

The Center for Advanced Learning

Code: JBA/GBN
Adopted: 8/20/14

Sexual Harassment

(Required if employer is the public charter school)

The public charter school board is committed to the elimination of sexual harassment in public charter schools and activities. Sexual harassment is strictly prohibited and shall not be tolerated. This includes sexual harassment of students, staff or third parties by other students, staff, public charter board members or third parties. "Third parties" include, but are not limited to, school volunteers, parents, school visitors, service contractors or others engaged in public charter school business, such as employees of businesses or organizations participating in cooperative work programs with the public charter school and others not directly subject to public charter school's control at interschool athletic competitions or other public charter school events. "Public charter school" includes public charter school facilities, public charter school premises and nonpublic charter school property if the student or employee is at any public charter school-sponsored, public charter school-approved or public charter school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the control of the public charter school or where the employee is engaged in public charter school business. The prohibition also includes off duty conduct which is incompatible with public charter school job responsibilities.

Sexual harassment of students, staff or third parties shall include, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal, nonverbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. The conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of demanding sexual favors in exchange for benefits;
2. Submission to or rejection of the conduct or communication is used as the basis for educational decisions affecting a student or employment or assignment of staff;
3. The conduct or communication is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's educational performance or with an employee's ability to perform his/her job; or creates an intimidating, offensive or hostile educational or working environment. Relevant factors to be considered will include, but not be limited to, did the individual view the environment as hostile; was it reasonable to view the environment as hostile; the nature of the conduct; how often the conduct occurred and how long it continued; age and sex of the complainant; whether the alleged harasser was in a position of power over the student or staff member subjected to the harassment; number of individuals involved; age of the alleged harasser; where the harassment occurred; and other incidents of sexual harassment at the school involving the same or other students or staff.

Examples of sexual harassment may include, but not be limited to, physical touching or graffiti of a sexual nature, displaying or distributing of sexually explicit drawings, pictures and written materials, sexual gestures or obscene jokes, touching oneself sexually or talking about one's sexuality in front of others or spreading rumors about or rating other students or others as to appearance, sexual activity or performance.

All complaints about behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. Any student, employee or third party who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy or feels he/she is a victim of sexual harassment must immediately report his/her concerns to the public charter school director who has overall responsibility for all investigations. A student may also report concerns to a teacher, counselor or school nurse, who will promptly notify the public charter school director. The student and the student's parents or staff member who initiated the complaint shall be notified of the findings of the investigation and, if appropriate, that remedial action has been taken.

The initiation of a complaint in good faith about behavior that may violate this policy shall not adversely affect the educational assignments or study environment of a student complainant or any terms or conditions of employment or work environment of the staff complainant. There shall be no retaliation by the public charter school against any person who, in good faith, reports, files a complaint or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry of sexual harassment.

It is the intent of the public charter school board that appropriate corrective action will be taken by the public charter school to stop the sexual harassment, prevent its recurrence and address negative consequences. Students in violation of this policy shall be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion and/or counseling or sexual harassment awareness training, as appropriate. The age and maturity of the student(s) involved and other relevant factors will be considered in determining appropriate action. Employees in violation of this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal and/or additional sexual harassment awareness training, as appropriate. Other individuals whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to appropriate sanctions as determined and imposed by the public charter school director or public charter school board.

Additionally, the public charter school may report individuals in violation of this policy to law enforcement officials. Licensed staff, staff registered with the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) and those participating in practicum programs, as specified by Oregon Administrative Rules, shall be reported to TSPC.

The public charter school director shall ensure appropriate periodic sexual harassment awareness training or information is provided to all supervisors, staff and students and that annually, the name and position of district officials responsible for accepting and managing sexual harassment complaints, business phone numbers, addresses or other necessary contact information is readily available. This policy as well as the complaint procedure will be made available to all students, parents of students and staff. The public charter school's policy shall be posted in the public charter school. Such posting shall be by a sign of at least 8 1/2" by 11".

The public charter school director will establish a process of reporting incidents of sexual harassment.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 243.706
ORS 338.115
ORS 342.700
ORS 342.704
ORS 342.708
ORS 342.850

ORS 342.865
ORS 659.850
ORS 659A.006
ORS 659A.029
ORS 659A.030

OAR 581-021-0038
OAR 584-020-0040
OAR 584-020-0041

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

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

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1683 (2006); Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance, 34 C.F.R. Part 106 (2006).

Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ., 526 U.S. 629 (1999).

Gebser v. Lago Vista Indep. Sch. Dist., 524 U.S. 274 (1998).

Cross Reference(s):

GBN/JBA - Sexual Harassment

JFCF - Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing/Cyberbullying/Teen Dating Violence – Student

Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedure

(Required if the employer is the public charter school)

The public charter school director has responsibility for investigations concerning sexual harassment. The investigator(s) shall be a neutral party having had no involvement in the complaint presented.

- Step 1** Any sexual harassment information (complaints, rumors, etc.) shall be presented to the public charter school director. All such information shall be reduced to writing and will include the specific nature of the sexual harassment and corresponding dates. If the director is the subject of the complaint, the complaint will be submitted to the public charter school board.
- Step 2** The public charter school official receiving the information or complaint shall promptly initiate an investigation. He/She will arrange such meetings as may be necessary to discuss the issue with all concerned parties within 10 working days after receipt of the information or complaint. All findings of the investigation, including the response of the alleged harasser, shall be reduced to writing. The public charter school official(s) conducting the investigation shall notify the complainant in writing when the investigation is concluded. The parties will have an opportunity to submit evidence and a list of witnesses.
- Step 3** If a complainant is not satisfied with the decision at Step 2, he or she may submit a written appeal to the public charter school board. Such appeal must be filed within 10 working days after receipt of the Step 2 decision. The public charter school board shall, within 30 working days, conduct a hearing at which time the complainant shall be given an opportunity to present the appeal. The public charter school board shall provide a written decision to the complainant within 10 working days following completion of the hearing.

Direct complaints related to employment may be filed with the U.S. Department of Labor, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries. Direct complaints related to educational programs and services may be made to the Regional Civil Rights Director, U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, Region X, 915 2nd Ave., Room 3310, Seattle, WA 98174-1099. Additional information regarding filing of a complaint may be obtained through the public charter school director or compliance officer.

All documentation related to sexual harassment complaints may become part of the student's education record or employee's personnel file, as appropriate. Additionally, a copy of all sexual harassment complaints and documentation will be maintained as a confidential file and stored in the public charter school office.

The public charter school director shall report the name of any person holding a teaching license or registered with Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) or participating in a practicum under OAR Chapter 584, Division 17, when, after appropriate investigation, there is reasonable cause to believe the person may have committed an act of sexual harassment. Reports shall be made to TSPC within 30

days of such a finding. Reports of sexual contact with a student shall be given to a representative from law enforcement or Oregon Department of Human Services, Community Human Services, as possible child abuse. In the event the public charter school director is the subject of the investigation, reports, when required, shall be made by the public charter school board chair.

**The Center for Advanced Learning
SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT FORM**

Name of complainant: _____

Position of complainant: _____

Date of complaint: _____

Name of alleged harasser: _____

Date and place of incident or incidents: _____

Description of misconduct: _____

Name of witnesses (if any): _____

Evidence of sexual harassment, i.e., letters, photos, etc. (attach evidence if possible): _____

Any other information: _____

I agree that all of the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

**The Center for Advanced Learning
WITNESS DISCLOSURE FORM**

Name of Witness: _____

Position of Witness: _____

Date of Testimony/Interview: _____

Description of Instance Witnessed: _____

Any Other Information: _____

I agree that all the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Date: _____