

Green Point School

Board Policy

Students

BP 5145.3(a)

NONDISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT

Note: The following policy reflects the provisions of 34 CFR 100.3 which prohibits discrimination based on race, color or national origin, and Education Code 220 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of actual or perceived sex, ethnic group identification, race, national origin, religion, color, mental or physical disability, or sexual orientation. Education Code 260 gives the Governing Board of a school district primary responsibility for ensuring that district programs and activities are free from discrimination based on such unlawful bases.

Education Code 260 and 5 CCR 4900 prohibit discrimination on the basis of both sex and gender, among other categories. 5 CCR 4910 defines "sex" as the biological condition or quality of being a female or male human being. "Gender," pursuant to 5 CCR 4910, is defined as a person's actual or perceived sex and includes a person's perceived identity, appearance or behavior, whether or not that identity, appearance, or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with a person's sex at birth. In accordance with those definitions, the following paragraph lists both "sex" and "gender" as prohibited categories of discrimination.

District programs and activities shall be free from discrimination, including harassment, with respect to a student's actual or perceived sex, gender, ethnic group identification, race, national origin, religion, color, physical or mental disability, age or sexual orientation.

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

(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education under Section 504)

The Governing Board shall ensure equal opportunities for all students in admission and access to the educational program, guidance and counseling programs, athletic programs, testing procedures, and other activities. School staff and volunteers shall carefully guard against segregation, bias and stereotyping in instruction, guidance and supervision. The district may provide male and female students with separate shower rooms and sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention classes in order to protect student modesty.

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

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

Note: Policies related to harassment must be consistent with First Amendment rights to free speech. Education Code 48950 provides that no district with one or more high schools shall make or enforce any rule subjecting a high school student to disciplinary sanctions solely on the basis of speech or other communication that would be constitutionally protected if engaged in outside of campus. Education Code 48950 specifically states that it does not prohibit discipline for harassment, threats or intimidation unless constitutionally protected. Whether such speech might be entitled to constitutional protection would be determined on a case-by-case basis, with consideration for the specific words used and the circumstances involved.

NONDISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT (continued)

The Board prohibits intimidation or harassment of any student by any employee, student or other person in the district. Staff shall be alert and immediately responsive to student conduct which may interfere with another student's ability to participate in or benefit from school services, activities or privileges.

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

Students who harass other students shall be subject to appropriate discipline, up to and including counseling, suspension and/or expulsion. An employee who permits or engages in harassment may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

Note: Pursuant to 34 CFR 104.7 and 106.8, the district is required to designate the person(s) responsible for the overall implementation of the requirements of Title IX and Section 504, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex and disability. In its January 1999 Notice of Non-Discrimination, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) states that it is acceptable for the district to identify such designated person(s) by position title(s) rather than by name. This individual may be the same person designated in the district's Uniform Complaint Procedures to ensure compliance with specified programs and to receive complaints; see AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures. In addition, districts may designate more than one person to receive complaints (i.e., one person at each high school).

The Board hereby designates the following position(s) as Coordinator(s) for Nondiscrimination to handle complaints regarding discrimination and inquiries regarding the district's nondiscrimination policies:

(position title(s))

(address(es))

(telephone number(s))

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)
(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Any student who feels that he/she is being harassed should immediately contact the Coordinator for Nondiscrimination, the principal or any other staff member. Any student who observes an incident of harassment should report the harassment to a school employee, whether or not the victim files a complaint.

NONDISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT (continued)

Note: Site-level grievance procedures for investigation of sexual harassment claims are detailed in AR 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment. The following paragraph provides for the application of those procedures to the investigation of other claims of harassment. Districts that wish to use other such procedures should modify the following paragraph accordingly.

Employees who become aware of an act of harassment shall immediately report the incident to the Coordinator for Nondiscrimination. Upon receiving a complaint of discrimination or harassment, the Coordinator shall immediately investigate the complaint in accordance with site-level grievance procedures specified in AR 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment. Where the Coordinator finds that harassment has occurred, he/she shall take prompt, appropriate action to end the harassment and address its effects on the victim.

The Coordinator shall also advise the victim of any other remedies that may be available. The Coordinator shall file a report with the Superintendent or designee and refer the matter to law enforcement where required.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

NONDISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex, especially:
- 221.5 Prohibited sex discrimination
- 221.7 School-sponsored athletic programs; prohibited sex discrimination
- 48900.3 Suspension or expulsion for act of hate violence
- 48900.4 Suspension or expulsion for threats or harassment
- 48904 Liability of parent/guardian for willful student misconduct
- 48907 Student exercise of free expression
- 48950 Freedom of speech
- 49020-49023 Athletic programs
- 51006-51007 Equitable access to technological education programs
- 51500 Prohibited instruction or activity
- 51501 Prohibited means of instruction
- 60044 Prohibited instructional materials

CIVIL CODE

- 1714.1 Liability of parents/guardians for willful misconduct of minor

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

- 4621 District policies and procedures
- 4622 Notice requirements

PENAL CODE

- 422.55 Interference with constitutional right or privilege

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

- 2000d-2000e-17 Title VI & VII Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended
- 2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

- 100.3 Prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color or national origin
- 104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504
- 106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX
- 106.9 Notification of nondiscrimination on basis of sex

COURT DECISIONS

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

Management Resources:

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS

Notice of Non-Discrimination, January, 1999

Racial Incidents and Harassment Against Students at Educational Institutions; Investigative Guidance, 59 FR 47, March, 1994

WEB SITES

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCR>
California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

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