

**Euclid City School District
Bylaws & Policies**

3216 - STAFF DRESS AND GROOMING

Professional staff members should set an example in dress and grooming for their students to follow. A professional staff member who understands this precept and adheres to it enlarges the importance of his/her task, presents an image of dignity, and encourages respect for authority and dresses in a professional manner. These factors act in a positive manner toward the maintenance of discipline.

The Board retains the authority to specify the following dress and grooming guidelines for staff that will prevent such matters from having an adverse impact on the educational process. When assigned to District duty, all professional staff members shall:

- A. be physically clean, neat, and well groomed;
- B. dress in a manner consistent with their professional responsibilities;
- C. dress in a manner that communicates to students a pride in personal appearance;
- D. dress in a manner that does not cause damage to District property;
- E. be groomed in such a way that their hair style or dress does not disrupt the educational process nor cause a health or safety hazard.

Euclid City School District

Bylaws & Policies

3362 - ANTI-HARASSMENT

General Policy Statement

The Board of Education shall maintain an education and work environment which is free from all forms of unlawful harassment, including sexual harassment. This commitment applies to all School District operations, programs, and activities. All students, administrators, teachers, staff, and all other school personnel share responsibility for avoiding, discouraging, and reporting any form of unlawful harassment. This policy applies to unlawful conduct occurring on school property, or at another location if such conduct occurs during an activity sponsored by the Board.

The Board will vigorously enforce its prohibition against harassment based on sex, sexual orientation, race, color, national origin, religion, disability, genetic information, or any other unlawful basis, and encourages those within the School District community as well as third parties, who feel aggrieved to seek assistance to rectify the problems. The Board will investigate all allegations of harassment and in those cases where unlawful harassment is substantiated, the Board will take immediate steps to end the harassment. Individuals who are found to have engaged in unlawful harassment will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

For purposes of this policy, "School District community" means students, administrators, teachers, staff, and all other school personnel, including Board members, agents, volunteers, contractors, or other persons subject to the control and supervision of the Board.

For purposes of this policy, "third parties" include, but are not limited to, guests and/or visitors on School District property (e.g., visiting speakers, participants on opposing athletic teams, parents), vendors doing business with, or seeking to do business with, the Board, and other individuals who come in contact with members of the School District community at school-related events/activities (whether on or off School District property).

Other Violations of the Anti-Harassment Policy

The Board will also take immediate steps to impose disciplinary action on individuals engaging in any of the following prohibited acts:

- A. Retaliating against a person who has made a report or filed a complaint alleging harassment, or who has participated as a witness in a harassment investigation.
- B. Filing a malicious or knowingly false report or complaint of harassment.
- C. Disregarding, failing to investigate adequately, or delaying investigation of allegations of harassment, when responsibility for reporting and/or investigating harassment charges comprises part of one's supervisory duties.

Definitions

Sexual Harassment

Pursuant to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, "sexual harassment" is defined as:

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, when:

- A. Submission to such conduct is made either implicitly or explicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment, or status in a class, educational program, or activity;

- B. Submission or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or educational decisions affecting such individual;
- C. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity.

Sexual harassment may involve the behavior of a person of either gender against a person of the same or opposite gender.

Prohibited acts that constitute sexual harassment may take a variety of forms. Examples of the kinds of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- A. Unwelcome sexual propositions, invitations, solicitations, and flirtations.
- B. Physical assault.
- C. Threats or insinuations that a person's employment, wages, academic grade, promotion, classroom work or assignments, academic status, participation in athletics or extra-curricular programs or events, or other conditions of employment or education may be adversely affected by not submitting to sexual advances.
- D. Unwelcome verbal expressions of a sexual nature, including graphic sexual commentaries about a person's body, dress, appearance, or sexual activities; the unwelcome use of sexually degrading language, jokes or innuendoes; unwelcome suggestive or insulting sounds or whistles; obscene telephone calls.
- E. Sexually suggestive objects, pictures, videotapes, audio recordings or literature, placed in the work or educational environment, which may embarrass or offend individuals.
- F. Unwelcome and inappropriate touching, patting, or pinching; obscene gestures.
- G. A pattern of conduct, which can be subtle in nature, that has sexual overtones and is intended to create or has the effect of creating discomfort and/or humiliation to another.
- H. Remarks speculating about a person's sexual activities or sexual history, or remarks about one's own sexual activities or sexual history.
- I. In the context of employees, consensual sexual relationships where such relationship leads to favoritism of a subordinate employee with whom the superior is sexually involved and where such favoritism adversely affects other employees or otherwise creates a hostile work environment.

- J. Inappropriate boundary invasions by a District employee or other adult member of the School District community into a student's personal space and personal life.

Not all behavior with sexual connotations constitutes unlawful sexual harassment. Conduct must be sufficiently severe, pervasive, and persistent such that it adversely affects an individual's employment or education, or such that it creates a hostile or abusive employment or educational environment.

NOTE: Sexual conduct/relationships with students by District employees or any other adult member of the School District community is prohibited, and any teacher, administrator, coach, or other school authority who engages in sexual conduct with a student may also be guilty of the criminal charge of "sexual battery" as set forth in Ohio Revised Code 2907.03. The issue of consent is irrelevant in regard to such criminal charge and/or with respect to the application of this policy to District employees or other adult members of the School District community.

Race/Color Harassment

Prohibited racial harassment occurs when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based upon an individual's race or color and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. Such harassment may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's race or color, such as racial slurs, nicknames implying stereotypes, epithets, and/or negative references relative to racial customs.

Religious (Creed) Harassment

Prohibited religious harassment occurs when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based upon an individual's religion or creed and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. Such harassment may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's religious tradition, clothing, or surnames, and/or involves religious slurs.

National Origin Harassment

Prohibited national origin harassment occurs when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based upon an individual's national origin and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. Such harassment may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's national origin, such as negative comments regarding customs, manner of speaking, language, surnames, or ethnic slurs.

Disability Harassment

Prohibited disability harassment occurs when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based upon an individual's disability and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. Such harassment may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's disabling condition, such as negative comments about speech patterns, movement, physical impairments or defects/appearances, or the like. Such harassment may further occur where conduct is directed at or pertains to a person's genetic information.

Reports and Complaints of Harassing Conduct

Members of the School District community and third parties are encouraged to promptly report incidents of harassing conduct to an administrator, supervisor or other School District official so that the Board may address the conduct before it becomes severe, pervasive, or persistent.

Members of the School District community or third parties who believe they have been unlawfully harassed by another member of the School District community or a third party are entitled to utilize the Board's complaint process. Initiating a complaint, whether formally or informally, will not adversely affect the complaining individual's employment or participation in educational or extra-curricular programs. While there are no time limits for initiating complaints of harassment under this policy, individuals should make every effort to file a complaint as soon as possible after the conduct occurs while the facts are known and potential witnesses are available.

The names and titles of the Anti-Harassment Complaint Coordinators with whom complaints of sexual and other forms of unlawful harassment should be filed are set forth in the administrative guidelines that supplement this policy. The names and titles of these individuals will be published annually in the parent and staff handbooks and on the School District's web site.

The Superintendent shall establish administrative guidelines describing both a formal and an informal process for making a charge of harassment, a process for investigating claims of harassment, and a process for rendering a decision regarding whether the claim of harassment was substantiated. This policy and the administrative guidelines will be readily available to all members of the School District community and posted in appropriate places throughout the School District.

Any Board employee who directly observes unlawful harassment of a student is obligated, in accordance with this policy, to report such observations to one of the Complaint Coordinators. Thereafter, the Complaint Coordinator must contact the student, if age eighteen (18) or older, or the student's parents if under the age eighteen (18), to advise s/he/them of the Board's intent to investigate the alleged misconduct, including the obligation of the Complaint Coordinator or designee to conduct an investigation following all the procedures outlined for a formal complaint.

Privacy/Confidentiality

The School District will respect the privacy of the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations. All records generated under the terms of this policy and its related administrative guidelines shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law.

Informal Process for Addressing Complaints of Harassment

The administrative guidelines will include an informal complaint process to provide members of the School District community or third parties who believe they are being unlawfully harassed with a range of options designed to bring about a resolution of their concerns. Members of the School District community or third parties who believe that they have been unlawfully harassed may initiate their complaint through this informal complaint process, but are not required to do so. The administrative guidelines will include as a requirement the prerequisite that the Informal process is only available in those circumstances where the parties (alleged target of harassment and alleged harasser(s)) agree to participate in the informal process. Those members of the School District community or third parties who believe that they have been unlawfully harassed may proceed immediately to the formal complaint process and individuals who seek resolution through the informal procedure may request that the informal process be terminated at any time to move to the formal complaint process. However, all complaints of harassment involving a District employee or any other adult member of the School District community against a student will be formally investigated.

Formal Process for Addressing Complaints of Harassment

The administrative guidelines will also include a formal complaint process. While the formal complaint process may serve as the first step to resolution of a charge of unlawful harassment, it is also available in those circumstances when the informal complaint process fails to satisfactorily resolve a concern. Because of the need for flexibility, no specific time lines are established for initiating the formal complaint process; however, once the formal complaint process is begun, the investigation will be completed in a timely manner (ordinarily, within thirty-one (31) calendar days of the complaint being received).

Members of the School District community or third parties who feel they have been unlawfully harassed should file a formal written complaint with the principal of their school building or with one of the Complaint Coordinators identified in the administrative guidelines. Oral complaints of harassment will be reduced to writing by the individual receiving the complaint and the Complainant will be asked to verify the accuracy of the reported charge by signing the document. Complaints received by a school building principal will be immediately reported to the appropriate Complaint Coordinator identified in the administrative guidelines.

After a complaint is filed, the Complaint Coordinator or designee shall conduct a prompt and timely investigation. The investigation may include interviews of the complainant, the individual accused of engaging in harassing behavior, and any other witness who may reasonably be expected to have information relevant to the situation. All interviewed parties and witnesses will be provided an opportunity to present any evidence that they reasonably believe to be relevant to the situation.

At the conclusion of the investigation the Complaint Coordinator or designee will prepare and deliver to the Superintendent a written report summarizing the evidence gathered during the investigation and providing his/her recommendations regarding whether or not the complaint of unlawful harassment has been substantiated. The written report must be based on the totality of the circumstances involved in the complaint, the nature of the alleged conduct, the context in which the alleged conduct occurred, and the ages and maturity of the individuals involved.

A copy of the written report will also be delivered to the member of the School District community or third party making the complaint and the individual accused of the harassing conduct.

Upon review of the written report the Superintendent will either issue a final decision regarding whether or not the complaint of unlawful harassment was substantiated, or request that further investigation be conducted. A copy of Superintendent's action will be delivered to both the Complainant and the individual accused of the harassing conduct.

The decision of the Superintendent shall be final.

The Complaint process set forth in the policy and in the administrative guidelines is not intended to interfere with the rights of a member of the School District community or a third party to pursue a complaint of unlawful harassment with the United States Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The Board reserves the right to investigate and resolve a complaint or report of unlawful harassment regardless of whether the member of the School District community or third party alleging the harassment pursues the complaint. The Board also reserves

the right to have the formal complaint investigation conducted by an external person in accordance with this policy and administrative guidelines or in such other manner as deemed appropriate by the Board or its designee.

Sanctions and Monitoring

The Board shall vigorously enforce its prohibitions against unlawful harassment. While observing the principles of due process, a violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including the discharge of an employee or the suspension/expulsion of a student. All disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with applicable State law and the terms of the relevant collective bargaining agreement(s). When imposing discipline, the Superintendent shall consider the totality of the circumstances involved in the matter, including the ages and maturity levels of those involved. In those cases where unlawful harassment is not substantiated, the Board may consider whether the alleged conduct nevertheless warrants discipline in accordance with other Board policies, consistent with the terms of the relevant collective bargaining agreement(s).

Where the Board becomes aware that a prior remedial action has been taken against a member of the School District community, all subsequent sanctions imposed by the Board and/or Superintendent shall be reasonably calculated to eliminate such conduct in the future.

Education and Training

In support of this Anti-Harassment Policy, the Board promotes preventative educational measures to create greater awareness of unlawful discriminatory practices. The Superintendent or designee shall provide appropriate training to all members of the School District community related to the implementation of this policy and its accompanying administrative guidelines. All training regarding the Board's policy and administrative guidelines and harassment in general, will be age and content appropriate.

R.C. 4112.02
20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.
29 U.S.C. 621 et seq.
29 U.S.C. 794
29 C.F.R. Part 1635
42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.
42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.
42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.
42 U.S.C. 2000ff et seq., The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act
42 U.S.C. 1983
National School Boards Association Inquiry and Analysis – May 2008

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Bylaws & Policies

5600 - STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The Board of Education acknowledges that conduct is closely related to learning - an effective instructional program requires an orderly school environment and the effectiveness of the educational program is, in part, reflected in the behavior of students.

The best discipline is self-imposed and that students should learn to assume responsibility for their own behavior and the consequences of their actions. The Board will not tolerate violent, disruptive or inappropriate behavior by its students.

The Board shall require each student of this District to adhere to the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code adopted by the Board and to submit to such disciplinary measures as are appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules. Such rules shall require that students:

- A. conform to reasonable standards of socially-acceptable behavior;
- B. respect the person and property of others;
- C. preserve the degree of order necessary to the educational program in which they are engaged;
- D. respect the rights of others;
- E. obey constituted authority and respond to those who hold that authority.

The Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code designates sanctions for the infractions of rules, excluding corporal punishment, which shall:

- A. relate in kind and degree to the infraction;
- B. help the student learn to take responsibility for his/her actions;
- C. be directed, where possible, to reduce the effects of any harm which may have been caused by the student's misconduct.

Students may be prohibited by authorized school personnel from participating in all or part of co-curricular and/or extra-curricular activities without further notice, hearing or appeal rights. A student who has been disorderly on a school bus may be suspended from transportation services consistent with Board policy and the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code.

The Superintendent shall publish to all students and their parents the rules of this District regarding student conduct and the sanctions which may be imposed for breach of those rules.

The Superintendent shall inform the Board periodically of the methods of discipline imposed by this District and the incidence of student misconduct in such degree of specificity as shall be required by the Board.

The Superintendent, principals, and other administrators shall have the authority to assign discipline to students, subject to the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code and, where required by law, to the student's due process right to notice, hearing, and appeal.

Teachers, school bus drivers, and other employees of this Board having authority over students may take such action as may be necessary to control the disorderly conduct of students in all situations and in all places where such students are within the jurisdiction of this Board and when such conduct interferes with the educational program of the schools or threatens the health and safety of others.

Discipline on Board vehicles shall be the responsibility of the driver on regular bus runs. When Board vehicles are used for field trips and other Board activities, the teacher, coach, advisor, or other Board employee shall be responsible for student discipline. If a student becomes a serious discipline problem on a vehicle, the Superintendent and/or his/her designee may suspend the transportation privileges of the student providing such suspension conforms with due process. The procedures for suspension are set forth in the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code and Board Policy 5611 -- Due Process Rights.

No student is to be detained after the close of the regular school day unless the student's parent has been contacted and informed that the student will be detained. If a parent cannot be contacted, the student should be detained on another day.

Euclid City School District
Bylaws & Policies

7540.03 - INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE

PURPOSE

The purpose of this acceptable use policy is to set forth guidelines for access to the School District computer system, e-mail system, and acceptable use of the Internet and electronic devices provided by the School District or brought onto campus by the student. Such devices include but are not limited to the following: computers, handheld devices, netbooks, iPods, iPads, PDAs, calculators with interface capability, digital audio players, portable storage devices, digital cameras, et al. Additionally, connection to the Internet while on District grounds through infrared/wireless, cellular broadband cards or mobile telephones, or other non-wired devices fall within the purview of this policy.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

In making decisions regarding student access to the School District equipment, computer system, e-mail system, and the Internet, the School District considers its own stated educational mission, goals, and objectives. Electronic information research skills are now fundamental to preparation of citizens and future employees. Access to the School District computer system and to the Internet enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, bulletin boards, and other resources while communicating and/or collaborating with people around the world. The School District expects that faculty will blend thoughtful use of the School District computer system and the Internet throughout the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students in their use.

LIMITED EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE

The School District is providing students with access to the School District's computer system, which includes Internet access. The purpose of the system is not merely to provide students with general access to the Internet. The School District system has a limited educational purpose, which includes use of the system for classroom activities, professional, or career development.

Users are expected to use Internet access, access to e-mail provided by the District, and any storage through the District system to further educational and personal goals consistent with the mission of the School District and school policies. Uses that might be acceptable on a user's private personal account on another system may not be acceptable on this limited purpose network. The term **USER** applies to any student who uses the technology resources available in the Euclid City Schools.

USE OF SYSTEM IS A PRIVILEGE

The use of the School District equipment and/or system, e-mail, and access to use of the Internet or wireless system is a privilege, not a right. Depending on the nature and degree of the violation and the number of previous violations, unacceptable use of the School District system or the Internet may result in one or more of the following consequences: confiscation of any unapproved device, suspension or cancellation of use or access privileges; payments for damages and repairs; discipline under other appropriate School District policies, including suspension, expulsion, termination of employment if in student work programs; or civil or criminal liability under other applicable laws.

DISTRICT PROVIDED E-MAIL

E-mail is provided to staff for specific educational purposes and use is limited to school approved activities.

UNACCEPTABLE USES

The following uses of the School District system and Internet resources or accounts are considered unacceptable:

- A. Users will not use the School District system to access, transmit, receive, review, upload, download, store, print, post, or distribute pornographic, obscene or sexually explicit material. "Sexting" is illegal and particularly detrimental for students; such behavior is expressly prohibited.
- B. Users will not use the School District system to transmit, receive, or store items containing obscene, abusive, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, disrespectful, or sexually explicit language; gamble; nor advocate for illegal activities, including tobacco or alcohol.
- C. Users will not use the School District system to access, transmit, receive, review, upload, download, store, print, post, or distribute materials that use language or images that are inappropriate to the educational setting or disruptive to the educational process and will not post information or materials that could cause damage or danger of

disruption. Users will not post personal information about other students without their express permission.

- D. Users will not use the School District system to access, transmit, receive, review, upload, download, store, print, post, or distribute materials that use language or images that advocate violence or discrimination toward other people (hate literature) or that may constitute harassment or discrimination; likewise, any activity that constitutes bullying is expressly prohibited. District policies stress the seriousness of such acts and the discipline for any such behavior.
- E. Users will not use the School District system to knowingly or recklessly post false or defamatory information about a person or organization, or to harass another person, or to engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
- F. Users will not use the School District system to engage in any illegal act or violate any local, State, or Federal statute or law, or any District policy.
- G. Users will not use the School District system to vandalize, damage or disable the property of another person or organization, will not make deliberate attempts to degrade or disrupt equipment, software or system performance by spreading computer viruses or by any other means, will not tamper with, modify or change the School District computer or server system software, hardware or network infrastructure or take any action to violate the School District system's security, and will not use the School District system in such a way as to disrupt the use of the system by other users.
- H. Users will not use the School District system to gain unauthorized access to information resources or to access another person's materials, information or files without the implied or direct permission of that person. In other words, students may not use another person's account or password or bypass security to modify, alter, damage, or delete another user's files or District files.
- I. Users will not use the School District system to post private information about another person, including other students, or to post personal contact information about themselves or other persons including, but not limited to, addresses, telephone numbers, school addresses, work addresses, identification numbers, account numbers, access codes or password, and will not repost a message that was sent to the user privately without permission of the person who sent the message.
- J. Users will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to the School District system or any other system through the School District system, will not attempt to access District files, will not attempt to log in through another person's account, nor use computer accounts, access codes or network identification other than those assigned to the user.
- K. Users will not use the School District system to violate copyright laws or usage licensing agreements, or otherwise to use another person's property without the person's prior approval or proper citation, including the downloading or exchanging of pirated software or copying software to or from any school computer, and will not plagiarize works they find on the Internet.
- L. Users will not use the School District system for the conduct of a business, for political solicitations, for unauthorized commercial purposes, or for financial gain unrelated to the mission of the School District. Users will not use the School District system to offer or provide goods or services or for product advertisement. Users will not use the School District system to purchase goods or services for personal use without authorization from the appropriate School District official.
- M. Students may not use the School District system to access personal communication software including web based e-mail, messaging, paging, Internet telephone, or other like systems without written permission unless under the direction and supervision of a staff member.
- N. Students will not visit social media sites such as Facebook, MySpace, Youtube, Flickr, etc. via District computers or network accessibility nor access such sites with personal equipment or Web services while at school. Additionally, students should be aware that postings to such sites made out of school may still result in school discipline if the content finds its way into school and proves substantially disruptive to school operations. Nastiness, offensiveness, disparaging comments, untruthful statement, demeaning behavior, and alcohol or illegal substance use are not appropriate in any circumstance.
- O. Students may not make a connection to the Internet while on District grounds through infrared/wireless, cellular broadband cards or mobile telephones, or other non-wired devices without the written permission of the Director of Instructional Technology.

This list of prohibited uses is not exhaustive and is not intended nor should it be construed to restrict the District in any way from taking appropriate disciplinary action should an inappropriate use occur that does not fall into one of the aforementioned categories. Students must abide by policies and procedures that are set forth herein at all times that they are using the District's

Technological Resources, regardless of time of day, location or intermingling of personal resources, so long as the District's Technological Resources are utilized in some fashion, even if such use is limited.

If a user inadvertently accesses unacceptable materials or an unacceptable Internet site, the user shall immediately disclose the inadvertent access to an appropriate School District official. This disclosure may serve as a defense against an allegation that the user has intentionally violated this policy. A user may also in certain rare instances access otherwise unacceptable materials if necessary to complete an assignment and if done with the prior approval of and with appropriate guidance from the appropriate teacher.

CONSISTENCY WITH OTHER SCHOOL POLICIES

Use of the School District computer system and use of the Internet shall be consistent with School District policies and the mission of the School District.

LIMITED EXPECTATION OF PRIVACY

- A. By authorizing use of the School District system, the School District does not relinquish control over materials on the system or contained in files on the system. Users should expect only limited privacy in the contents of personal files on the School District system.
- B. Routine maintenance and monitoring of the School District system may lead to a discovery that a user has violated this policy, another School District policy, or the law.
- C. An individual investigation or search will be conducted if school authorities have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover a violation of law or School District policy.
- D. Parents have the right at any time to investigate or review the contents of their child's files and e-mail files. Parents have the right to request the termination of their child's individual account at any time.

The School District will cooperate fully with local, State, and Federal authorities in any investigation concerning or related to any illegal activities and activities not in compliance with School District policies conducted through the School District system. Students shall be required to comply with a request to provide any device in their possession upon demand; failure to comply will result in disciplinary action.

INTERNET USE AGREEMENT

- A. The proper use of the Internet, and the educational value to be gained from proper Internet use, is the joint responsibility of students, parents and employees of the School District.
- B. By inclusion within the student handbook and/or through direct receipt, it is understood by the student, parent or guardian, and School District staff that these guidelines, as with all guidelines contained within the student handbook, are agreed upon. Parents or guardians who do not agree with this computer use policy may elect to have their child excluded from all activities involving the use of the Internet by completing an Internet exclusion form.
- C. The District may, at its discretion, direct students to use the Internet under close teacher supervision for assessment purposes.

LIMITATION ON SCHOOL DISTRICT LIABILITY

Use of the School District system is at the user's own risk. The system is provided on an "as is, as available" basis. The School District will not be responsible for any damage users may suffer, including, but not limited to, loss, damage, or unavailability of data stored on School District diskettes, tapes, hard drives or servers, or for delays or changes in or interruptions of service or mis-deliveries or non-deliveries of information or materials, regardless of the cause. The School District is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of any advice or information obtained through or stored on the School District system. The School District will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through unauthorized use of the School District system or the Internet.

USER NOTIFICATION

- A. All users shall be notified of the School District policies relating to Internet use as described in this Authorized User Policy.
- B. This notification shall include the following:
 - 1. Notification that Internet use is subject to compliance with School District policies.

2. Disclaimers limiting the School District's liability relative to:
 - a. Information stored on School District removable media, hard drives or servers.
 - b. Information retrieved through School District computers, networks or online resources.
 - c. Personal property used to access School District computers, networks, or online resources.
 - d. Unauthorized financial obligations resulting from use of School District resources/accounts to access the Internet.
3. A description of the privacy rights and limitations of school sponsored/managed Internet accounts.
4. Notification that, even though the School District may use technical means to limit student Internet access, these limits do not provide a foolproof means for enforcing the provisions of this acceptable use policy.
5. Notification that goods and services can be purchased over the Internet that could potentially result in unwanted financial obligations and that any financial obligation incurred by a student through the Internet is the sole responsibility of the student or the student's parents.
6. Notification that should the user violate the School District's acceptable use policy, the student's access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.
7. Notification that all provisions of the acceptable use policy are subordinate to local, State and Federal laws.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITY; NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT INTERNET USE

Outside of school, parents bear responsibility for the same guidance of Internet use as they exercise with information sources such as television, telephones, radio, movies, and other possibly offensive media. Parents are responsible for monitoring their student's use of the School District system and of the Internet if the student is accessing the School District system from home or a remote location.

SECURITY AND INTEGRITY

Students shall not take any action that would compromise the security of any Technological Resources. This would include the unauthorized release or sharing of passwords and the intentional disabling of any security features of the system. Students are expected to keep their passwords secure and refrain from sharing accounts. Students shall take steps to prevent unauthorized access to their accounts by logging off or "locking" their computers when leaving them unattended. Any suspected security problem or misuse of the Technological Resources shall be reported to the appropriate administrator.

Students shall not take any actions that may adversely affect the integrity, functionality, or reliability of any Technological Resources, including but not limited to the installation of hardware or software not authorized by an appropriate network administrator and/or the head of the technology department.

INTERNET FILTERING AND MONITORING

Pursuant to Federal law, the District has implemented technology protection measures, which block or filter Internet access to visual displays that are obscene, constitute child pornography or are harmful to minors. Under Federal law, the District also is required to monitor online activity of students in an effort to restrict access to such material. Any student who attempts either to disable or circumvent/bypass the technology protection measures discussed above without express consent of a District administrator will be subject to discipline.

VIOLATIONS OF THE POLICY

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion as described above and included in the Board of Education policy. The District also will cooperate with government and civil authorities in the prosecution of any civil or criminal matter against any person who violates this policy. The District will release any records, information, data, images, communications, recordings or other evidence in its custody or accessible in order to assist in such prosecution.

Euclid City School District
Bylaws & Policies

3122.01 - DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

Quality education is not possible in an environment affected by drugs. The Board of Education will seek to establish and maintain an educational setting which is not tainted by the use or evidence of use of any controlled substance.

The Board shall not permit the manufacture, possession, use, distribution, or dispensing of any controlled substance, alcohol, and any drug paraphernalia as the term is defined by law, by any member of the District's professional staff at any time while on District property or while involved in any District-related activity or event. Any staff member who violates this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with District guidelines and the terms of collective bargaining agreements.

The Superintendent shall establish guidelines that ensure compliance with this policy and that each staff member is given a copy of the standards regarding unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by staff and informed that compliance with this requirement is mandatory. Such guidelines shall provide for appropriate disciplinary actions, if and when needed, which comply with the terms of any negotiated agreement.

41 U.S.C. 701 et seq., Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988
20 U.S.C. 3224A

Euclid City School District
Bylaws & Policies

3139 - STAFF DISCIPLINE

The Board of Education retains the right and the responsibility to manage the work force. When the discipline of a staff member becomes necessary, such action shall be in proportion to the employee's offense or misconduct, consistent with appropriate procedural and substantive due process, State law, and/or the specific provisions of any applicable collective bargaining agreement. All matters that could involve discharge from the District must be dealt with in accordance with R.C. 3319.16.

The Superintendent will file a report with the Ohio Department of Education, in accordance with Policy 8141 and State law, concerning the professional staff member's pleading guilty to or conviction of certain specified crimes and/or where it is reasonably determined that the professional staff member has engaged in conduct which is unbecoming the teaching profession under certain specific circumstances as defined therein.

R.C. 3319.16, 3319.313, 4117.08(C)

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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362/page 1 of 11

ANTI-HARASSMENT

Relevant Definitions

"School District community" includes students, administrators, teachers, staff, and all other school personnel, including Board members, agents, volunteers, contractors or other persons subject to the control and supervision of the Board of Education.

"Third parties" include, but are not limited to, guests and/or visitors on School District property (e.g., visiting speakers, participants on opposing athletic teams, parents), vendors doing business with, or seeking to do business with, the Board, and other individuals who come in contact with members of the School District community at school-related events/activities (whether on or off School District property).

"Sexual Harassment" has the same definition as set forth in the policy of the Board as reflective of the definition set forth in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and the Ohio Revised Code 4112.02.

Prohibited Behavior

- A. Conduct constituting sexual harassment may take different forms, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. **Verbal:**

The making of offensive written or oral sexual innuendoes, suggestive comments, jokes of a sexual nature, sexual propositions, threats, or propositions toward or by a fellow staff member, student, or other person associated with the District, or third parties.

2. **Nonverbal:**

Causing the placement of offensive sexually suggestive objects, pictures, or graphic commentaries in the school environment or the making of offensive sexually suggestive or insulting gestures, sounds, leering, whistling, and the like to or by a fellow staff member, student, or other person associated with the District, or third parties.

guidelines

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362/page 2 of 11

3. **Physical Contact:**

Threatening or causing unwanted touching, contact, or attempts at same, including patting, pinching, brushing the body, or coerced sexual activity with or by a fellow staff member, student, or other person associated with the District, or third parties. With respect to students, the question of whether or not physical contact is unwanted or consensual is irrelevant where such contact is engaged in by District employees or other adult members of the School District community.

B. Conduct constituting harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, or genetic information may take different forms, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. **Verbal:**

The making of offensive written or oral innuendoes, comments, jokes, insults, threats, or disparaging remarks concerning a person's race, color, national origin, religious beliefs, disability, or genetic information.

2. **Nonverbal:**

Placing offensive objects, pictures, or graphic commentaries in the school environment or making insulting or threatening gestures based upon a person's race, color, national origin, religious beliefs, disability, or genetic information.

3. **Physical:**

Any intimidating or disparaging action such as hitting, pushing, shoving, hissing, or spitting on or by a fellow staff member, student, or other person associated with the District, or third parties, based upon the person's race, color, national origin, religious beliefs, disability, or genetic information.

guidelines

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362/page 3 of 11

- C. Examples of inappropriate boundary invasions include, but are not limited to the following:
1. hugging, kissing, or other physical contact with a student
 2. telling sexual jokes to students
 3. engaging in talk containing sexual innuendo or banter with students
 4. talking about sexual topics that are not related to curriculum
 5. showing pornography to a student
 6. taking an undue interest in a student (i.e. having a "special friend" or a "special relationship")
 7. initiating or extending contact with students beyond the school day for personal purposes
 8. using e-mail, text-messaging or websites to discuss personal topics or interests with students
 9. regularly giving students rides in the staff member's personal vehicle or taking students on personal outings without administrative approval
 10. invading a student's privacy (e.g. walking in on the student in the bathroom, locker-room, asking about bra sizes or previous sexual experiences)
 11. going to a student's home for non-educational purposes
 12. inviting students to the staff member's home without proper chaperones (i.e. another staff member or parent of student)
 13. giving gifts or money to a student for no legitimate educational purpose
 14. accepting gifts or money from a student for no legitimate educational purpose
 15. being overly "touchy" with students

guidelines

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362/page 4 of 11

16. favoring certain students by inviting them to come to the classroom at non-class times
17. getting a student out of class to visit with the staff member
18. providing advice to or counseling a student regarding a personal problem (i.e. problems related to sexual behavior, substance abuse, mental or physical health, and/or family relationships, etc.), unless properly licensed and authorized to do so
19. talking to a student about problems that would normally be discussed with adults (i.e. marital issues)
20. being alone with a student behind closed doors without a legitimate educational purpose
21. telling a student "secrets" and having "secrets" with a student

Anti-Harassment Complaint Coordinators

The following individuals shall serve as "Anti-Harassment Complaint Coordinators" for the School District, hereinafter referred to as the "Complaint Coordinators".

Assistant Superintendent
651 East 222nd
Euclid, OH 44123

216-797-2904

acelico@euclid.k12.oh.us

Business Manager
651 East 222nd
Euclid, OH 44123

216-797-2910

phigley@euclid.k12.oh.us

The Complaint Coordinators will be available during regular school/work hours to discuss concerns related to unlawful harassment, to assist members of the School District community and third parties who seek support or advice when informing another individual about "unwelcome" conduct, or to intercede informally on behalf of the member of the School District community or third party in those instances where concerns have not resulted in the filing of a formal complaint and where all parties are in agreement to participate in an informal process. However, all complaints of harassment involving a District employee or other adult member of the School District community will be formally investigated.

guidelines

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362/page 5 of 11

Complaint Coordinators shall accept complaints of unlawful harassment directly from any member of the School District community or a visitor to the District, or receive complaints that are initially filed with a school building administrator. Upon receipt of a complaint either directly or through a school building administrator, the Complaint Coordinator will begin a formal investigation process or the Complaint Coordinator will designate a specific individual to conduct such a process. The Complaint Coordinator will prepare recommendations for the Superintendent or will oversee the preparation of such recommendations by a designee. All members of the School District community must report incidents of harassment that are reported to them to the Complaint Coordinator as soon as possible of learning of the incident.

Investigation and Complaint Procedure (see Form 3362 F1)

Any member of the School District community or third party who believes that s/he has been subjected to unlawful harassment may seek resolution of his/her complaint through either the informal or formal procedures as described below. While there are no time limits for initiating a complaint of harassment, individuals should make every effort to file a complaint as soon as possible after the harassing conduct occurs. The investigation procedures are established to provide a prompt and equitable process for resolving complaints of unlawful harassment.

Informal Complaint Procedure

The goal of the informal complaint procedure is to stop inappropriate behavior and to investigate and facilitate resolution through an informal means, if possible. The informal complaint procedure is provided as a less formal option for a member of the School District community or third party who believes s/he has been unlawfully harassed. This informal procedure is not required as a precursor to the filing of a formal complaint and will only be utilized where the parties (alleged target of harassment and alleged harasser(s)) agree to participate in such process. However, all complaints of harassment involving a District employee will be formally investigated, as will complaints against any other adult where a student is involved.

As an initial course of action, if a member of the School District community or third party feels that s/he is being unlawfully harassed and s/he is able and feels safe doing so, the individual should tell or otherwise inform the harasser that the conduct is unwelcome and must stop. The complaining individual should address the allegedly harassing conduct as soon after it occurs as possible. The Complaint Coordinator is available to support and counsel individuals when taking this initial step or to intervene on behalf of the individual if requested to do so. An individual who is uncomfortable or unwilling to inform the harasser of his/her complaint is not prohibited from otherwise filing an informal or a formal complaint.

guidelines

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362/page 6 of 11

A member of the School District community or third party who believes s/he has been unlawfully harassed may make an informal complaint, either orally or in writing: (1) to a building administrator in the building where the individual is employed; (2) to a building administrator in the building where the student attends; (3) to the Superintendent if the individual is not employed in or attending a specific school building; and/or (4) to the Complaint Coordinator. All informal complaints must be reported to the Complaint Coordinator who will either facilitate an informal resolution as described below on his/her own, or appoint another individual to facilitate an informal resolution.

The School District's informal complaint procedure is designed to provide members of the School District community and third parties who believe they are being unlawfully harassed with a range of options designed to bring about a resolution of their concerns. Depending upon the nature of the complaint and the wishes of the member of the School District community or third party claiming unlawful harassment, informal resolution may involve, but not be limited to, one or more of the following:

- A. Advising the member of the School District community or third party about how to communicate the unwelcome nature of the behavior to the alleged harasser.
- B. Distributing a copy of the Anti-Harassment Policy as a reminder to the individuals in the school building or office where the individual whose behavior is being questioned works or attends.
- C. If both parties agree, the Complaint Coordinator may arrange and facilitate a meeting between the member of the School District community or third party claiming harassment and the individual accused of harassment to work out a mutual resolution.

While there are no set time limits within which an informal complaint must be resolved, the Complaint Coordinator will exercise his/her authority to attempt to resolve all informal complaints within two (2) weeks of receiving the informal complaint. Those members of the School District community or third parties who are dissatisfied with the results of the informal complaint process may proceed to file a formal complaint.

All materials generated, as part of the informal complaint process will be retained by the Complaint Coordinator in accordance with the Board's records retention policy.

guidelines

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362/page 7 of 11

Formal Complaint Procedure

If a complaint is not resolved through the informal complaint process, or if the member of the School District community or third party elects to file a formal complaint initially, the formal complaint process shall be implemented.

A member of the School District community or third party who believes s/he has been subjected to offensive conduct/harassment hereinafter referred to as the "Complainant", should file a formal complaint, either orally or in writing with the Complaint Coordinator. If a Complainant informs any other employee of the School District, either orally or in writing, about any complaint of harassment, that employee must immediately report such information to the Complaint Coordinator, thereafter the Complaint Coordinator must contact the Complainant to determine whether the Complainant wishes to file a formal or an informal Complaint.

Throughout the course of the process, the Complaint Coordinator should keep the Complainant informed of the status of the investigation and the decision making process.

All formal complaints must include the following information to the extent it is available: the identity of the individual believed to have engaged in, or be engaging in, offensive conduct/harassment; a detailed description of the facts upon which the complaint is based; a list of potential witnesses; and, identification of the resolution which the Complainant seeks.

If the Complainant is unwilling to provide a written statement including the information set forth above, the Complaint Coordinator shall ask for such details in an oral interview. Thereafter the Complaint Coordinator will prepare a written summary of the oral interview which will be presented to the Complainant for verification by signature.

Upon receiving a formal complaint, the Complaint Coordinator will consider whether any action should be taken in the investigatory phase to protect the Complainant from further harassment or retaliation including but not limited to, a change of job assignment or a change of class schedule. In making such a determination, the Complaint Coordinator should consult the Complainant to assess his/her agreement to any action deemed appropriate. If the Complainant is unwilling to consent to any change which is deemed appropriate by the Complaint Coordinator, the Complaint Coordinator may still take whatever actions s/he deem appropriate in consultation with the Superintendent.

guidelines

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362/page 8 of 11

Within two (2) business days of receiving a formal complaint, the Complaint Coordinator will inform the individual alleged to have engaged in the harassing conduct, hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent," that a complaint has been received. The Respondent will be informed about the nature of the allegations and a copy of these Administrative Guidelines and the Board Anti-Harassment Policy shall be provided to the Respondent at that time. The Respondent must also be informed of the opportunity to submit a written response to the complaint within five (5) business days.

Within two (2) business days of receiving the complaint, the Complaint Coordinator or a designee will initiate a formal investigation to determine whether the Complainant has been subject to offensive conduct/harassment.

Although certain cases may require additional time, the Complaint Coordinator or a designee will attempt to complete an investigation into the allegations of harassment within fourteen (14) calendar days of receiving the formal complaint. The investigation will include:

- A. interviews with the Complainant;
- B. interviews with the Respondent;
- C. interviews with any other witnesses who may reasonably be expected to have any information relevant to the allegations;
- D. consideration of any documentation or other information, which is reasonably believed to be relevant to the allegations.

In determining whether the alleged conduct constitutes a violation of Policy 3362, the District will consider:

- A. the nature of the behavior;
- B. how often the conduct occurred;
- C. whether there were past incidents or past continuing patterns of behavior;
- D. the relationship between the parties involved;
- E. the race, national origin, sex, religion, age and/or disability of the victim, and in the case of genetic information harassment, the genetic information of the employee victim;

guidelines

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362/page 9 of 11

- F. the identity of the perpetrator, including whether the perpetrator was in a position of power over the person allegedly subjected to harassment;
- G. the number of alleged harasser(s);
- H. the age of the alleged harasser(s);
- I. where the harassment occurred;
- J. whether there have been other incidents in the school involving the same or other individuals;
- K. whether the conduct adversely affected the person's work or education performance or environment;
- L. the context in which the alleged incidents occurred;
- M. whether or not speech or expression that is alleged to constitute harassment is protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution; and
- N. whether a particular action or incident constitutes a violation of Policy 3362 requires a determination based on all the facts and surrounding circumstances.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the Complaint Coordinator or the designee shall prepare and deliver a written report to the Superintendent which summarizes the evidence gathered during the investigation and provides recommendations based on the evidence and the definition of unlawful harassment as provided in Board policy and State and Federal law as to whether the Complainant has been subject to unlawful harassment. The Complaint Coordinator's recommendations must be based upon the totality of the circumstances, including the ages and maturity levels of those involved.

Absent extenuating circumstances, within five (5) business days of receiving the report of the Complaint Coordinator or the designee, the Superintendent must either issue a final decision regarding whether or not the complaint of harassment has been substantiated or request further investigation. A copy of the Superintendent's final decision will be delivered to both the Complainant and the Respondent.

guidelines

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362/page 10 of 11

If the Superintendent requests additional investigation, the Superintendent must specify the additional information that is to be gathered, and such additional investigation must be completed within five (5) business days. At the conclusion of the additional investigation, the Superintendent must issue a final written decision as described above.

A Complainant or Respondent who is dissatisfied with the final decision of the Superintendent may appeal to the Board by filing a written notice of appeal with the Superintendent within ten (10) business days of the date of the Superintendent's final decision.

Upon receipt of a notice of appeal of the final decision of the Superintendent, the Board shall meet in executive session at its next regularly scheduled meeting, which is scheduled to occur at least ten (10) days after the Superintendent's receipt of the appeal notice, to review the matter. Following the executive session, the Board will affirm or reject the final decision of the Superintendent. The decision of the Board will be final.

Confidentiality

The School District will make all reasonable efforts to protect the rights of the Complainant and the Respondent. The School District will respect the privacy of the Complainant, the Respondent, and all witnesses in a manner consistent with the School District's legal obligations under State and Federal law. Confidentiality cannot be guaranteed however. All Complainants proceeding through the formal investigation process should be advised that their identities may be disclosed to the Respondent.

During the course of a formal investigation, the Complaint Coordinator or his/her designee will instruct all members of the School District community and third parties who are interviewed about the importance of maintaining confidentiality. Any individual who is interviewed as part of a harassment investigation is expected not to disclose any information that s/he learns or that s/he provides during the course of the investigation.

All public records created as a part of an investigation of a complaint of harassment will be maintained by the Complaint Coordinator in accordance with the Board's records retention policy. Any records which are considered student records in accordance with the *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* or under Ohio's student records law will be maintained in a manner consistent with the provisions of the Federal and State law.

guidelines

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362/page 11 of 11

Allegations Constituting Criminal Conduct: Child Abuse/Sexual Misconduct

State law requires any school teacher or school employee who knows or suspects that a child with a disability under the age of twenty-one (21) or that a child under the age of eighteen (18) has suffered or faces a threat of suffering a physical or mental wound, disability or condition of a nature that reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of a child to immediately report that knowledge or suspicion to the county children's services agency. If, during the course of a harassment investigation, the Complaint Coordinator or a designee has reason to believe or suspect that the alleged conduct reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of the Complainant, a report of such knowledge must be made in accordance with State law and Board Policy.

State law defines certain contact between a teacher and a student as "sexual battery." If the Complaint Coordinator or a designee has reason to believe that the Complainant has been the victim of criminal conduct as defined in Ohio's Criminal Code, such knowledge should be immediately reported to local law enforcement.

Any reports made to a county children's services agency or to local law enforcement shall not terminate the Complaint Coordinator or a designee's obligation and responsibility to continue to investigate a complaint of harassment. While the Complaint Coordinator or a designee may work cooperatively with outside agencies to conduct concurrent investigations, in no event shall the harassment investigation be inhibited by the involvement of outside agencies without good cause after consultation with the Superintendent.

Allegations Involving Conduct Unbecoming the Teaching Profession/Suspension

The Superintendent will file a report to the Ohio Department of Education, on forms provided for that purpose, matters of misconduct on the part of licensed professional staff members convicted of sexual battery, and will, in accordance with Policy 8141, suspend such employee from all duties that concern or involve the care, custody, or control of a child during the pendency of any criminal action for which that person has been arrested, summoned and/or indicted in that regard.

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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362A/page 1 of 2

REPORTING THREATENING BEHAVIORS

Threatening behavior may take different forms, including but not limited to the following:

- A. face-to-face encounters in which words are used that indicate to the staff member that his/her safety and well-being are in jeopardy
- B. any conduct or written/oral communications that include comments toward the staff member or his/her family that would imply or state explicitly that the staff member and/or his/her family may be subject to some form of physical or psychological abuse or violence
- C. written or spoken comments to a staff member that could subject him/her to blackmail or extortion
- D. written or spoken communication that would imply or explicitly state that some form of damage may be done to the staff member's property or that of his/her family

Any staff member who believes that s/he is the victim of any of the above actions or has observed such actions taken by a student, parent, fellow staff member, supervisor, co-worker, or other person associated with the District such as a vendor, contractor, volunteer, or school official should take promptly the following steps:

- A. If the alleged threatener is the staff member's supervisor, the affected employee should, as soon as possible after the incident, contact the Complaint Coordinator.
- B. If the alleged threatener is not the staff member's supervisor, the affected staff member should, as soon as possible after the incident, contact his/her supervisor.
- C. If the alleged threatener is a student of the District, the supervisor, if not the student's principal, should immediately inform the student's principal of the alleged threat.

The staff member may make contact either by a written report or by telephone or personal visit. During this contact, the reporting staff member should provide the name of the person(s) whom s/he believes to be responsible for the harassment and the nature of the harassing incident(s). A written summary of each such report is to be prepared promptly by the staff member receiving the report and forwarded to the Complaint Coordinator.

guidelines

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUCLID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
3362A/page 2 of 2

Each report received by the supervisor or Complaint Coordinator as provided above, shall be investigated in a timely and confidential manner. While a charge is under investigation, no information is to be released to anyone who is not involved with the investigation, except as may be required by law or in the context of a legal or administrative proceeding. No one involved is to discuss the matter outside of the investigation.

The purpose of this provision is to:

- A. protect the confidentiality of the staff member who files a complaint;
- B. encourage the reporting of any incidents of threat;
- C. protect the reputation of any party wrongfully charged with threatening conduct.

Investigation of a complaint will normally include conferring with the parties involved and any named or apparent witnesses. All staff members and others involved are to be protected from coercion, intimidation, retaliation, or discrimination for filing a complaint or assisting in an investigation.

If the investigation reveals that the complaint is valid, then appropriate, remedial, and/or disciplinary action will be taken immediately to prevent the continuance of the threat or its recurrence.

The Board of Education recognizes that determining whether a particular action or incident is a threat must be based on all of the facts in the matter. Given the nature of this type of intimidation, the Board recognizes that false accusations of threat can have serious effects on innocent individuals. Accordingly, all staff members are expected to act responsibly, honestly, and with the utmost candor whenever they present threat allegations or charges against fellow staff members, students, or others associated with the District.

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Bylaws & Policies

5630 - CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

While recognizing that students may require disciplinary action in various forms, the Board of Education does not condone the use of unreasonable force and fear as an appropriate procedure in student discipline.

Professional staff should not find it necessary to resort to physical force or violence to compel obedience. If all other means fail, staff members may always resort to removal of the student from the classroom or school through suspension or expulsion procedures.

Professional staff as well as classified staff may, within the scope of their employment, use and apply reasonable and necessary force and restraint to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to others, to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects upon or within the control of the student, in self-defense, or for the protection of persons or property.

Corporal punishment is not permitted. If any employee threatens to inflict, inflicts, or causes to inflict unnecessary, unreasonable, irrational, or inappropriate force upon a student, s/he may be subject to discipline by this Board and possibly charges of child abuse as well. This prohibition applies as well to volunteers and those with whom the District contracts for services.

R.C. 2919.22(B), 3313.20(B), 3319.41

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Euclid City School District
Bylaws & Policies

3122 - NONDISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, military status, ancestry, or age in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities.

The Superintendent shall appoint a compliance officer whose responsibility it will be to ensure that Federal and State regulations are complied with and that any inquiries or complaints are dealt with promptly in accordance with law. S/He shall also ensure that proper notice of nondiscrimination for Title II, Title VI, and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Act is provided to staff members and the general public. Any sections of the District's collectively-bargained, negotiated agreements dealing with hiring, promotion, and tenure need to contain a statement of nondiscrimination similar to that in the Board's statement above. In addition, any gender-specific terms should be eliminated from such contracts.

R.C. 4112.01, 4112.02

A.C. 3301-35-03(A)

42 U.S.C., 2000e, et seq., Civil Rights Act of 1964

42 U.S.C., 12112, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

29 U.S.C. 701 et seq., Rehabilitation Act of 1973

20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq., Title IX

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Euclid City School District
Bylaws & Policies

3122.02 - NONDISCRIMINATION BASED ON GENETIC INFORMATION OF THE EMPLOYEE

The Board of Education does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment with respect to hiring, compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment based on genetic information. The Board also does not limit, segregate, or classify employees in any way that would deprive or tend to deprive them of employment opportunities or otherwise adversely affect the status of an employee as an employee, based on genetic information. Retaliation against an applicant or employee for engaging in protected activity is prohibited.

The Board shall only acquire and/or disclose genetic information of an employee or applicant for employment as provided by Federal law and regulation.

The Superintendent shall appoint a compliance officer whose responsibility it will be to ensure that Federal regulations are complied with and that any inquiries or complaints are dealt with promptly in accordance with law. S/He shall also ensure that proper notice of nondiscrimination for Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 is provided to staff members.

42 U.S.C. 2000ff et seq., The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act
29 C.F.R. Part 1635

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Euclid City School District
Bylaws & Policies

3210 - STAFF ETHICS

An effective educational program and successful operation of the District requires the services of individuals with integrity, high ideals, and human understanding. To maintain and promote these essentials, the Board of Education expects all professional staff members to maintain high standards in their working relationships, and in the performance of their professional duties, to:

- A. recognize basic dignities of all individuals with whom they interact in the performance of duties;
- B. represent accurately their qualifications;
- C. exercise due care to protect the mental and physical safety of students, colleagues, and subordinates;
- D. seek and apply the knowledge and skills appropriate to assigned responsibilities;
- E. keep in confidence legally-confidential information;
- F. pledge that their actions and/or those of another on their behalf are not made with specific intent of advancing private economic interests;
- G. refuse to accept anything of value offered by another for the purpose of influencing judgment;
- H. refuse to accept compensation from any other source, other than the Board, for the performance of his/her official duties, any other act or service in his/her public capacity, for the general performance of the duties of his/her public employment, or as a supplement to his/her public compensation;
- I. refrain from using his/her position or public property, or permitting another person to use an employee's position or public property for partisan political or religious purposes. (This will in no way limit constitutionally or legally protected rights as a citizen.)

In addition, the Board believes that each professional staff member should maintain standards of exemplary professional conduct and conform his/her behavior to the code of ethics set forth below as adopted, in part, from the Association of American Educators' Code of Ethics and the National Education Association's Code of Ethics of the Education Profession, by demonstrating a commitment to students, the educational profession, and the District and community.

Commitment to Students - each professional staff member shall:

- A. strive to create a learning environment that nurtures to fulfillment the potential of all students and stimulates the spirit of inquiry, acquisition of knowledge and understanding, and the formulation of worthy goals;
- B. not unreasonably restrain students from independent action in the pursuit of learning or deny each student's access to varying points of view;
- C. deal considerately and justly with each student and seek to resolve problems, including discipline, according to Board policy and law;
- D. refrain from intentionally exposing students to disparagement or embarrassment;
- E. refrain from revealing confidential information concerning students, unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law;
- F. make a constructive effort to protect students from conditions detrimental to learning, health or safety;
- G. endeavor to present facts without distortion, bias or personal prejudice;
- H. refrain from using his/her professional relationships with students for private advantage;

- I. not on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, religious beliefs, family, social or cultural background, or sexual orientation, unfairly:
 1. exclude any student from participation in any program;
 2. deny benefits to any student;
 3. grant any advantage to any student.

Commitment to the Educational Profession - each professional staff member shall:

- A. assume responsibility and accountability for his/her performance and continually strive to demonstrate competence;
- B. endeavor to maintain the dignity of the profession by respecting and obeying the law, and by demonstrating personal integrity;
- C. apply for, accept, or assign a position or a responsibility on the basis of professional qualifications, and adhere to the terms of a contract or appointment;
- D. continue professional growth;
- E. comply with written Board policies, administrative guidelines, or applicable laws and regulations;
- F. honestly account for all funds committed to his/her charge;
- G. refrain from using District or professional privileges for personal or partisan advantage;
- H. refrain from knowingly or willfully making false statements about a colleague or the District;
- I. not assist a non-teacher in the unauthorized practice of teaching.

Commitment to District and Community - each professional staff member shall:

- A. recognize that quality education is the common goal of the public, Board of Education, administration, and staff members;
- B. make concerted efforts to communicate to parents all information that should be revealed in the interest of a student;
- C. endeavor to understand and respect the value and traditions of the diverse cultures represented in the community and in his/her classroom;
- D. manifest a positive and active role in District/community relations.

Ohio Ethics Commission Advisory Opinion 2008-01

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