

## NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

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

*(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*  
*(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)*  
*(cf. 4033 - Lactation Accommodation)*  
*(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)*  
*(cf. 4119.41/4219.41/4319.41 - Employees with Infectious Disease)*  
*(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)*  
*(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)*

Prohibited discrimination consists of the taking of any adverse employment action against a person, including termination or denial of promotion, job assignment, or training, or in discriminating against the person in compensation, terms, conditions, or other privileges of employment based on any of the prohibited categories of discrimination listed above. The prohibition against discrimination based on the religious creed of an employee or job applicant includes any discrimination based on the person's religious dress or grooming practices or any conflict between the person's religious belief, observance, or practice and an employment requirement. The prohibition against discrimination based on the sex of an employee or job applicant shall include any discrimination based on the person's pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or any related medical conditions. (Government Code 12926, 12940)

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

The Board also prohibits retaliation against any district employee or job applicant who complains, testifies, assists, or in any way participates in the district's complaint procedures instituted pursuant to this policy.

Any district employee who engages in prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation or who aids, abets, incites, compels, or coerces another to engage or attempt to engage in such behavior in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

*(cf. 4117.4 - Dismissal)*  
*(cf. 4118 - Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*  
*(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*

**NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT** (continued)

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

Assistant Superintendent Personnel and Pupil Services  
11645 Ridge Road  
Grass Valley, CA 95945-5024  
530-273-3351

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

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

*(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)*

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

**Training and Notifications**

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

*(cf. 4131- Staff Development)*  
*(cf. 4231- Staff Development)*  
*(cf. 4331- Staff Development)*

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

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

**NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT** (continued)*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

CIVIL CODE

51.7 Freedom from violence or intimidation

GOVERNMENT CODE

11135 Unlawful discrimination

12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act

PENAL CODE

422.56 Definitions, hate crimes

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

7287.6 Terms, conditions and privileges of employment

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

621-634 Age Discrimination in Employment Act

794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

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

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

2000ff-2000ff-11 Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

6101-6107 Age discrimination in federally assisted programs

12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.101-35.190 Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

100.6 Compliance information

104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504

104.8 Notice

106.8 Designation of responsible employee and adoption of grievance procedures

106.9 Dissemination of policy

110.1-110.39 Nondiscrimination on the basis of age

COURT DECISIONS*Thompson v. North American Stainless LP*, (2011) 131 S.Ct. 863*Shepard v. Loyola Marymount*, (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 837*Management Resources:*U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS*Notice of Non-Discrimination*, August 2010U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS*Questions and Answers: Religious Discrimination in the Workplace*, 2008*Enforcement Guidance: Reasonable Accommodation and Undue Hardship under the Americans with Disabilities Act*, October 2002*Enforcement Guidance: Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors*, June 1999WEB SITESCalifornia Department of Fair Employment and Housing: <http://www.dfeh.ca.gov>U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: <http://www.eeoc.gov>

## COMPLAINTS CONCERNING DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

### Complaint Procedure

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

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

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

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

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

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

*(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)*

*(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)*

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

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

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

*(cf. 3580 - District Records)*

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

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

**COMPLAINTS CONCERNING DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT** (continued)

If the Coordinator determines that a detailed fact-finding investigation is necessary, he/she shall begin the investigation immediately. As part of this investigation, the Coordinator should interview the complainant, the person accused, and other persons who could be expected to have relevant information.

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

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

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

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

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

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

*(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)*  
*(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)*

**COMPLAINTS CONCERNING DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT** (continued)

**Other Remedies**

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

1. To file a valid complaint with DFEH, within one year of the alleged discriminatory act(s), unless an exception exists pursuant to Government Code 12960 (Government Code 12960)
2. To file a valid complaint directly with EEOC, within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory act(s) (42 USC 2000e-5)
3. To file a valid complaint with EEOC after first filing a complaint with DFEH, within 300 days of the alleged discriminatory act(s) or within 30 days after the termination of proceedings by DFEH, whichever is earlier (42 USC 2000e-5)

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

**COMPLAINTS CONCERNING DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)**

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

GOVERNMENT CODE

12920-12921 Nondiscrimination

12940-12948 Discrimination prohibited; unlawful practices, generally

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

621-634 Age Discrimination in Employment Act

794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

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

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

2000ff-2000ff-11 Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

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

12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.101-35.190 Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX

*Management Resources:*

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

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

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

WEB SITES

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

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: <http://www.eeoc.gov>