# LONDONDERRY SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION POLICY

District Title IX Coordinator: Human Resource Director 6A Kitty Hawk Landing Londonderry, NH 03053 603-432-6920 ext. 1104

High School Title IX Coordinator:

Middle School Title IX Coordinator:

Matthew Thornton Title IX Coordinator:

Moose Hill Title IX Coordinator:

South School Title IX Coordinator:

Principal or designee

## LONDONDERRY SCHOOL BOARD

Adopted: January 24, 1995 Amended: October 20, 1998 Amended: October 26, 2014 Amended: October 26, 2018

ACA-E

## HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF SCHOOL EMPLOYEES POLICY AND COMPLAINT PROCEDURES FOR EMPLOYEES AND THIRD PARTIES

Harassment of school employees because of age, sex, race, religion, color, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability, genetic information, national origin, ancestry or sexual orientation is prohibited. Such conduct is a violation of Board policy and may constitute illegal discrimination under state and federal laws.

#### Harassment

Harassment includes but is not limited to verbal abuse, threats, physical assault and/or battery based on age, sex, race, religion, color, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation or genetic information.

#### **Sexual Harassment**

Unwelcome sexual advances, suggestive or lewd remarks, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal and physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when:

- A. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an employee's work environment or employee benefits;
- B. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an employee is used as the basis for decisions on employment benefits; and/or
- C. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.

Any employee who engages in harassment or sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

All complaints of harassment will be investigated in accordance with the Employee & Third Party Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedure.

## **Notice and Training**

Annually, each employee shall receive a copy of this policy and its accompanying complaint procedures. This may be accomplished by including the policy/procedure with employee paychecks or by using other appropriate means to ensure that each employee receives a copy.

**Employee & Third Party Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedure** 

This procedure has been adopted by the Board in order to provide a method of prompt and equitable resolution of employee complaints of discrimination and harassment. This procedure may also be used by other individuals (excluding students), such as parents, volunteers and visitors to the schools who wish to make a complaint of discrimination or harassment. Complaints alleging harassment or discrimination of students based on protected status should be addressed through the Board's Student Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Harassment Policy and Complaint Procedure (ACA-S).

### **Definitions**

For purposes of this procedure:

- A. "Complaint" is defined as an allegation that an employee or other third party has been discriminated against or harassed on the basis of age, sex, race, religion, color, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability, genetic information, national origin, ancestry or sexual orientation.
- B. "Discrimination or harassment" means discrimination or harassment on the basis of age, sex, race, religion, color, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability, genetic information, national origin, ancestry or sexual orientation. "Discrimination" may include treating individuals differently, or interfering with or preventing them from enjoying the advantages or privileges afforded to others because of their membership in a protected class. "Harassment" may include oral, written, graphic, electronic or physical conduct relating to an individual's actual or perceived membership in a protected class that is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent so as to interfere with or limit that individual's ability to participate in the District's programs or activities by creating a hostile, intimidating or offensive environment.
- C. Whenever the term "employee" is used in this procedure it includes other third parties who are making a complaint of discrimination or harassment.

## **How to Make a Complaint**

- A. Any employee who believes he/she has been harassed or discriminated against is encouraged to try to resolve the problem by informing the individual(s) that the behavior is unwelcome or offensive and by requesting that the behavior stop. This shall not prevent the employee, however, from making an immediate formal complaint.
- B. Any employee who believes he/she has been harassed or discriminated against should report their concern in writing promptly to the Building Administrator or Human Resource Director. If the employee is uncomfortable reporting concerns to the Building Administrator, he/she may report the concern to another school administrator.
  - Employees who are unsure as to whether unlawful discrimination or harassment has occurred or who need assistance in preparing a written complaint, are encouraged to discuss their concerns with the Building Administrator or the Human Resource Director. Employees will not be retaliated against for reporting suspected discrimination or

- harassment or for participating in an investigation. Retaliation is illegal under federal and state nondiscrimination laws, and any retaliation will result in disciplinary measures, up to and including dismissal.
- C. Any employee who believes he/she has been discriminated against or harassed is encouraged to utilize the District's complaint procedure. However, employees are hereby notified that they also have the right to report incidents of discrimination or harassment to the New Hampshire Commission on Human Rights, 2 Chenell Drive, Concord, NH 03301-8501 (telephone: 603-271-2767) and/or to the federal Office for Civil Rights, Regional Director, U.S. Department of Education, 5 Post Office Square, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02110-1491 (telephone: 617-289-0111).

## **Complaint Handling and Investigation**

- A. The Building Administrator or the Human Resource Director will promptly inform the Superintendent and the person who is the subject of the Complaint that a Complaint has been received.
- B. The Building Administrator or the Human Resource Director may pursue an informal resolution of the Complaint with the agreement of the parties involved. Any party to the Complaint may decide to end the informal resolution process and pursue the formal process at any point. The informal resolution is subject to the approval of the Superintendent who shall consider whether the resolution is in the best interest of the parties in light of the particular circumstances and applicable policies and law.
- C. The Complaint will be investigated by the Building Administrator or the Human Resource Director. Any Complaint about an employee who holds a supervisory position shall be investigated by a person who is not subject to that supervisor's authority. Any Complaint about the Superintendent should be submitted to the Chair of the Board, who should consult with legal counsel concerning the handling and investigation of the complaint.
  - 1. The person who is the subject of the Complaint will be provided with an opportunity to be heard as part of the investigation. The Complainant shall not be required to attend meetings with the subject of the Complaint, but may choose to do so as part of the resolution process.
  - 2. The Complainant and the subject of the Complaint may suggest witnesses and/or submit materials they believe are relevant to the Complaint.
  - 3. If the Complaint is against an employee of the District, any rights conferred under an applicable collective bargaining agreement shall be applied.
  - 4. Privacy rights of all parties to the Complaint shall be maintained in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.
  - 5. The Building Administrator or the Human Resource Director shall keep a written record of the investigation process.

- 6. The Building Administrator or the Human Resource Director may take interim remedial measures (consistent with any applicable collective bargaining agreement provisions) to reduce the risk of further discrimination or harassment while the investigation is pending. An example of a remedial measure is ordering no contact between the individuals involved.
- 7. The Building Administrator or the Human Resource Director shall consult with the Superintendent concerning the investigation, conclusions, and any remedial and/or disciplinary actions.
- 8. The investigation shall be completed within 21 calendar days of receiving the Complaint, if practicable.
- D. If the Building Administrator or the Human Resource Director determines that discrimination or harassment occurred, he/she shall, in consultation with the Superintendent:
  - 1. Determine what remedial action, if any, is required to end the discrimination or harassment, remedy its effect and prevent recurrence.
  - 2. Determine what disciplinary action should be taken against the person(s) who engaged in discrimination or harassment, if any; and
  - 3. Inform the employee who made the Complaint in writing of the results of the investigation and its resolution (in accordance with applicable state and federal privacy laws).
- E. If the employee who made the Complaint is dissatisfied with the resolution, he/she may appeal to the Superintendent within 14 calendar days after receiving notice of the resolution. The Superintendent shall review the investigation report and may conduct further investigation if deemed appropriate. The Superintendent's decision shall be provided in writing to the complainant within 21 business days, if practicable. The Superintendent's decision shall be final.

Legal References: Americans with Disabilities Act (28 CFR § 35.107)

Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. § 794);

34 CFR § 104.7

Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 (34 CFR §

106.8(b)

Age Discrimination in Employment Act (34 CFR § 110.25)

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. §

2000ff et seq.)

NH RSA 354-A:7

NH Code Admin R. Ed 303.01(i) and (j)

Cross Reference: AC – Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity

ACA-S – Student Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Harassment Policy and Complaint Procedure

## LONDONDERRY SCHOOL BOARD

Adopted: August 26, 2014

## LONDONDERRY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT

Complaint filed by:	
Name	
Department/Facility/School	
Name of alleged harasser(s)	
When did the incident(s) take place?	
Where did the incident(s) take place?	
Please provide a summary of what happened:	
Signature of Complainant Da	nte

Note: All complaints will be investigated by the Human Resource Director, Title IX Coordinator, 6A Kitty Hawk Landing, Londonderry, NH at 432-6920. Complainants, witness and others involved will be interviewed without reprisal. Prompt corrective action will be taken when warranted. Knowingly filing a false sexual harassment claim is a serious matter and will be dealt with accordingly. Filing a false claim will result in discipline up to and including discharge.

## LONDONDERRY SHOOL DISTRICT

## SEXUAL HARASSMENT INVESTIGATION

Complainant Name:
Department/Facility:
Telephone No:Date complaint was filed:
Name of alleged harasser(s):
DepartmentManager/Supervisor:
Description of the incident(s):  1.Where did the incident(s) take place?
-
2. When did the incident(s) take place?
3. Names of witnesses:
4. How did the incident(s) affect you?
5. What did you do?
6. Are you aware of any other incidents?
7. What were your feelings at the time of the incidents?

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8. Have you talked to anyone else about the incident(s)?	
9. Do you have any documentation or evidence regarding the incident?	
10. What do you want done to remedy the situation?	
11. Please add any other comments you would like to make regarding this complaint:	
complaint.	

## LONDONDERRY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## **CONSENT FORM**

I <u>,</u>	for the Londonderry School	
District, an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer with a	policy prohibiting sexual	
harassment of its employees, understand you have raised serious	concerns about a possible	
violation of that policy. It is my job to investigate the matter promptly, fairly, and thoroughly. I		
would like to ask for your cooperation.		
I will gladly supply you with a copy of any statement you sign.	You may terminate this	
interview at any time. There will be no benefit or reprisal for your participation in this process.		
I represent the Londonderry School District in this matter. You	may have claims that you may	
assert even after this investigation is finished. You have a right to do so through the grievance		
procedure, the EEOC, the state labor agency, or a common law civil suit. Our interest here is in		
detecting any wrong and taking appropriate action in hopes that further conflict will be avoided.		
Your cooperation will assist the Londonderry School District in doing so. Please sign below to		
consent to this interview.		
Signature Date		

# LONDONDERRY SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION POLICY

District Title IX Coordinator: Director of Pupil Services 6A Kitty Hawk Landing Londonderry, NH 03053 603-432-6920 ext. 1104

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Middle School Title IX Coordinator:

Matthew Thornton Title IX Coordinator:

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Principal or designee

### LONDONDERRY SCHOOL BOARD

Adopted: January 24, 1995 Amended: October 20, 1998 Amended: October 26, 2014 Amended: October 26, 2018

## STUDENT DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY AND COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

This policy and accompanying procedures have been adopted by the Londonderry School Board in order to provide a method of prompt and equitable resolution of student complaints of discrimination or discriminatory harassment. Complaints alleging discrimination or harassment of employees or other third parties (such as parents, volunteers, vendors, etc.) should be addressed through the Board's Harassment and Sexual Harassment of School Employees Policy & Complaint Procedures for Employees and Third Parties (ACA-E).

### Harassment

Harassment of students because of race, religion, color, age, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability, national origin, ancestry, economic status or sexual orientation is prohibited. Such conduct is a violation of Board policy and may constitute illegal discrimination under state and federal laws.

Harassment includes but is not limited to verbal abuse based on race, religion, color, age, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability, national origin, ancestry, economic status or sexual orientation is prohibited. Complaints of bullying and cyberbullying not based on the characteristics described above may also be pursued under Board Policy JIC – Pupil Safety & Violence Prevention Policy.

#### **Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment includes but is not limited to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or pressure to engage in sexual activity, physical contact of a sexual nature, gestures, comments, or other physical, written or verbal conduct that is gender-based that interferes with a student's education. School employees, fellow students, volunteers and visitors to the school, and other persons with whom students may interact in order to pursue school activities are required to refrain from such conduct.

Harassment/sexual harassment of students by school employees is considered grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including discharge. Harassment/sexual harassment of students by other students is considered grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion. The Superintendent will determine appropriate sanctions for harassment of students by persons other than school employees and students.

The Superintendent or the employee designated as the Title IX Coordinator will investigate complaints of harassment in accordance with the Student Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedure listed below. School employees, students, and parents shall be informed of this policy/procedure through handbooks and/or other means selected by the school administration.

## **Student Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedure**

### **Definitions**

For purposes of this procedure:

- A. A "Complaint" is defined as an allegation that a student has been discriminated against or harassed on the basis of race, religion, color, age, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability, national origin, ancestry, economic status or sexual orientation.
- B. "Discrimination or harassment" means discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, religion, color, age, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability, national origin, ancestry, economic status or sexual orientation. "Discrimination" may include treating individuals differently, or interfering with or preventing them from enjoying the advantages or privileges afforded to others because of their membership in a protected class. "Harassment" may include oral, written, graphic, electronic or physical conduct relating to an individual's actual or perceived membership in a protected class that is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent so as to interfere with or limit that individual's ability to participate in the District's programs or activities by creating a hostile, intimidating or offensive educational environment.
- C. Complaints of bullying and cyberbullying not involving the protected classes described above may also be pursued under Board Policy JIC Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention Policy.

## **How to Make a Complaint**

- A. Any individual who believes a student has been discriminated against or harassed should report his/her concern *in writing* promptly to the Building Administrator or the Superintendent/designee and utilize this complaint procedure. Individuals who are unsure whether discrimination or harassment has occurred or who need assistance in preparing a written complaint, are encouraged to discuss the situation with the Building Administrator or the Superintendent/designee.
- B. School employees are expected to report possible incidents of discrimination or harassment of students to the Building Administrator or the Superintendent/designee.
- C. Students and others will not be retaliated against for making a Complaint or participating in an investigation. Retaliation is illegal under state and federal nondiscrimination laws and any retaliation by students or school staff will result in disciplinary measures, up to and including expulsion or dismissal.
- D. Students are encouraged to utilize this Complaint Procedure. However, students are hereby notified that they also have the right to report complaints to the New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights, 2 Chenell Drive, Unit 2, Concord, NH 03301-8501 (telephone: 603-271-2767) and/or to the federal Office for Civil Rights, Regional

Director, U.S. Department of Education, 5 Post Office Square, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02110-1491 (telephone: 617-289-0111).

## **Complaint Handling and Investigation**

- A. The Building Administrator or Superintendent/designee shall promptly inform the Superintendent and the person(s) who is the subject of the Complaint that a Complaint has been received.
- B. The Building Administrator or the Superintendent/designee may pursue a prompt and equitable informal resolution of the Complaint with the agreement of the parties involved. Any party to the Complaint may decide to end an informal resolution process and pursue the formal process at any point. The informal resolution is subject to the approval of the Superintendent, who shall consider whether the informal resolution is in the best interest of the parties in light of the particular circumstances and applicable policies and laws.
- C. The Complaint will be investigated by the Building Administrator or the Superintendent/designee. Any Complaint about an employee who holds a supervisory position shall be investigated by a person who is not subject to that supervisor's authority. Any Complaint about the Superintendent should be submitted to the Chair of the School Board, who should consult with legal counsel concerning the handling and investigation of the Complaint.
  - 1. The person who is the subject of the Complaint will be provided with an opportunity to be heard as part of the investigation. The Complainant shall not be required to attend meetings with the subject of the complaint, but may choose to do so as part of the resolution process.
  - 2. The Complainant and the subject of the Complaint may suggest witnesses and/or submit materials they believe are relevant to the Complaint.
  - 3. If the Complaint is against an employee of the District, any applicable individual or collective bargaining contract provisions shall be followed.
  - 4. Privacy rights of all parties to the Complaint shall be maintained in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.
  - 5. The Building Administrator or the Superintendent/designee shall keep a written record of the investigation process.
  - 6. The Building Administrator or the Superintendent/designee may take interim remedial measures to reduce the risk of further discrimination or harassment while the investigation is pending. Examples of interim measures include, but are not limited to, ordering no contact between individuals, changing schedules or classes, etc.

- 7. The Building Administrator or Superintendent's designee shall consult with the Superintendent concerning the investigation, conclusions, and any remedial and/or disciplinary actions.
- 8. The investigation shall be completed within 21 business days of receiving the Complaint, if practicable.
- D. If the Building Administrator or Superintendent's designee determines that discrimination or harassment occurred, he/she shall, in consultation with the Superintendent:
  - 1. Determine what remedial action, if any is needed to end the discrimination or harassment, remedy its effects, and prevent recurrence
  - 2. Determine what disciplinary action should be taken against the person(s) who engaged in discrimination or harassment, if any; and
  - 3. Inform the complainant in writing of the results of the investigation and its resolution (in accordance with applicable state and federal privacy laws).
- E. If the complainant is dissatisfied with the resolution, an appeal may be made in writing to the Superintendent within 14 business days after receiving notice of the resolution. The Superintendent shall review the investigation report and may conduct further investigation if deemed appropriate. The Superintendent's decision shall be provided in writing to the complainant within 21 business days, if practicable. The Superintendent's decision shall be final.

Legal References: Americans with Disabilities Act (28 CFR § 35.07), as amended

Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act (29 USC § 794), as

amended; 34 CFR § 104.7

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 USC § 1681 et seq.)

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352)

NH RSA 186:11

NH Code Admin. R. Ed. 303.01(i) and (j)

Cross Reference: AC – Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity

ACA-E – Harassment and Sexual Harassment of School Employees Policy & Complaint Procedures for Employees and Third Parties

JIC – Pupil Safety & Violence Prevention Policy

#### LONDONDERRY SCHOOL BOARD

Adopted: August 26, 2014