdes Estates, California
Palos Verdes Peninsula USD | 4000 | AR 4040 Personnel

Employee Use Of Technology

On-Line/Internet Services: User Obligations and Responsibilities

Employees are authorized to use district equipment to access the Internet or other on-line services in accordance with Board of Education policy, the district's Acceptable Use Agreement, and the user obligations and responsibilities specified below.

1. The employee in whose name an on-line services account is issued is responsible for its proper use at all times. Employees shall keep account information, home addresses and telephone numbers private. They shall use the system only under their own account number.

2. Employees shall use the system responsibly and primarily for work-related purposes.

(cf. 6162.7 - Use of Technology in Instruction)

3. Employees shall not access, post, submit, publish or display harmful or inappropriate matter that is threatening, obscene, disruptive or sexually explicit, or that could be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based on their race/ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion or political beliefs.

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)

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

4. Employees shall not use the system to promote unethical practices or any activity prohibited by law, Board policy or administrative regulations.

5. Copyrighted material shall not be placed on the system without the author's permission. Employees may download copyrighted material only in accordance with applicable copyright laws.

(cf. 6162.6 - Use of Copyrighted Materials)

6. Employees shall not intentionally upload, download or create computer viruses and/or maliciously attempt to harm or destroy district equipment or materials or the data of any other user, including so-called "hacking."

7. Employees shall not read other users' electronic mail or files. They shall not attempt to interfere with other users' ability to send or receive electronic mail, nor shall they attempt to read, delete, copy, modify or forge other users' mail.

8. Users shall report any security problem or misuse of the services to the Superintendent or designee.
9. Users are encouraged to keep messages brief.

10. Employees shall not develop any classroom or work-related web sites, blogs, forums, or similar online communications representing the district or using district equipment or resources without permission of the Superintendent or designee. Such sites shall be subject to rules and guidelines established for district online publishing activities including, but not limited to, copyright laws, privacy rights, and prohibitions against obscene, libelous, and slanderous content. Because of the unfiltered nature of blogs, any such site shall include a disclaimer that the district is not responsible for the content of the messages. The district retains the right to delete material on any such online communications.

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

Regulation PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: February 7, 2002 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: January 24, 2008
Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District  
Technology and Support Services  
Employee Acceptable Use Agreement for Technology and Electronic Resources

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District (PVPUSD) strongly believes in the educational value of electronic information resources and recognizes their potential to support the curriculum and student learning. Our goal in providing electronic information services is to facilitate resource sharing, innovation, and communication. The PVPUSD will make every effort to protect staff from any misuses or abuses as a result of their experiences with electronic information services. All users should be aware that inappropriate use of electronic information resources could be a violation of local, state, and federal laws. Violations can lead to prosecution.

The use of electronic information systems is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. The administration of the PVPUSD may deny, revoke, or suspend specific user access.

The PVPUSD has the right to review any material stored on any District provided system and to edit or remove any material provided the action is done in accordance with current law. The PVPUSD reserves the right to monitor and log the use of its technology and computer networks. Therefore, users cannot expect absolute privacy as it relates to the use of the District’s computer networks.

The PVPUSD does not guarantee the function of software or any resources accessible through the Internet to meet any specific requirements the participant may have or that materials, software and network access will be error free or uninterrupted.

The PVPUSD will not be responsible for any damages suffered while utilizing the functions or services provide by or through PVPUSD networks, hardware or software. These damages include loss of data as a result of delays, non-deliveries, miss-deliveries, service interruptions caused by the system, your errors, omissions, damage, breakdown and/or malfunction. Use of any data obtained via the electronic information system is at the user’s own risk. The PVPUSD makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing.

**GENERAL**

**Acceptable Use:** The use of electronic information services must be in support of the educational goals and objectives of the PVPUSD.

1. Use of someone else’s network account is prohibited.
2. Use of unauthorized copies of commercial software is prohibited.
3. Use of software or hardware to gain unapproved access to, disrupt, analyze, monitor or bypass PVPUSD networks and/or electronic systems is prohibited.
4. Copying commercial software is prohibited.
5. Downloading or installing software to PVPUSD systems or assets without permission is prohibited.
6. Attempting to access unauthorized or inappropriate resources is prohibited.
7. Use of a network account or PVPUSD systems or assets to harass or bully someone is prohibited.
8. Use of access for commercial purposes is prohibited.
9. Use of another organization’s network or computing resources must comply with rules appropriate to that network.
10. Transmission of any material in violation of any law of the United States, or other state organizations, is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret.
11. Use of product advertisement or political lobbying is prohibited.
12. Cyberbullying on PVPUSD premises, as well as off-campus cyberbullying that impacts the workplace may be subject to discipline in accordance with district policies and regulations.

Content: Employees should not post or share personally identifiable information on any website or public communication forum about students without proper parental and administrative consent.

Information: The information accessed by the use of electronic services may or may not be accurate. The Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District makes no guarantees of any kind concerning the accuracy of information obtained on-line.

Security: Security on any computer system is a high priority. If you identify a security problem, notify your Principal or a District administrator at once. Any user whose behavior is identified as a security risk will be denied access to PVPUSD networks and electronic information systems.

Use of Personal Technology Devices: The PVPUSD is not responsible for the loss, theft or damage to any personal technology device. Access to and usage of District and campus networks with a personal device must be in accordance with all District policies, rules and guidelines outlined in this Acceptable Use Agreement.

Vandalism: Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user or any other agencies or networks that are connected to the system. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses. Any vandalism will result in the loss of computer access, disciplinary action, and legal referral.

Penalties: Use of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District electronic information services is a privilege and inappropriate use will result in the loss of that privilege. Any user who is found to be in violation of these rules and information in this user agreement may be subject to the following consequences:

• Disciplinary action
• Other legal action, including action to recover damages and penalties
• Referral to law enforcement authorities for criminal prosecution
SOCIAL MEDIA

Purpose:

1. The purpose of this policy is to provide information and guidelines for social media communications between employees, students, parents and other associated persons; to prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful activities by District users online; to prevent unauthorized disclosure of or access to sensitive information, and to comply with the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

While the District recognizes that during non-work hours employees and students may participate in online social media, blogs, and other online tools, District employees and associated persons should keep in mind that information produced, shared and retrieved by them may be subject to District policies and is a reflection of the school community. It is important that employees’ personal use of these sites does not damage the reputation of the PVPUSD, its employees, its students or their families.

2. Social media technology can serve as a powerful tool to enhance education, communication and learning. This technology can provide both educational and professional benefits including preparing District students to succeed in their educational and career endeavors. The District has an overriding interest in deciding what is spoken on behalf of the District on social media sites.

3. The District is committed to ensuring that all District stakeholders who utilize social media technology for professional purposes, including staff and students, do so in a safe and responsible manner. The District strives to create professional social media environments that mirror the academically supportive environments of our schools.

4. These Social Media Guidelines (“Guidelines”) provide guidance regarding recommended practices for professional social media communication between District employees, as well as social media communication between District employees and District students. These Guidelines do not address student-to-student communication via social media.

5. In recognition of the public and pervasive nature of social media communications, as well as the fact that in this digital era, the lines between professional and personal endeavors are sometimes blurred, these Guidelines also address recommended practices for use of Personal Social Media by District staff.

Goals:

1. To safeguard the electronic and information assets belonging to the District.
2. To prevent inappropriate use of District owned electronic systems or privately owned systems used at District facilities or on District property.
3. To eliminate District liability due to unauthorized information disclosure or software copyright violations.
4. To manage disclosure of District information to proper and intended recipients for appropriate uses.
5. To restrict the access to inappropriate material, including websites and media, while in any facilities owned, leased or otherwise used by the District.
6. To ensure the purpose of Social Media use listed above is properly adhered to by all employees.
Definitions:

1. “Social Media” includes but is not limited to activity on various internet websites, including, but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Jobvent, YouTube, Snapchat, LinkedIn, Instagram, Vine and various media sites that are offered by television networks, newspapers, and magazines, that permit readers or users to create profiles and/or post comments.

2. “Professional Social Media” is a work-related social media activity that is either school-based (e.g., a District principal establishing a web page for his/her school), or a non-school-based (e.g., a District office establishing a web page or Facebook page to facilitate the office’s administration of a Regulation).

3. “Personal Social Media” use is a non-work-related social media activity (e.g., a District employee establishing a Facebook page or a Twitter account for his/her personal use).

4. “Technology” includes computers, notebooks, the Internet, telephones, cellular telephones, personal digital assistants, pagers, MP3 players, such as iPod’s, USB drives, wireless access points (routers), or any wireless communication device.

5. “District Technology” is that which is owned or provided by the district.

6. “Personal Technology” is non-district technology.

Applicability: These Guidelines apply to all District employees. The District will take steps to ensure that other District stakeholders, including vendors, volunteers, and independent contractors are informed of these Guidelines. The use of a Social Media website for an approved District purpose does not automatically facilitate open access to that website from District networks.

In general:

1. An employee shall not make statements that would violate any PVPUSD policies, including its policies concerning discrimination, harassment, or obscene material;

2. An employee will not disclose any confidential information of the District or school or confidential information obtained during the course of his/her employment, about any individuals or organizations, including students and/or their families;

3. Employees are not permitted to use any district or school logos, trademarks, official photographs, or any other intellectual property of proprietary materials in any postings to social media without the written consent of the school’s Principal and/or district administration;

4. Employees should exercise care in setting appropriate boundaries between their personal and public online behavior, understanding what is private in the digital world is easily searchable, shareable, and often has the possibility of becoming public, even without their knowledge or consent. The PVPUSD strongly encourages all employees to carefully review the privacy settings on any social media and networking sites they use and exercise care and good judgment when posting content and information on such sites;

5. If you discuss education or other matters relating to the PVPUSD, you may include a sentence similar to this: “The views expressed on this [blog, forum, website] are mine alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the PVPUSD." Tracking tools enable anonymous posts to be traced back to their authors. There's no such thing as a "private" website or social media service;
6. An employee shall not make statements that would violate any of the PVPUSD’s policies, including its policies concerning discrimination, harassment, or obscene material.

Professional Media Social Use:

1. Maintenance of Separate Professional and Personal E-mail Accounts:
   a. District employees who engage in Professional Social Media activities should maintain separate professional and personal e-mail addresses. District employees should not use their personal e-mail addresses for Professional Social Media activities. In general, the Professional Social Media presence should be separate from any Personal Social Media presence maintained by the employee.

2. Communication With District Students: District employees who work with students and communicate with students through Professional Social Media sites should follow these guidelines:
   a. Professional Social Media sites that are school-based should be designed to address reasonable instructional, educational or extra-curricular program matters;
   b. Professional Social Media sites that are non-school-based should have a reasonable relationship to the mission and function of the District office creating the site;
   c. To the extent possible, based on the social media site being used, District supervisors or their designees should be given administrator rights or access to the Professional Social Media accounts established by District Employees; District employees will be required to obtain their supervisor’s approval before setting up a Professional Social Media presence;
   d. Supervisors and their designees are responsible for maintaining a list of all Professional Social Media accounts within their particular school or office; and District Professional Social Media sites should include language identifying the sites as Professional Social Media District sites by identifying the District school, department or particular grade that is utilizing the site.

3. Guidance Regarding Professional Social Media Sites:
   a. District employees should treat Professional Social Media sites and communication like a classroom and/or a professional workplace. The same standards expected in District professional settings are expected on Professional Social Media sites. If a particular type of behavior is inappropriate in the classroom or a professional workplace, then that behavior is also inappropriate on the Professional Social Media site;
   b. District employees should exercise caution, sound judgment, and common sense when using Professional Social Media sites;
   c. District employees should use privacy settings to control access to their Professional Social Media sites to ensure that Professional Social Media communications only reach the employees’ intended audience. District employees should be aware that there are limitations to privacy settings. Private communications established on the internet can easily become public. Furthermore, social media sites can change their current default privacy settings and other functions. As a result, employees have an individualized responsibility to understand the rules of the social media site(s) being utilized;
   d. Professional Social Media communications should be in compliance with existing District Regulations, policies and laws, including, but not limited to, prohibitions on the disclosure of
confidential information and prohibitions on the use of harassing, obscene, discriminatory, defamatory or threatening language;

e. No personally identifiable student information may be posted by District employees on Personal Social Media sites.

4. Monitoring of Professional Social Media Sites:
   a. Employees using Professional Social Media sites have no expectation of privacy with regard to their use of such media. The District will routinely monitor Professional Social Media sites to protect the school community;
   b. District supervisors, or their designees, such as webmasters, are responsible for monitoring their employees’ Professional Social Media sites. The monitoring responsibilities include reviewing the Professional Social Media sites on a regular basis.
   c. If supervisors discover questionable communications or behavior on Professional Social Media sites, the supervisors are required to contact the appropriate authorities for assistance.
   d. If District employees create a Professional Social Media site and they are notified of questionable communications or behavior on their site, they are required to contact the appropriate authorities as well as their supervisors for assistance;
   e. District supervisors reserve the right to remove, disable and provide feedback regarding Professional Social Media sites that do not adhere to the law or District Regulations or do not reasonably align with these Guidelines;
   f. When establishing Professional Social Media sites, supervisors and employees should consider the intended audience for the site and consider the level of privacy assigned to the site, specifically, whether the site should be a private network (e.g., it is limited to a particular class or grade within the school) or a public network (e.g., anyone within the school or a larger group within the District community can participate); and
   g. District supervisors should maintain a detailed log of all reported non-compliant communications as well as any violations that are otherwise brought to the supervisor’s attention.

Personal Social Media Use:

1. Communication with District Students:

   In order to maintain a professional and appropriate relationship with students, District employees shall not communicate with students who are currently enrolled in District schools on Personal Social Media sites. This provision is subject to the following exception: communication with relatives if an emergency situation requires such communication, in which case the District employee should notify his/her supervisor of the contact as soon as possible.

2. Guidance Regarding Personal Social Media Sites:
   a. District employees should exercise caution and common sense when using Personal Social Media sites. Employees are encouraged to use appropriate privacy settings to control access to their Personal Social Media site. Be aware that there are limitations to privacy settings. Private communications published on the Internet can easily become public. Furthermore, social
media sites can change their current default privacy settings and other functions. As a result, employees have an individualized responsibility to understand the rules of the social media site being utilized;

b. District employees should not “tag” photos of other District employees, volunteers, contractors or vendors without the prior permission of the person being tagged;

c. Personal Social Media use, including off-hours use, has the potential to result in disruption at school and/or the workplace, and can be in violation of District policies, District Regulations and law;

d. The posting and disclosure of personally identifiable student information or confidential information via Personal Social Media sites, in violation of District Regulations is prohibited; and

e. District employees should not use the District’s logo in any postings and should not link to the District’s website or post District material on any Personal Social Media sites without the permission of the District Superintendent.

f. Social media has many benefits but when social media postings violate the law or District policies or create a substantial disruption to the school community and/or work environment, the administrator may have an obligation to respond and take appropriate action, including but not limited to investigation and possible discipline.

g. Under certain circumstances, the District has jurisdiction to discipline employees who violate rules of appropriate conduct, which includes but is not limited to, the use of social networking sites during or outside of work hours. Additionally, the District may not be able to protect or represent employees who incur legal action from a second party in response to the employee’s behavior in a social networking site.

**BYOD (Bring Your Own Device)**

**Purpose:** The Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District (PVPUSD) uses instructional technology as one way of enhancing our mission to teach the skills, knowledge and behaviors students will need as responsible citizens in the global community. Students learn collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking in a variety of ways throughout the school day. In an effort to increase access to those 21st Century skills, PVPUSD will allow personal technology devices on campus WiFi networks and school grounds for employees who follow the responsibilities stated in the Acceptable Use Agreement and the attached guidelines regarding B.Y.O.D.

The PVPUSD strives to provide appropriate and adequate technology to support instructional purposes. The use of personal devices by employees is optional.

Employees will be expected to comply with all District policies while using personal devices. Using personal devices to access campus networks is a privilege and any violation of rules or abuse may result in the loss of this privilege.

**Device Types:** For the purpose of this program, the word “devices” will include: laptops, netbooks, cell phones, smart phones, tablets and eReaders and similar products.
Guidelines:

1. Employees participating in B.Y.O.D. must adhere to the Acceptable Use Agreement and all Board Policies.
2. Site administrator or supervisor has the discretion to allow and regulate the use of personal devices in the workplace.
3. Employees may not use devices to record, transmit, or post photographic images or video of a person or persons on campus during work hours or during work related events or activities, unless otherwise approved by school administration.

Employees Acknowledge That:

1. The school’s network filters will be applied to a device’s connection to the internet and any attempt to bypass the network filters or security protocols is prohibited.
2. Employees are prohibited from:
   a. Bringing a device on premises that infects the network with a virus, Trojan, or program designed to damage, alter, destroy, or provide access to unauthorized data or information.
   b. Processing or accessing information on PVPUSD property related to “hacking.”
   c. Altering or bypassing network security policies.
3. The PVPUSD may collect and examine any device on campus that is suspected of causing technology problems or is the source of an attack or virus infection.

Lost, Stolen or Damaged Devices: Each user is responsible for his/her own device and should use it responsibly and appropriately. The PVPUSD takes no responsibility for stolen, lost, or damaged devices, including lost or corrupted data on those devices.

Usage Charges: The PVPUSD is not responsible for any possible device charges to your personal account that might be incurred during approved school-related use.

Network Considerations: Users should strive to maintain appropriate bandwidth for school-related work and communications. All employees will use the “PvnetStaff” wireless network to access the internet. The PVPUSD does not guarantee connectivity or the quality of the connection with personal devices. The PVPUSD Technology Services department and school staff is not responsible for maintaining or troubleshooting personal devices.

During the course of the school year, additional rules regarding the use of personal devices may be added.
Nondiscrimination In Employment

The Board of Education desires to provide a positive work environment where employees and job applicants are assured of equal access and opportunities and are free from harassment in accordance with law. The Board prohibits district employees from discriminating against or harassing any other district employee or job applicant on the basis of the person's actual or perceived race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, veteran status, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sex, or sexual orientation.

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

(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

(cf. 4033 - Lactation Accommodation)

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

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

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

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

Prohibited discrimination consists of the taking of any adverse employment action against a person, including termination or denial of promotion, job assignment, or training, or in discriminating against the person in compensation, terms, conditions, or other privileges of employment based on any of the prohibited categories of discrimination listed above.

The prohibition against discrimination based on the religious creed of an employee or job applicant includes any discrimination based on the person's religious dress or grooming practices or any conflict between the person's religious belief, observance, or practice and an employment requirement. The prohibition against discrimination based on the sex of an employee or job applicant shall include any discrimination based on the person's pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or any related medical conditions. (Government Code 12926, 12940)

Harassment consists of any unwelcome verbal, physical, or visual conduct that is based on any of the prohibited categories of discrimination listed above and that is so severe or pervasive that it adversely affects an individual's employment opportunities, has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the individual's work performance, or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

The Board also prohibits retaliation against any district employee or job applicant who complains, testifies, assists, or in any way participates in the district's complaint procedures instituted pursuant to this policy.
Any district employee who engages in prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation or who aids, abets, incites, compels, or coerces another to engage or attempt to engage in such behavior in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

(cf. 4117.4 - Dismissal)

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

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

The following position is designated as Coordinator for Nondiscrimination in Employment:

Director of Human Resources

375 Via Almar

Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

(310) 378-9966 x417

Any employee or job applicant who believes that he/she has been or is being discriminated against or harassed in violation of district policy should, as appropriate, immediately contact his/her supervisor, the Coordinator, or the Superintendent who shall advise the employee or applicant about the district's procedures for filing, investigating, and resolving any such complaint.

Complaints regarding employment discrimination or harassment shall immediately be investigated in accordance with AR 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment.

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)

Any supervisory or management employee who observes or has knowledge of an incident of prohibited discrimination or harassment shall report the incident to the Coordinator or Superintendent as soon as practical after the incident. All other employees are encouraged to report such incidents to their supervisor immediately.

Training and Notifications

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to employees about how to recognize harassment and discrimination, how to respond appropriately, and components of the district's policies and regulations regarding discrimination.

(cf. 4131- Staff Development)

(cf. 4231- Staff Development)

(cf. 4331- Staff Development)
The Superintendent or designee shall regularly publicize, within the district and in the community, the
district’s nondiscrimination policy and the availability of complaint procedures. Such publication shall be
included in each announcement, bulletin, or application form that is used in employee recruitment. (34
CFR 100.6, 106.9)

The district’s policy shall be posted in all district schools and offices including staff lounges and student
government meeting rooms. (5 CCR 4960)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

CIVIL CODE
51.7 Freedom from violence or intimidation

GOVERNMENT CODE
11135 Unlawful discrimination
12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act

PENAL CODE
422.56 Definitions, hate crimes

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2
7287.6 Terms, conditions and privileges of employment

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29
621-634 Age Discrimination in Employment Act
794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
2000d-2000d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
2000e-2000e-17 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
6101-6107 Age discrimination in federally assisted programs
12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28
35.101-35.190 Americans with Disabilities Act
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
100.6 Compliance information
104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504
104.8 Notice
106.8 Designation of responsible employee and adoption of grievance procedures
106.9 Dissemination of policy
110.1-110.39 Nondiscrimination on the basis of age
COURT DECISIONS
Management Resources:
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS
Notice of Non-Discrimination, August 2010
U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS
Questions and Answers: Religious Discrimination in the Workplace, 2008
Enforcement Guidance: Reasonable Accommodation and Undue Hardship under the Americans with Disabilities Act, October 2002

Enforcement Guidance: Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors, June 1999

WEB SITES

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

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


Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: February 26, 2004 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: July 22, 2010

revised: November 8, 2012

revised: April 11, 2013
Nondiscrimination In Employment

Unlawful discrimination or harassment of an individual includes:

1. Slurs, epithets, threats or verbal abuse

2. Derogatory or degrading comments, descriptions, drawings, pictures or gestures

3. Unwelcome jokes, stories, teasing or taunting

4. Any other verbal, written, visual or physical conduct against the individual which:
   a. Adversely affects his/her employment opportunities, or
   b. Has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with his/her work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment

Any employee or job applicant who feels that he/she has been or is being unlawfully discriminated against or harassed should immediately contact his/her supervisor, the nondiscrimination coordinator or the Superintendent in order to obtain procedures for reporting a complaint. Such complaints shall be filed in accordance with AR 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment. An employee may bypass his/her supervisor when the supervisor is the alleged offender.

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)

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

Any supervisor who receives a discrimination/harassment complaint shall immediately notify the nondiscrimination coordinator or the Superintendent, who shall ensure that the complaint is appropriately investigated in accordance with district policy and regulations.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that annual training is provided to all employees regarding the issues of discrimination.

Regulation PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Approved: February 8, 2001 Palos Verdes Estates, California
Professional Standards

The Board of Education expects district employees to maintain the highest ethical standards, exhibit professional behavior, follow district policies and regulations, abide by state and federal laws, and exercise good judgment when interacting with students and other members of the school community. Employee conduct should enhance the integrity of the district, advance the goals of the district’s educational programs, and contribute to a positive school climate.

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)
(cf. 4119.1/4219.1/4319.1 - Civil and Legal Rights)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

The Board encourages district employees to accept as guiding principles the professional standards and codes of ethics adopted by educational or professional associations to which they may belong.

(cf. 2111 - Superintendent Governance Standards)
(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

Each employee should make a commitment to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill his/her responsibilities and should focus on his/her contribution to the learning and achievement of district students.

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)
(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Inappropriate employee conduct includes, but is not limited to:

1. Engaging in any conduct that endangers students, staff, or others, including, but not limited to, physical violence, threats of violence, or possession of a firearm or other weapon

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)
2. Engaging in harassing or discriminatory behavior towards students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members, or failing or refusing to intervene when an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against a student is observed

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

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

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

3. Physically abusing, sexually abusing, neglecting, or otherwise willfully harming or injuring a child

4. Engaging in inappropriate socialization or fraternization with a student or soliciting, encouraging, or maintaining an inappropriate written, verbal, or physical relationship with a student

5. Possessing or viewing any pornography on school grounds, or possessing or viewing child pornography or other imagery portraying children in a sexualized manner at any time

6. Using profane, obscene, or abusive language against students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members

7. Wilfully disrupting district or school operations by loud or unreasonable noise or other action

8. Using tobacco, alcohol, or an illegal or unauthorized substance, or possessing or distributing any controlled substance, while in the workplace or at a school-sponsored activity

(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)

(cf. 4020 - Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace)

(cf. 4112.41/4212.41/4312.41 - Employee Drug Testing)

(cf. 4112.42/4212.42/4312.42 - Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers)

9. Dishonesty with students, parents/guardians, staff, or members of the public, including, but not limited to, falsification of information in employment records or other school records

10. Divulging confidential information about students, district employees, or district operations to persons not authorized to receive the information

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)
11. Using district equipment or other district resources for the employee’s own commercial purposes or for political activities

12. Using district equipment or communications devices for personal purposes while on duty, except in an emergency, during scheduled work breaks, or for personal necessity

Employees shall be notified that computer files and all electronic communications, including, but not limited to, email and voice mail, are not private. To ensure proper use, the Superintendent or designee may monitor employee usage of district technological resources at any time without the employee's consent.

13. Causing damage to or engaging in theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district

14. Wearing inappropriate attire

An employee who observes or has evidence of another employee's inappropriate conduct shall immediately report such conduct to the principal or Superintendent or designee. An employee who has knowledge of or suspects child abuse or neglect shall file a report pursuant to the district's child abuse reporting procedures as detailed in AR 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting.

Any reports of employee misconduct shall be promptly investigated. Any employee who is found to have engaged in inappropriate conduct in violation of law or Board policy shall be subject to disciplinary action and, in the case of a certificated employee, may be subject to a report to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. The Superintendent or designee shall notify local law enforcement as appropriate.
An employee who has knowledge of but fails to report inappropriate employee conduct may also be subject to discipline.

The district prohibits retaliation against anyone who files a complaint against an employee or reports an employee's inappropriate conduct. Any employee who retaliates against any such complainant, reporter, or other participant in the district's complaint process shall be subject to discipline.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination
44242.5 Reports and review of alleged misconduct

PENAL CODE

11164-11174.4 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

80303 Reports of dismissal, resignation and other terminations for alleged misconduct
80331-80338 Rules of conduct for professional educators

Management Resources:

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING PUBLICATIONS
California Standards for the Teaching Profession, 2009

COUNCIL OF CHIEF STATE SCHOOL OFFICERS PUBLICATIONS

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS
Code of Ethics of the Education Profession, 1975

WESTED PUBLICATIONS
Moving Leadership Standards into Everyday Work: Descriptions of Practice, 2003

WESTED AND ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS PUBLICATIONS
California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, 2001
WEB SITES

CSBA: http://www.csba.org

Association of California School Administrators: http://www.acsa.org

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

California Federation of Teachers: http://www.cft.org

California School Employees Association: http://www.csea.com

California Teachers Association: http://www.cta.org

Commission on Teacher Credentialing: http://www.ctc.ca.gov

Council of Chief State School Officers: http://www.ccsso.org

WestEd: http://www.WestEd.org

Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: February 8, 2001 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: April 4, 2002

revised: February 11, 2010

revised: February 28, 2013
CODE OF ETHICS OF THE EDUCATION PROFESSION

Preamble

The educator, believing in the worth and dignity of each human being, recognizes the supreme importance of the pursuit of truth, devotion to excellence, and the nurturing of democratic principles. Essential to these goals is the protection of freedom to learn and to teach and the guarantee of equal educational opportunity for all. The educator accepts the responsibility to adhere to the highest ethical standards.

The educator recognizes the magnitude of the responsibility inherent in the teaching process. The desire for the respect and confidence of one's colleagues, of students, of parents, and of the members of the community provides the incentive to attain and maintain the highest possible degree of ethical conduct. The Code of Ethics of the Education Profession indicates the aspiration of all educators and provides standards by which to judge conduct.

Principle I. Commitment to the Student

The educator strives to help each student realize his/her potential as a worthy and effective member of society. The educator therefore works to stimulate the spirit of inquiry, the acquisition of knowledge and understanding, and the thoughtful formulation of worthy goals.

In fulfillment of the obligation to the student, the educator:

1. Shall not unreasonably restrain the student from independent action in the pursuit of learning

2. Shall not unreasonably deny the student access to varying points of view

3. Shall not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter relevant to the student's progress

4. Shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions harmful to learning or to health and safety

5. Shall not intentionally expose the student to embarrassment or disparagement

6. Shall not on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, national origin, marital status, political or religious beliefs, family, social, or cultural background, or sexual orientation, unfairly:
   a. Exclude any student from participation in any program
   b. Deny benefits to any student
   c. Grant any advantage to any student
7. Shall not use professional relationships with students for private advantage

8. Shall not disclose information in the course of professional service unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law

Principle II. Commitment to the Profession

The education profession is vested by the public with a trust and responsibility requiring the highest ideals of professional service.

In the belief that the quality of the services of the education profession directly influences the nation and its citizens, the educator shall exert every effort to raise professional standards, to promote a climate that encourages the exercise of professional judgment, to achieve conditions that attract persons worthy of the trust to careers in education, and to assist in preventing the practice of the profession by unqualified persons.

In fulfillment of the obligation of the profession, the educator:

1. Shall not in any application for a professional position deliberately make a false statement or fail to disclose a material fact related to competency and qualifications

2. Shall not misrepresent his/her professional qualifications

3. Shall not assist any entry into the profession of a person known to be unqualified in respect to character, education, or other relevant attribute

4. Shall not knowingly make a false statement concerning the qualifications of a candidate for a professional position

5. Shall not assist a noneducator in the unauthorized practice of teaching

6. Shall not disclose information about colleagues obtained in the course of professional service unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law

7. Shall not knowingly make false or malicious statements about a colleague

8. Shall not accept any gratuity, gift, or favor that might impair or appear to influence professional decisions or action

Source: National Education Association, 1975

Exhibit PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

version: April 4, 2002 Palos Verdes Estates, California
Professional Standards

The Board of Education expects district employees to maintain the highest ethical standards, exhibit professional behavior, follow district policies and regulations, abide by state and federal laws, and exercise good judgment when interacting with students and other members of the school community. Employee conduct should enhance the integrity of the district, advance the goals of the district’s educational programs, and contribute to a positive school climate.

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)
(cf. 4119.1/4219.1/4319.1 - Civil and Legal Rights)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

The Board encourages district employees to accept as guiding principles the professional standards and codes of ethics adopted by educational or professional associations to which they may belong.

(cf. 2111 - Superintendent Governance Standards)
(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

Each employee should make a commitment to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill his/her responsibilities and should focus on his/her contribution to the learning and achievement of district students.

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)
(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Inappropriate employee conduct includes, but is not limited to:

1. Engaging in any conduct that endangers students, staff, or others, including, but not limited to, physical violence, threats of violence, or possession of a firearm or other weapon

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)
2. Engaging in harassing or discriminatory behavior towards students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members, or failing or refusing to intervene when an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against a student is observed

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

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

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

3. Physically abusing, sexually abusing, neglecting, or otherwise willfully harming or injuring a child

4. Engaging in inappropriate socialization or fraternization with a student or soliciting, encouraging, or maintaining an inappropriate written, verbal, or physical relationship with a student

5. Possessing or viewing any pornography on school grounds, or possessing or viewing child pornography or other imagery portraying children in a sexualized manner at any time

6. Using profane, obscene, or abusive language against students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members

7. Willfully disrupting district or school operations by loud or unreasonable noise or other action

8. Using tobacco, alcohol, or an illegal or unauthorized substance, or possessing or distributing any controlled substance, while in the workplace or at a school-sponsored activity

(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)

(cf. 4020 - Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace)

(cf. 4112.41/4212.41/4312.41 - Employee Drug Testing)

(cf. 4112.42/4212.42/4312.42 - Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers)

9. Dishonesty with students, parents/guardians, staff, or members of the public, including, but not limited to, falsification of information in employment records or other school records

10. Divulging confidential information about students, district employees, or district operations to persons not authorized to receive the information

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)
11. Using district equipment or other district resources for the employee's own commercial purposes or for political activities

12. Using district equipment or communications devices for personal purposes while on duty, except in an emergency, during scheduled work breaks, or for personal necessity

Employees shall be notified that computer files and all electronic communications, including, but not limited to, email and voice mail, are not private. To ensure proper use, the Superintendent or designee may monitor employee usage of district technological resources at any time without the employee's consent.

13. Causing damage to or engaging in theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district

14. Wearing inappropriate attire

An employee who observes or has evidence of another employee's inappropriate conduct shall immediately report such conduct to the principal or Superintendent or designee. An employee who has knowledge of or suspects child abuse or neglect shall file a report pursuant to the district's child abuse reporting procedures as detailed in AR 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting.

Any reports of employee misconduct shall be promptly investigated. Any employee who is found to have engaged in inappropriate conduct in violation of law or Board policy shall be subject to disciplinary action and, in the case of a certificated employee, may be subject to a report to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. The Superintendent or designee shall notify local law enforcement as appropriate.
An employee who has knowledge of but fails to report inappropriate employee conduct may also be subject to discipline.

The district prohibits retaliation against anyone who files a complaint against an employee or reports an employee's inappropriate conduct. Any employee who retaliates against any such complainant, reporter, or other participant in the district's complaint process shall be subject to discipline.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

44242.5 Reports and review of alleged misconduct

PENAL CODE

11164-11174.4 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

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80303 Reports of dismissal, resignation and other terminations for alleged misconduct

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Management Resources:

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING PUBLICATIONS

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Council of Chief State School Officers: http://www.ccsso.org

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Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: February 8, 2001 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: April 4, 2002

revised: February 11, 2010

revised: February 28, 2013
Code Of Ethics

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES

School employees who are in daily contact with many phases of educational work should be persons whose conduct is beyond reproach and who sincerely believe in the advancement of education and the betterment of working conditions; therefore, the California School Employees' Association proposes this Code of Ethics as a standard for its members.

AS A SCHOOL EMPLOYEE I WILL:

1. Be proud of my vocation in order that I may use my best endeavors to elevate the standards of my position so that I may merit a reputation for high quality of service -- to the end that others may emulate my example.

2. Be a person of integrity, clean speech, desirable personal habits, and physical fitness.

3. Be just in my criticism and be generous in my praise; to improve and not destroy.

4. At all times be courteous in my relations with students, parents, teachers and others.

5. Be a resourceful person who readily adapts himself to different kinds of work and changed conditions and finds better ways to do things.

6. Conduct myself in a spirit of friendly helpfulness to my fellow employees to the end that I will consider no personal success legitimate or ethical which is secured by taking unfair advantage of another.

7. Associate myself with employees of other districts for the purpose of discussing school problems and cooperating in the improvement of public school conditions.

8. Always uphold my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state, my school district and my community, and give them unswerving loyalty.

9. Always bear in mind that the purpose of CSEA is to promote the efficiency and raise the standards of all school employees and that I shall be equally obligated to assist all my fellow workers.

SOURCE: CALIFORNIA SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

Exhibit PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

version: February 8, 2001 Palos Verdes Estates, California
Professional Standards

The Board of Education expects district employees to maintain the highest ethical standards, exhibit professional behavior, follow district policies and regulations, abide by state and federal laws, and exercise good judgment when interacting with students and other members of the school community. Employee conduct should enhance the integrity of the district, advance the goals of the district’s educational programs, and contribute to a positive school climate.

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)
(cf. 4119.1/4219.1/4319.1 - Civil and Legal Rights)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

The Board encourages district employees to accept as guiding principles the professional standards and codes of ethics adopted by educational or professional associations to which they may belong.

(cf. 2111 - Superintendent Governance Standards)
(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

Each employee should make a commitment to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill his/her responsibilities and should focus on his/her contribution to the learning and achievement of district students.

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)
(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Inappropriate employee conduct includes, but is not limited to:

1. Engaging in any conduct that endangers students, staff, or others, including, but not limited to, physical violence, threats of violence, or possession of a firearm or other weapon

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)
2. Engaging in harassing or discriminatory behavior towards students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members, or failing or refusing to intervene when an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against a student is observed

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

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

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

3. Physically abusing, sexually abusing, neglecting, or otherwise willfully harming or injuring a child

4. Engaging in inappropriate socialization or fraternization with a student or soliciting, encouraging, or maintaining an inappropriate written, verbal, or physical relationship with a student

5. Possessing or viewing any pornography on school grounds, or possessing or viewing child pornography or other imagery portraying children in a sexualized manner at any time

6. Using profane, obscene, or abusive language against students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members

7. Willfully disrupting district or school operations by loud or unreasonable noise or other action

8. Using tobacco, alcohol, or an illegal or unauthorized substance, or possessing or distributing any controlled substance, while in the workplace or at a school-sponsored activity

(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)

(cf. 4020 - Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace)

(cf. 4112.41/4212.41/4312.41 - Employee Drug Testing)

(cf. 4112.42/4212.42/4312.42 - Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers)

9. Dishonesty with students, parents/guardians, staff, or members of the public, including, but not limited to, falsification of information in employment records or other school records

10. Divulging confidential information about students, district employees, or district operations to persons not authorized to receive the information

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

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

(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

11. Using district equipment or other district resources for the employee's own commercial purposes or for political activities

(cf. 4119.25/4219.25/4319.25 - Political Activities of Employees)

12. Using district equipment or communications devices for personal purposes while on duty, except in an emergency, during scheduled work breaks, or for personal necessity

Employees shall be notified that computer files and all electronic communications, including, but not limited to, email and voice mail, are not private. To ensure proper use, the Superintendent or designee may monitor employee usage of district technological resources at any time without the employee's consent.

(cf. 4040 - Employee Use of Technology)

13. Causing damage to or engaging in theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district

14. Wearing inappropriate attire

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

An employee who observes or has evidence of another employee's inappropriate conduct shall immediately report such conduct to the principal or Superintendent or designee. An employee who has knowledge of or suspects child abuse or neglect shall file a report pursuant to the district's child abuse reporting procedures as detailed in AR 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

Any reports of employee misconduct shall be promptly investigated. Any employee who is found to have engaged in inappropriate conduct in violation of law or Board policy shall be subject to disciplinary action and, in the case of a certificated employee, may be subject to a report to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. The Superintendent or designee shall notify local law enforcement as appropriate.

(cf. 4117.4 - Dismissal)

(cf. 4117.7 - Employment Status Reports)

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
An employee who has knowledge of but fails to report inappropriate employee conduct may also be subject to discipline.

The district prohibits retaliation against anyone who files a complaint against an employee or reports an employee's inappropriate conduct. Any employee who retaliates against any such complainant, reporter, or other participant in the district's complaint process shall be subject to discipline.

Legal Reference:

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11164-11174.4 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

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Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: February 8, 2001 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: April 4, 2002

revised: February 11, 2010

revised: February 28, 2013
Professional Standards

CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERS

Preamble

The administrator(s) at a school site have numerous responsibilities that ultimately lead to the improvement of the performance of all students in the school. By administrator(s) acquiring the skills, attitudes and behaviors as outlined in the following Professional Standards for School Leaders, students will have the best opportunity to achieve the mission and vision of the district and to meet the expectations of high standards for student learning.

Inherent in these standards is a strong commitment to cultural diversity and the use of technology as a powerful tool.

A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by:

Standard 1: Facilitating the development, articulation, implementation, and stewardship of a vision of learning that is shared and supported by the school community

1. Facilitate the development of a shared vision for the achievement of all students based upon data from multiple measures of student learning and relevant qualitative indicators.

2. Communicate the shared vision so the entire school community understands and acts on the school's mission to become a standards-based education system.

3. Use the influence of diversity to improve teaching and learning.

4. Identify and address any barriers to accomplishing the vision.

5. Shape school programs, plans, and activities to ensure that they are integrated, articulated through the grades, and consistent with the vision.

6. Leverage and marshal sufficient resources, including technology, to implement and attain the vision for all students and all subgroups of students.

Standard 2: Advocating, nurturing, and sustaining a school culture and instructional program conducive to student learning and staff professional growth

1. Shape a culture in which high expectations are the norm for each student as evident in rigorous academic work.

2. Promote equity, fairness, and respect among all members of the school community.
3. Facilitate the use of a variety of appropriate content-based learning materials and learning strategies that recognize students as active learners, value reflection and inquiry, emphasize the quality versus the amount of student application and performance, and utilize appropriate and effective technology.

4. Guide and support the long-term professional development of all staff consistent with the ongoing effort to improve the learning of all students relative to the content standards.

5. Provide opportunities for all members of the school community to develop and use skills in collaboration, distributed leadership, and shared responsibility.


7. Utilize multiple assessments to evaluate student learning in an ongoing process focused on improving the academic performance of each student.

Standard 3: Ensuring management of the organization, operations, and resources for a safe, efficient and effective learning environment

1. Sustain a safe, efficient, clean, well-maintained, and productive school environment that nurtures student learning and supports the professional growth of teachers and support staff.

2. Utilize effective and nurturing practices in establishing student behavior management systems.

3. Establish school structures and processes that support student learning.

4. Utilize effective systems management, organizational development, and problem-solving and decision-making techniques.

5. Align fiscal, human, and material resources to support the learning of all subgroups of students.

6. Monitor and evaluate the program and staff.

7. Manage legal and contractual agreements and records in ways that foster a professional work environment and secure privacy and confidentiality for all students and staff.

Standard 4: Collaborating with families and community members, responding to diverse community interests and needs, and mobilizing community resources

1. Recognize and respect the goals and aspirations of diverse family and community groups.

2. Treat diverse community stakeholder groups with fairness and respect.

3. Incorporate information about family and community expectations into school decision-making and activities.
4. Strengthen the school through the establishment of community, business, institutional, and civic partnerships.

5. Communicate information about the school on a regular and predictable basis through a variety of media.

6. Support the equitable success of all students and all subgroups of students by mobilizing and leveraging community support services.

Standard 5: Modeling a personal code of ethics and developing professional leadership capacity

1. Model personal and professional ethics, integrity, justice, and fairness, and expect the same behaviors from others.

2. Protect the rights and confidentiality of students and staff.

3. Use the influence of office to enhance the educational program, not personal gain.

4. Make and communicate decisions based upon relevant data and research about effective teaching and learning, leadership, management practices, and equity.

5. Demonstrate knowledge of the standards-based curriculum and the ability to integrate and articulate programs throughout the grades.

6. Demonstrate skills in decision-making, problem solving, change management, planning, conflict management, and evaluation.

7. Reflect on personal leadership practices and recognize their impact and influence on the performance of others.

8. Engage in professional and personal development.

9. Encourage and inspire others to higher levels of performance, commitment, and motivation.

10. Sustain personal motivation, commitment, energy, and health by balancing professional and personal responsibilities.

Standard 6: Understanding, responding to, and influencing the larger political, social, economic, legal, and cultural context

1. Work with the Board of Education and district and local leaders to influence policies that benefit students and support the improvement of teaching and learning.

2. Influence and support public policies that ensure the equitable distribution of resources and support for all subgroups of students.
3. Ensure that the school operates consistently within the parameters of federal, state, and local laws, policies, regulations, and statutory requirements.

4. Generate support for the school by two-way communications with key decision-makers in the school community.


6. View oneself as a leader of a team and also as a member of a larger team.

7. Open the school to the public and welcome and facilitate constructive conversations about how to improve student learning and achievement.

Source: California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders by California School Leadership Academy at WestEd and the Association of California School Administrators. Reprinted with permission. Intended for use with the descriptions of practice in Moving Standards into Everyday Work, available from WestEd.

Exhibit PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

version: February 28, 2013 Palos Verdes Estates, California
Sexual Harassment

The Board of Education prohibits sexual harassment of district employees and job applicants. The Board also prohibits retaliatory behavior or action against district employees or other persons who complain, testify or otherwise participate in the complaint process established pursuant to this policy and administrative regulation.

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

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

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

1. Providing training to employees in accordance with law and administrative regulation
2. Publicizing and disseminating the district's sexual harassment policy to staff
3. Ensuring prompt, thorough, and fair investigation of complaints
4. Taking timely and appropriate corrective/remedial action(s), which may require interim separation of the complainant and the alleged harasser and subsequent monitoring of developments

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

Any district employee or job applicant who feels that he/she has been sexually harassed or who has knowledge of any incident of sexual harassment by or against another employee, a job applicant or a student, shall immediately report the incident to his/her supervisor, the principal, district administrator or Superintendent.

A supervisor, principal or other district administrator who receives a harassment complaint shall promptly notify the Superintendent or designee.

Complaints of sexual harassment shall be filed in accordance with AR 4031 Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment. An employee may bypass his/her supervisor in filing a complaint where the supervisor is the subject of the complaint.

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)

Any district employee who engages or participates in sexual harassment or who aids, abets, incites, compels, or coerces another to commit sexual harassment against a district employee, job applicant, or student is in violation of this policy and is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.
(cf. 4117.4 - Dismissal)

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

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

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex

GOVERNMENT CODE

12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act, especially:

12940 Prohibited discrimination

12950.1 Sexual harassment training

LABOR CODE

1101 Political activities of employees

1102.1 Discrimination: sexual orientation

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

7287.8 Retaliation

7288.0 Sexual harassment training and education

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

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

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

2000d-2000d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964

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

2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
106.9 Dissemination of policy

COURT DECISIONS

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


Management Resources:

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL

Protecting Students from Harassment and Hate Crime, January, 1999

WEB SITES

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


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

Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: October 27, 2005 Palos Verdes Estates, California
Sexual Harassment

Definitions

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

1. Submission to the conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of the individual's employment.

2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by the individual is used as the basis for an employment decision affecting him/her.

3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's work or has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment. The conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent, pervasive, or objectively offensive so as to create a hostile or abusive working environment or to limit the individual's ability to participate in or benefit from an education program or activity.

4. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by the other individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting him/her regarding benefits, services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the district.

Other examples of actions that might constitute sexual harassment, whether committed by a supervisor, a co-worker, or a non-employee, in the work or educational setting, include, but are not limited to:

1. Unwelcome verbal conduct such as sexual flirtations or propositions; graphic comments about an individual's body; overly personal conversations or pressure for sexual activity; sexual jokes or stories; unwelcome sexual slurs, epithets, threats, innuendoes, derogatory comments, sexually degrading descriptions, or the spreading of sexual rumors

2. Unwelcome visual conduct such as drawings, pictures, graffiti, or gestures; sexually explicit emails; displaying sexually suggestive objects

3. Unwelcome physical conduct such as massaging, grabbing, fondling, stroking, or brushing the body; touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way; cornering, blocking, leaning over, or impeding normal movements

Prohibited sexual harassment may also include any act of retaliation against an individual who reports a violation of the district's sexual harassment policy or who participates in the investigation of a sexual harassment complaint.

Training
Every two years, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that supervisory employees receive at least two hours of classroom or other effective interactive training and education regarding sexual harassment. All newly hired or promoted supervisory employees shall receive training within six months of their assumption of the supervisory position. (Government Code 12950.1)

The district's training and education program for supervisory employees shall include information and practical guidance regarding the federal and state laws on the prohibition against and the prevention and correction of sexual harassment, and the remedies available to the victims of sexual harassment in employment. The training shall also include all of the content specified in 2 CCR 7288.0 and practical examples aimed at instructing supervisors in the prevention of harassment, discrimination, and retaliation. (Government Code 12950.1; 2 CCR 7288.0)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all employees receive periodic training regarding the district's sexual harassment policy, particularly the procedures for filing complaints and employees' duty to use the district's complaint procedures.

Notifications

A copy of the Board policy and this administrative regulation shall: (Education Code 231.5)

1. Be displayed in a prominent location in the main administrative building, district office, or other area of the school where notices of district rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct are posted

2. Be provided to each faculty member, all members of the administrative staff, and all members of the support staff at the beginning of the first quarter or semester of the school year or whenever a new employee is hired

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

3. Appear in any school or district publication that sets forth the school's or district's comprehensive rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct

All employees shall receive either a copy of information sheets prepared by the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) or a copy of district information sheets that contain, at a minimum, components on: (Government Code 12950)

1. The illegality of sexual harassment

2. The definition of sexual harassment under applicable state and federal law

3. A description of sexual harassment, with examples

4. The district's complaint process available to the employee

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)
5. The legal remedies and complaint process available through DFEH and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

6. Directions on how to contact DFEH and the EEOC

7. The protection against retaliation provided by 2 CCR 7287.8 for opposing harassment prohibited by law or for filing a complaint with or otherwise participating in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing conducted by DFEH and the EEOC

In addition, the district shall post, in a prominent and accessible location, DFEH's poster on discrimination in employment and the illegality of sexual harassment. (Government Code 12950)

Regulation PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: October 27, 2005 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: May 22, 2008
Sexual Harassment

The Board of Education prohibits sexual harassment of district employees and job applicants. The Board also prohibits retaliatory behavior or action against district employees or other persons who complain, testify or otherwise participate in the complaint process established pursuant to this policy and administrative regulation.

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

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

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

1. Providing training to employees in accordance with law and administrative regulation
2. Publicizing and disseminating the district’s sexual harassment policy to staff
   (cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)
3. Ensuring prompt, thorough, and fair investigation of complaints
4. Taking timely and appropriate corrective/remedial action(s), which may require interim separation of the complainant and the alleged harasser and subsequent monitoring of developments

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

Any district employee or job applicant who feels that he/she has been sexually harassed or who has knowledge of any incident of sexual harassment by or against another employee, a job applicant or a student, shall immediately report the incident to his/her supervisor, the principal, district administrator or Superintendent.

A supervisor, principal or other district administrator who receives a harassment complaint shall promptly notify the Superintendent or designee.

Complaints of sexual harassment shall be filed in accordance with AR 4031 Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment. An employee may bypass his/her supervisor in filing a complaint where the supervisor is the subject of the complaint.

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)

Any district employee who engages or participates in sexual harassment or who aids, abets, incites, compels, or coerces another to commit sexual harassment against a district employee, job applicant, or student is in violation of this policy and is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.
(cf. 4117.4 - Dismissal)

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

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

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

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106.9 Dissemination of policy

COURT DECISIONS

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


Management Resources:

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL

Protecting Students from Harassment and Hate Crime, January, 1999

WEB SITES

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Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: October 27, 2005 Palos Verdes Estates, California
Sexual Harassment

Definitions

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

1. Submission to the conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of the individual's employment.

2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by the individual is used as the basis for an employment decision affecting him/her.

3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's work or has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment. The conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent, pervasive, or objectively offensive so as to create a hostile or abusive working environment or to limit the individual's ability to participate in or benefit from an education program or activity.

4. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by the other individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting him/her regarding benefits, services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the district.

Other examples of actions that might constitute sexual harassment, whether committed by a supervisor, a co-worker, or a non-employee, in the work or educational setting, include, but are not limited to:

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2. Unwelcome visual conduct such as drawings, pictures, graffiti, or gestures; sexually explicit emails; displaying sexually suggestive objects

3. Unwelcome physical conduct such as massaging, grabbing, fondling, stroking, or brushing the body; touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way; cornering, blocking, leaning over, or impeding normal movements

Prohibited sexual harassment may also include any act of retaliation against an individual who reports a violation of the district’s sexual harassment policy or who participates in the investigation of a sexual harassment complaint.

Training
Every two years, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that supervisory employees receive at least two hours of classroom or other effective interactive training and education regarding sexual harassment. All newly hired or promoted supervisory employees shall receive training within six months of their assumption of the supervisory position. (Government Code 12950.1)

The district's training and education program for supervisory employees shall include information and practical guidance regarding the federal and state laws on the prohibition against and the prevention and correction of sexual harassment, and the remedies available to the victims of sexual harassment in employment. The training shall also include all of the content specified in 2 CCR 7288.0 and practical examples aimed at instructing supervisors in the prevention of harassment, discrimination, and retaliation. (Government Code 12950.1; 2 CCR 7288.0)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all employees receive periodic training regarding the district's sexual harassment policy, particularly the procedures for filing complaints and employees' duty to use the district's complaint procedures.

Notifications

A copy of the Board policy and this administrative regulation shall: (Education Code 231.5)

1. Be displayed in a prominent location in the main administrative building, district office, or other area of the school where notices of district rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct are posted

2. Be provided to each faculty member, all members of the administrative staff, and all members of the support staff at the beginning of the first quarter or semester of the school year or whenever a new employee is hired

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

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2. The definition of sexual harassment under applicable state and federal law

3. A description of sexual harassment, with examples

4. The district's complaint process available to the employee

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)
5. The legal remedies and complaint process available through DFEH and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

6. Directions on how to contact DFEH and the EEOC

7. The protection against retaliation provided by 2 CCR 7287.8 for opposing harassment prohibited by law or for filing a complaint with or otherwise participating in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing conducted by DFEH and the EEOC

In addition, the district shall post, in a prominent and accessible location, DFEH's poster on discrimination in employment and the illegality of sexual harassment. (Government Code 12950)

Regulation PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: October 27, 2005 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: May 22, 2008
Sexual Harassment

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

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

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

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

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)
3. Ensuring prompt, thorough, and fair investigation of complaints
4. Taking timely and appropriate corrective/remedial action(s), which may require interim separation of the complainant and the alleged harasser and subsequent monitoring of developments

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A supervisor, principal or other district administrator who receives a harassment complaint shall promptly notify the Superintendent or designee.

Complaints of sexual harassment shall be filed in accordance with AR 4031 Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment. An employee may bypass his/her supervisor in filing a complaint where the supervisor is the subject of the complaint.

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)

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(cf. 4117.4 - Dismissal)

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

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200h-2-200h-6 Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments

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WEB SITES

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Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: October 27, 2005 Palos Verdes Estates, California
Palos Verdes Peninsula USD | 4000 | AR 4319.11 Personnel

Sexual Harassment

Definitions

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

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4. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by the other individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting him/her regarding benefits, services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the district.

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2. Unwelcome visual conduct such as drawings, pictures, graffiti, or gestures; sexually explicit emails; displaying sexually suggestive objects

3. Unwelcome physical conduct such as massaging, grabbing, fondling, stroking, or brushing the body; touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way; cornering, blocking, leaning over, or impeding normal movements

Prohibited sexual harassment may also include any act of retaliation against an individual who reports a violation of the district's sexual harassment policy or who participates in the investigation of a sexual harassment complaint.

Training
Every two years, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that supervisory employees receive at least two hours of classroom or other effective interactive training and education regarding sexual harassment. All newly hired or promoted supervisory employees shall receive training within six months of their assumption of the supervisory position. (Government Code 12950.1)

The district's training and education program for supervisory employees shall include information and practical guidance regarding the federal and state laws on the prohibition against and the prevention and correction of sexual harassment, and the remedies available to the victims of sexual harassment in employment. The training shall also include all of the content specified in 2 CCR 7288.0 and practical examples aimed at instructing supervisors in the prevention of harassment, discrimination, and retaliation. (Government Code 12950.1; 2 CCR 7288.0)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all employees receive periodic training regarding the district's sexual harassment policy, particularly the procedures for filing complaints and employees' duty to use the district's complaint procedures.

Notifications

A copy of the Board policy and this administrative regulation shall: (Education Code 231.5)

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2. Be provided to each faculty member, all members of the administrative staff, and all members of the support staff at the beginning of the first quarter or semester of the school year or whenever a new employee is hired

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

3. Appear in any school or district publication that sets forth the school's or district's comprehensive rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct

All employees shall receive either a copy of information sheets prepared by the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) or a copy of district information sheets that contain, at a minimum, components on: (Government Code 12950)

1. The illegality of sexual harassment

2. The definition of sexual harassment under applicable state and federal law

3. A description of sexual harassment, with examples

4. The district's complaint process available to the employee

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)
5. The legal remedies and complaint process available through DFEH and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

6. Directions on how to contact DFEH and the EEOC

7. The protection against retaliation provided by 2 CCR 7287.8 for opposing harassment prohibited by law or for filing a complaint with or otherwise participating in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing conducted by DFEH and the EEOC

In addition, the district shall post, in a prominent and accessible location, DFEH's poster on discrimination in employment and the illegality of sexual harassment. (Government Code 12950)

Regulation PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: October 27, 2005 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: May 22, 2008
Sexual Harassment

The Board of Education is committed to maintaining a safe school environment that is free from harassment and discrimination. The Board prohibits sexual harassment of students at school or at school-sponsored or school-related activities. The Board also prohibits retaliatory behavior or action against any person who files a complaint, testifies, or otherwise participates in district complaint processes.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction)

Instruction/Information

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all district students receive age-appropriate instruction and information on sexual harassment. Such instruction and information shall include:

1. What acts and behavior constitute sexual harassment, including the fact that sexual harassment could occur between people of the same sex and could involve sexual violence
2. A clear message that students do not have to endure sexual harassment
3. Encouragement to report observed instances of sexual harassment, even where the victim of the harassment has not complained
4. Information about the district's procedure for investigating complaints and the person(s) to whom a report of sexual harassment should be made
5. Information about the rights of students and parents/guardians to file a criminal complaint, as applicable

Complaint Process
Any student who feels that he/she is being or has been sexually harassed on school grounds or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity (e.g., by a visiting athlete or coach) shall immediately contact his/her teacher or any other employee. An employee who receives such a complaint shall report it in accordance with administrative regulation.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that any complaints regarding sexual harassment are immediately investigated in accordance with administrative regulation. When the Superintendent or designee has determined that harassment has occurred, he/she shall take prompt, appropriate action to end the harassment and to address its effects on the victim.

Disciplinary Actions

Any student who engages in sexual harassment or sexual violence at school or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity is in violation of this policy and shall be subject to disciplinary action. For students in grades 4-12, disciplinary action may include suspension and/or expulsion, provided that, in imposing such discipline, the entire circumstances of the incident(s) shall be taken into account.

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

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

Confidentiality and Record-Keeping

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

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

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of sexual harassment to enable the district to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive harassing behavior in the schools.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex

48900 Grounds for suspension or expulsion

48900.2 Additional grounds for suspension or expulsion; sexual harassment
48904 Liability of parent/guardian for willful student misconduct

48980 Notice at beginning of term

CIVIL CODE

51.9 Liability for sexual harassment; business, service and professional relationships

1714.1 Liability of parents/guardians for willful misconduct of minor

GOVERNMENT CODE

12950.1 Sexual harassment training

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedures

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Title IX, discrimination

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1983 Civil action for deprivation of rights

2000d-2000d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964

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

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

106.1-106.71 Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs

COURT DECISIONS


Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified School District, (2003, 9th Cir.) 324 F.3d 1130


Oona by Kate S. v. McCaffrey, (1998, 9th Cir.) 143 F.3d 473

Doe v. Petaluma City School District, (1995, 9th Cir.) 54 F.3d 1447

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Safe Schools: Strategies for Board of Educations to Ensure Student Success, 2011

Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment for All Students, Policy Brief, April 2010

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS

Dear Colleague Letter: Sexual Violence, April 4, 2011

Sexual Harassment: It's Not Academic, September 2008

Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance, January 2001

WEB SITES

CSBA: http://www.csba.org

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

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

Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: March 8, 2001 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: April 4, 2002

revised: September 10, 2009

revised: November 8, 2012
Palos Verdes Peninsula USD | 5000 | AR 5145.7 Students

Sexual Harassment

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

1. Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or condition of a student's academic status or progress.

2. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by a student is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting the student.

3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact on the student's academic performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.

4. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by the student is used as the basis for any decision affecting the student regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through any district program or activity.

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

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

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

1. Unwelcome leering, sexual flirtations, or propositions

2. Unwelcome sexual slurs, epithets, threats, verbal abuse, derogatory comments, or sexually degrading descriptions

3. Graphic verbal comments about an individual's body or overly personal conversation

4. Sexual jokes, derogatory posters, notes, stories, cartoons, drawings, pictures, obscene gestures, or computer-generated images of a sexual nature

5. Spreading sexual rumors
6. Teasing or sexual remarks about students enrolled in a predominantly single-sex class

7. Massaging, grabbing, fondling, stroking, or brushing the body

8. Touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way

9. Impeding or blocking movements or any physical interference with school activities when directed at an individual on the basis of sex

10. Displaying sexually suggestive objects

11. Sexual assault, sexual battery, or sexual coercion

School-Level Complaint Process/Grievance Procedure

Complaints of sexual harassment, or any behavior prohibited by the district's Nondiscrimination/Harassment policy - BP 5145.3, shall be handled in accordance with the following procedure:

1. Notice and Receipt of Complaint: Any student who believes he/she has been subjected to sexual harassment or who has witnessed sexual harassment may file a complaint with any school employee. Within 24 hours of receiving a complaint, the school employee shall report it to the district Coordinator for Nondiscrimination/Principal. In addition, any school employee who observes any incident of sexual harassment involving a student shall, within 24 hours, report this observation to the Coordinator/Principal, whether or not the victim files a complaint.

In any case of sexual harassment involving the Coordinator/Principal to whom the complaint would ordinarily be made, the employee who receives the student's report or who observes the incident shall instead report to the Superintendent or designee.

2. Initiation of Investigation: The Coordinator/Principal shall initiate an impartial investigation of an allegation of sexual harassment within five school days of receiving notice of the harassing behavior, regardless of whether a formal complaint has been filed. The district shall be considered to have "notice" of the need for an investigation upon receipt of information from a student who believes he/she has been subjected to harassment, the student's parent/guardian, an employee who received a complaint from a student, or any employee or student who witnessed the behavior.

If the Coordinator/Principal receives an anonymous complaint or media report about alleged sexual harassment, he/she shall determine whether it is reasonable to pursue an investigation considering the specificity and reliability of the information, the seriousness of the alleged incident, and whether any individuals can be identified who were subjected to the alleged harassment.

3. Initial Interview with Student: When a student or parent/guardian has complained or provided information about sexual harassment, the Coordinator/Principal shall describe the district's grievance procedure and discuss what actions are being sought by the student in response to the complaint. The student who is complaining shall have an opportunity to describe the incident, identify witnesses who may have relevant information, provide other evidence of the harassment, and put his/her complaint in
writing. If the student requests confidentiality, he/she shall be informed that such a request may limit the district’s ability to investigate.

4. Investigation Process: The Coordinator/Principal shall keep the complaint and allegation confidential, except as necessary to carry out the investigation or take other subsequent necessary action. (5 CCR 4964)

The Coordinator/Principal shall interview individuals who are relevant to the investigation, including, but not limited to, the student who is complaining, the person accused of harassment, anyone who witnessed the reported harassment, and anyone mentioned as having relevant information. The Coordinator/Principal may take other steps such as reviewing any records, notes, or statements related to the harassment or visiting the location where the harassment is alleged to have taken place.

When necessary to carry out his/her investigation or to protect student safety, the Coordinator/Principal also may discuss the complaint with the Superintendent or designee, the parent/guardian of the student who complained, the parent/guardian of the alleged harasser if the alleged harasser is a student, a teacher or staff member whose knowledge of the students involved may help in determining who is telling the truth, law enforcement and/or child protective services, and district legal counsel or the district’s risk manager.

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

5. Interim Measures: The Coordinator/Principal shall determine whether interim measures are necessary during and pending the results of the investigation, such as placing students in separate classes or transferring a student to a class taught by a different teacher.

6. Optional Mediation: In cases of student-on-student harassment, when the student who complained and the alleged harasser so agree, the Coordinator/Principal may arrange for them to resolve the complaint informally with the help of a counselor, teacher, administrator, or trained mediator. The student who complained shall never be asked to work out the problem directly with the accused person unless such help is provided and both parties agree, and he/she shall be advised of the right to end the informal process at any time.

(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution)

7. Factors in Reaching a Determination: In reaching a decision about the complaint, the Coordinator/Principal may take into account:

a. Statements made by the persons identified above

b. The details and consistency of each person's account

c. Evidence of how the complaining student reacted to the incident

d. Evidence of any past instances of harassment by the alleged harasser

e. Evidence of any past harassment complaints that were found to be untrue
To judge the severity of the harassment, the Coordinator/Principal may take into consideration:

a. How the misconduct affected one or more students’ education

b. The type, frequency, and duration of the misconduct

c. The identity, age, and sex of the harasser and the student who complained, and the relationship between them

d. The number of persons engaged in the harassing conduct and at whom the harassment was directed

e. The size of the school, location of the incidents, and context in which they occurred

f. Other incidents at the school involving different students

8. Written Report on Findings and Follow-Up: No more than 30 days after receiving the complaint, the Coordinator/Principal shall conclude the investigation and prepare a written report of his/her findings. This timeline may be extended for good cause. If an extension is needed, the Coordinator/Principal shall notify the student who complained and explain the reasons for the extension.

The report shall include the decision and the reasons for the decision and shall summarize the steps taken during the investigation. If it is determined that harassment occurred, the report shall also include any corrective actions that have or will be taken to address the harassment and prevent any retaliation or further harassment. This report shall be presented to the student who complained, the person accused, the parents/guardians of the student who complained and the student who was accused, and the Superintendent or designee.

In addition, the Coordinator/Principal shall ensure that the harassed student and his/her parent/guardian are informed of the procedures for reporting any subsequent problems. The Coordinator/Principal shall make follow-up inquiries to see if there have been any new incidents or retaliation and shall keep a record of this information.

Enforcement of District Policy

The Superintendent or designee shall take appropriate actions to reinforce the district’s sexual harassment policy. As needed, these actions may include any of the following:

1. Removing vulgar or offending graffiti

(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti)

2. Providing training to students, staff, and parents/guardians about how to recognize harassment and how to respond

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
3. Disseminating and/or summarizing the district's policy and regulation regarding sexual harassment

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

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

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

5. Taking appropriate disciplinary action

In addition, disciplinary measures may be taken against any person who is found to have made a complaint of sexual harassment which he/she knew was not true.

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

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

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

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

Notifications

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

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

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

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

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

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

5. Be included in the student handbook

6. Be provided to employees and employee organizations
Regulation PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: March 8, 2001 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: April 4, 2002

revised: September 10, 2009

revised: November 8, 2012
Tobacco-Free Schools

The Board of Education recognizes that the health hazards associated with smoking and the use of tobacco products, including the breathing of second-hand smoke, are inconsistent with its goal to provide a healthy environment for students and staff.

(cf. 3514 - Environmental Safety)
(cf. 4159/4259/4359 - Employee Assistance Programs)
(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)
(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)
(cf. 5141.23 - Asthma Management)
(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

The Board prohibits the use of tobacco products at any time in district-owned or leased buildings, on district property, and in district vehicles. (Health and Safety Code 104420; Labor Code 6404.5; 20 USC 6083)

This prohibition applies to all employees, students, and visitors at any school-sponsored instructional program, activity, or athletic event held on or off district property. Any written joint use agreement governing community use of district facilities or grounds shall include notice of the district's tobacco-free schools policy and consequences for violations of the policy.

(cf. 1330 - Use of School Facilities)
(cf. 1330.1 - Joint Use Agreements)

Prohibited products include any product containing tobacco or nicotine, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew, clove cigarettes, betel, and nicotine delivery devices such as electronic cigarettes. Exceptions may be made for the use or possession of prescription nicotine products.

Smoking or use of any tobacco-related products and disposal of any tobacco-related waste are prohibited within 25 feet of any playground, except on a public sidewalk located within 25 feet of the playground. (Health and Safety Code 104495)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
48900 Grounds for suspension/expulsion
48901 Prohibition against tobacco use by students

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
39002 Control of air pollution from nonvehicular sources
104350-104495 Tobacco use prevention, especially:
104495 Prohibition of smoking and tobacco waste on playgrounds
119405 Unlawful to sell or furnish electronic cigarettes to minors

LABOR CODE
3300 Employer, definition
6304 Safe and healthful workplace
6404.5 Occupational safety and health; use of tobacco products

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
6083 Nonsmoking policy for children's services
7100-7117 Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 21
1140.1-1140.34 Unlawful sale of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco to minors

PERB RULINGS
Eureka Teachers Assn. v. Eureka City School District (1992) PERB Order #955 (16 PERC 23168)
CSEA #506 and Associated Teachers of Metropolitan Riverside v. Riverside Unified School District (1989)
PERB Order #750 (13 PERC 20147)

Management Resources:

WEB SITES
California Department of Education, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention:
http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/at

California Department of Public Health, Tobacco Control: http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/tobacco

Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board: http://www.dir.ca.gov/OSHSB/oshsb.html

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: http://www.epa.gov

Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: October 23, 2003 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: September 8, 2011
Palos Verdes Peninsula USD | 3000 | AR 3513.3 Business and Noninstructional Operations

Tobacco-Free Schools

Notifications

Information about the district’s tobacco-free schools policy and enforcement procedures shall be communicated clearly to employees, parents/guardians, students, and the community. (Health and Safety Code 104420)

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

The Superintendent or designee may disseminate this information through annual written notifications, district and school web sites, student and parent handbooks, and/or other appropriate methods of communication.

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

Signs stating “Tobacco use is prohibited” shall be prominently displayed at all entrances to school property. (Health and Safety Code 104420)

Enforcement/Discipline

Any employee or student who violates the district’s tobacco-free schools policy shall be asked to refrain from smoking and shall be subject to disciplinary action as appropriate.

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

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

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

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

Any other person who violates the district’s policy on tobacco-free schools shall be informed of the district’s policy and asked to refrain from smoking. If the person fails to comply with this request, the Superintendent or designee may:

1. Direct the person to leave school property

2. Request local law enforcement assistance in removing the person from school premises

3. If the person repeatedly violates the tobacco-free schools policy, prohibit him/her from entering district property for a specified period of time

(cf. 1250 - Visitors/Outsiders)
(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)

The Superintendent or designee shall not be required to physically eject a nonemployee who is smoking or to request that the nonemployee refrain from smoking under circumstances involving a risk of physical harm to the district or any employee. (Labor Code 6404.5)

Regulation PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: March 22, 2001 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: February 27, 2003

revised: September 8, 2011
Uniform Complaint Procedures

The Board of Education recognizes that the district has the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The district shall investigate and seek to resolve any complaints alleging failure to comply with such laws and/or alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying in accordance with the uniform complaint procedures.

The district shall use the uniform complaint procedures to resolve any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying in district programs and activities based on actual or perceived characteristics of race or ethnicity, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Penal Code 422.55, or Government Code 11135, or based on association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

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

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

Uniform complaint procedures shall also be used to address any complaint alleging the district's failure to comply with the prohibition against requiring students to pay fees, deposits, or other charges for participation in educational activities, the requirements for the development and adoption of a school safety plan, and state and/or federal laws in adult education programs, consolidated categorical aid programs, migrant education, career technical and technical education and training programs, child care and development programs, child nutrition programs, and special education programs.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)
The Board prohibits any form of retaliation against any complainant in the complaint process. Participation in the complaint process shall not in any way affect the status, grades, or work assignments of the complainant.

The Board encourages the early, informal resolution of complaints at the site level whenever possible.

The Board recognizes that a neutral mediator can often suggest a compromise that is agreeable to all parties in a dispute. In accordance with the uniform complaint procedures, whenever all parties to a complaint agree to try resolving the problem through mediation, the Superintendent or designee shall initiate that process. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the results are consistent with state and federal laws and regulations.

In investigating complaints, the confidentiality of the parties involved and the integrity of the process shall be protected. As appropriate for any complaint alleging discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, the Superintendent or designee may keep the identity of a complainant confidential to the extent that the investigation of the complaint is not obstructed.

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

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)
The district's Williams uniform complaint procedures, AR 1312.4, shall be used to investigate and resolve any complaint related to the following:

1. Sufficiency of textbooks or instructional materials
2. Emergency or urgent facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health or safety of students or staff
3. Teacher vacancies and misassignments
4. Deficiency in the district's provision of instruction and/or services to any student who, by the completion of grade 12, has not passed one or both parts of the high school exit examination

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination
8200-8498 Child care and development programs
8500-8538 Adult basic education
18100-18203 School libraries
32289 School safety plan, uniform complaint procedures
35186 Williams uniform complaint procedures
37254 Intensive instruction and services for students who have not passed exit exam
41500-41513 Categorical education block grants
48985 Notices in language other than English
49010-49013 Student fees
49060-49079 Student records
49490-49590 Child nutrition programs
52160-52178 Bilingual education programs
52300-52490 Career technical education
52500-52616.24 Adult schools
52800-52870 School-based program coordination
54000-54028 Economic impact aid programs
54100-54145 Miller-Unruh Basic Reading Act
54400-54425 Compensatory education programs
54440-54445 Migrant education
54460-54529 Compensatory education programs
56000-56867 Special education programs
59000-59300 Special schools and centers
64000-64001 Consolidated application process

GOVERNMENT CODE
11135 Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state
12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act

PENAL CODE
422.55 Hate crime; definition
422.6 Interference with constitutional right or privilege

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
3080 Application of section
4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedures
4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
6301-6577 Title I basic programs
6601-6777 Title II preparing and recruiting high quality teachers and principals
6801-6871 Title III language instruction for limited English proficient and immigrant students
7101-7184 Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act
7201-7283g Title V promoting informed parental choice and innovative programs

7301-7372 Title V rural and low-income school programs

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: http://www.csba.org

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

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

Policy PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: October 23, 2003 Palos Verdes Estates, California

revised: March 10, 2005

revised: June 29, 2006

revised: November 8, 2012

revised: March 14, 2013
Palos Verdes Peninsula USD | AR 1312.3 Community Relations

Uniform Complaint Procedures

Except as the Board of Education may otherwise specifically provide in other Board policies, the uniform complaint procedures shall be used only to investigate and resolve complaints alleging violations of federal or state laws or regulations governing specific educational programs, the prohibition against requiring students to pay fees, deposits, or other charges for participating in educational activities, and unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, as specified in accompanying Board policy.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)

The district’s uniform complaint procedures policy and administrative regulation shall be posted in all district schools and offices, including staff lounges and student government meeting rooms. If 15 percent or more of students enrolled in a particular district school speak a single primary language other than English, the district’s policy, regulation, forms, and notices concerning uniform complaint procedures shall be translated into that language. (Education Code 234.1, 48985)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Compliance Officers

The following compliance officer shall receive and investigate complaints and shall ensure district compliance with law:

Chief Academic Officer

375 Via Almar

Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

(310) 378-9966

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that employees designated to investigate complaints are knowledgeable about the laws and programs for which they are responsible. Designated employees may have access to legal counsel as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

(cf. 9124 - Attorney)

Notifications
The Superintendent or designee shall annually provide written notification of the district's uniform complaint procedures to students, employees, parents/guardians, the district advisory committee, school advisory committees, appropriate private school officials or representatives, and other interested parties. (Education Code 262.3, 49013; 5 CCR 4622)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

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

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

The notice shall:

1. Identify the person(s), position(s), or unit(s) responsible for receiving complaints

2. Advise the complainant of any civil law remedies that may be available to him/her under state or federal discrimination laws, if applicable

3. Advise the complainant of the appeal process, including, if applicable, the complainant's right to take a complaint directly to the California Department of Education (CDE) or to pursue remedies before civil courts or other public agencies

4. Include statements that:
   a. The district has the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs.
   b. The complaint review shall be completed within 60 calendar days from the date of receipt of the complaint unless the complainant agrees in writing to an extension of the timeline.
   c. A complaint alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying must be filed not later than six months from the date it occurred, or six months from the date the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying.
   d. The complainant has a right to appeal the district's decision to the CDE by filing a written appeal within 15 calendar days of receiving the district's decision.
   e. The appeal to the CDE must include a copy of the complaint filed with the district and a copy of the district's decision.
   f. Copies of the district's uniform complaint procedures are available free of charge.

Procedures
All complaints shall be investigated and resolved within 60 calendar days of the district's receipt of the complaint. (5 CCR 4631)

Compliance officers shall maintain a record of each complaint and subsequent related actions, including all information required for compliance with 5 CCR 4631 and 4633.

All parties involved in allegations shall be notified when a complaint is filed, when a complaint meeting or hearing is scheduled, and when a decision or ruling is made.

Step 1: Filing of Complaint

Any individual, public agency, or organization may file a written complaint of the district's alleged noncompliance with federal or state laws or regulations governing educational programs. (5 CCR 4630)

A complaint concerning unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying may be filed only by a person who alleges that he/she personally suffered unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying or by a person who believes that an individual or any specific class of individuals has been subjected to it. The complaint shall be initiated no later than six months from the date when the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying occurred, or six months from the date when the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying. However, upon written request by the complainant, the Superintendent or designee may extend the filing period for up to 90 calendar days. (5 CCR 4630)

A complaint alleging noncompliance with the law regarding the prohibition against requiring students to pay student fees, deposits, and charges may be filed anonymously if the complaint provides evidence or information leading to evidence to support an allegation of noncompliance. (Education Code 49013)

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

If a complainant is unable to put a complaint in writing due to conditions such as a disability or illiteracy, district staff shall assist him/her in the filing of the complaint. (5 CCR 4600)

Step 2: Mediation

Within three business days of receiving the complaint, the compliance officer may informally discuss with all the parties the possibility of using mediation. If the parties agree to mediation, the compliance officer shall make all arrangements for this process.

Before initiating the mediation of a complaint alleging discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, the compliance officer shall ensure that all parties agree to make the mediator a party to related confidential information.

If the mediation process does not resolve the problem within the parameters of law, the compliance officer shall proceed with his/her investigation of the complaint.
The use of mediation shall not extend the district's timelines for investigating and resolving the complaint unless the complainant agrees in writing to such an extension of time. (5 CCR 4631)

Step 3: Investigation of Complaint

Within 10 calendar days of receiving the complaint, the compliance officer shall provide the complainant and/or his/her representative an opportunity to present the complaint and any evidence, or information leading to evidence, to support the allegations in the complaint. The compliance officer also shall collect all documents and interview all witnesses with information pertinent to the complaint.

A complainant's refusal to provide the district's investigator with documents or other evidence related to the allegations in the complaint, failure or refusal to cooperate in the investigation, or engagement in any other obstruction of the investigation may result in the dismissal of the complaint because of a lack of evidence to support the allegation. (5 CCR 4631)

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

Step 4: Response

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

Step 5: Final Written Decision

The district's decision shall be in writing and sent to the complainant. (5 CCR 4631)

The district's decision shall be written in English and, when required by Education Code 48985, in the complainant's primary language.

For all complaints, the decision shall include: (5 CCR 4631)

1. The findings of fact based on the evidence gathered
2. The conclusion(s) of law
3. Disposition of the complaint
4. Rationale for such disposition
5. Corrective actions, if any are warranted
6. Notice of the complainant's right to appeal the district's decision within 15 calendar days to the CDE and procedures to be followed for initiating such an appeal

In addition, any decision concerning a discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying complaint based on state law shall include a notice that the complainant must wait until 60 calendar days have elapsed from the filing of an appeal with the CDE before pursuing civil law remedies. (Education Code 262.3)

If investigation of a complaint results in discipline to a student or an employee, the decision shall simply state that effective action was taken and that the student or employee was informed of district expectations. The report shall not give any further information as to the nature of the disciplinary action.

If a complaint alleging noncompliance with the laws regarding student fees, deposits, and other charges is found to have merit, the district shall provide a remedy to all affected students and parents/guardians, which, where applicable, shall include reasonable efforts to ensure full reimbursement to them. (Education Code 49013)

Appeals to the California Department of Education

If dissatisfied with the district's decision, the complainant may appeal in writing to the CDE. (Education Code 49013; 5 CCR 4632)

The complainant shall file his/her appeal within 15 calendar days of receiving the district's decision and the appeal shall specify the basis for the appeal of the decision and whether the facts are incorrect and/or the law has been misapplied. The appeal shall be accompanied by a copy of the locally filed complaint and a copy of the district's decision. (5 CCR 4632)

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

1. A copy of the original complaint
2. A copy of the decision
3. A summary of the nature and extent of the investigation conducted by the district, if not covered by the decision
4. A copy of the investigation file including, but not limited to, all notes, interviews, and documents submitted by the parties and gathered by the investigator
5. A report of any action taken to resolve the complaint
6. A copy of the district's uniform complaint procedures
7. Other relevant information requested by the CDE
The CDE may directly intervene in a complaint without waiting for action by the district when one of the conditions listed in 5 CCR 4650 exists, including when the district has not taken action within 60 calendar days of the date the complaint was filed with the district. (5 CCR 4650)

Civil Law Remedies

A complainant may pursue available civil law remedies outside of the district’s complaint procedures. Complainants may seek assistance from mediation centers or public/private interest attorneys. Civil law remedies that may be imposed by a court include, but are not limited to, injunctions and restraining orders.

For complaints alleging discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on state law, a complainant shall wait until 60 calendar days have elapsed from the filing of an appeal with the CDE before pursuing civil law remedies, provided the district has appropriately and in a timely manner apprised the complainant of his/her right to file a complaint in accordance with 5 CCR 4622. The moratorium does not apply to injunctive relief and to discrimination complaints based on federal law. (Education Code 262.3)

Regulation PALOS VERDES PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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