Kern Union HSD
Board Policy
Sexual Harassment

BP 4119.11 4219.11, 4319.11
Personnel

The following policy shall apply to all district employees, interns, volunteers, contractors, job applicants, and other persons with an employment relationship with the district.

The Board of Trustees is committed to providing a safe work environment that is free of harassment and intimidation. The Board prohibits sexual harassment against district employees and retaliatory behavior or action against any person who complains, testifies, or otherwise participates in the complaint process established for the purpose of this policy.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, harassment that is based on the sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation of the victim and harassment based on pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions.

The Superintendent or designee shall take all actions necessary to ensure the prevention, investigation, and correction of sexual harassment, including but not limited to:

1. Providing training to employees in accordance with law and administrative regulation

2. Publicizing and disseminating the district's sexual harassment policy to employees and others to whom the policy may apply

3. Ensuring prompt, thorough, air, and equitable investigation of complaints

4. Taking timely and appropriate corrective/remedial action(s), which may require interim separation of the complainant and the alleged harasser and subsequent monitoring of developments

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the district's strategies to prevent and address harassment. Such evaluation may involve conducting regular anonymous employee surveys to assess whether harassment is occurring or is perceived to be tolerated, partnering with researchers or other agencies with the needed expertise to evaluate the district's prevention strategies, and using any other effective tool for receiving feedback on systems and/or processes. As necessary, changes shall be made to the harassment policy, complaint procedures, or training.

Sexual Harassment Reports and Complaints
District employees who feel that they have been sexually harassed in the performance of their district responsibilities or who have knowledge of any incident of sexual harassment by or against another employee shall immediately report the incident to their direct supervisor, a district administrator, or the district's Title IX Coordinator. Employees may bypass their supervisor in filing a complaint if the supervisor is the subject of the complaint. A supervisor or administrator who receives a harassment complaint shall promptly notify the Title IX Coordinator.

Once notified, the Title IX Coordinator shall ensure the complaint is addressed through either AR 4119.12/4219.12/4319.12 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures for complaints meeting the Title IX definition of sexual harassment or AR 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment for complaints meeting the state definition, as applicable, and shall offer supportive measures to the complainant.

(cf. 4119.12/4219.12/4319.12 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaints)

Upon investigation of a sexual harassment complaint, any district employee found to have engaged or participated in sexual harassment or to have aided, abetted, incited, compelled, or coerced another to commit sexual harassment in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, in accordance with law and the applicable collective bargaining agreement.

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

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex
GOVERNMENT CODE
12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act, especially:
12940 Prohibited discrimination
12950 Sexual harassment; distribution of information
12950.1 Sexual harassment training
LABOR CODE
1101 Political activities of employees
1102.1 Discrimination: sexual orientation
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2
11009 Employment discrimination
11021 Retaliation
11023 Harassment and discrimination prevention and correction
11024 Sexual harassment training and education
11034 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 42
2000e-2000e-17  Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
106.1-106.9  Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities
106.51-106.82  Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in employment in education programs or activities
COURT DECISIONS
Department of Health Services v. Superior Court of California, (2003) 31 Cal.4th 1026

Management Resources:
U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS
Promising Practices for Preventing Harassment, November 2017
WEB SITES
California 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/index.html

Policy  KERN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
adopted:  June 2, 2016  Bakersfield, California
revised:  May 1, 2017
revised:  June 4, 2018
revised:  June 14, 2019
revised:  August 3, 2020
revised:  Fill in Date