All Personnel

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

The Board of Trustees is determined to provide district employees and job applicants a safe, positive environment where they are assured of full and equal employment access and opportunities, protection from harassment or intimidation, and freedom from any fear of reprisal or retribution for asserting their employment rights 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, military and veteran status, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sex, or sexual orientation.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 4119.41/4219.41/4319.41 - Employees with Infectious Disease)

The Board also prohibits discrimination against any employee or job applicant in compensation, terms, conditions, and other privileges of employment and the taking of any adverse employment action, including, but not limited to, termination or the denial of employment, promotion, job assignment, or training, against an employee or job applicant based on any of the categories listed above.

(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)
(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)

Prohibited discrimination on the basis of religious creed includes discrimination based on an employee's or job applicant's religious belief or observance, including his/her religious dress or grooming practices. In accordance with Government Code 12940, prohibited discrimination on the basis of religious creed also includes the district's failure or refusal to use reasonable means to accommodate an employee's or job applicant's religious belief, observance, or practice which conflicts with an employment requirement. However, the district shall not accommodate an employee's religious dress practice or religious grooming practice if it requires segregation of the individual from other employees or the public or if it would result in a violation of this policy or any law prohibiting discrimination.

Prohibited sex discrimination includes discrimination based on an employee's or job applicant's pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or any related medical condition.

(cf. 4033 - Lactation Accommodation)

Harassment consists of 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.

(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)
NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

The Board also prohibits retaliation against any district employee or job applicant who opposes any discriminatory employment practice by the district or its employee, agent, or representative or who complains, testifies, assists, or in any way participates in the district's complaint procedures pursuant to this policy. No employee or job applicant who requests an accommodation for any protected characteristic listed in this policy shall be subjected to any punishment or sanction, regardless of whether the request was granted. (Government Code 12940)

Complaints concerning employment discrimination, harassment, or retaliation shall immediately be investigated in accordance with procedures specified in the accompanying administrative regulation.

Any supervisory or management employee who observes or has knowledge of an incident of prohibited discrimination or harassment shall report the incident to the Superintendent or designated district coordinator as soon as practical after the incident. All other employees are encouraged to report such incidents to their supervisor immediately. The district shall protect any employee who does report such incidents from retaliation.

The Superintendent or designee shall use all appropriate means to reinforce the district's nondiscrimination policy. He/she shall provide training and information to employees about how to recognize harassment and discrimination, how to respond appropriately, and components of the district's policies and regulations regarding discrimination. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review the district's employment practices and, as necessary, shall take action to ensure district compliance with the nondiscrimination laws.

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

Legal Reference: (see next page)
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
11138 Rules and regulations
12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act
PENAL CODE
422.56 Definitions, hate crimes
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2
11019 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
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
35.1-35.190 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

Management Resources: (see next page)
NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT  (continued)

Management Resources:
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING PUBLICATIONS
California Law Prohibits Workplace Discrimination and Harassment, December 2014
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS
Notice of Non-Discrimination, August 2010
U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS
Questions and Answers: Religious Discrimination in the Workplace, 2008
New Compliance Manual Section 15: Race and Color Discrimination, April 2006
Enforcement Guidance: Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors, June
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
All Personnel

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

The district designates the position identified below as its coordinator for nondiscrimination in employment (coordinator) to coordinate the district's efforts to comply with state and federal nondiscrimination laws and to answer inquiries regarding the district's nondiscrimination policies. The coordinator may be contacted at:

Superintendent/Designee
11645 Ridge Road
Grass Valley, CA. 95945
530-273-3351

Measures to Prevent Discrimination

To prevent unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation against district employees, volunteers, interns, and job applicants, the Superintendent or designee shall implement the following measures:

1. Publicize the district's nondiscrimination policy and regulation, including the complaint procedures and the coordinator's contact information, to employees, volunteers, interns, job applicants, and the general public by: (3 CCR 4960; 34 CFR 100.6, 106.9)
   a. Including them in each announcement, bulletin, or application form that is used in employee recruitment
   b. Posting them in all district schools and offices, including staff lounges and other prominent locations
   c. Posting them on the district's web site and providing easy access to them through district-supported social media, when available

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)
(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

2. Provide to employees a handbook that contains information that clearly describes the district's nondiscrimination policy, procedures for filing a complaint, and resources available to anyone who feels that he/she has been the victim of any discriminatory or harassing behavior

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

3. Provide training to employees, volunteers, and interns regarding the district's nondiscrimination policy, including what constitutes unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation and how and to whom a report of an incident should be made
Nondiscrimination in Employment (continued)

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)
(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

4. Periodically review the district's recruitment, hiring, and promotion processes and regularly monitor the terms, conditions, and privileges of employment to ensure district compliance with law.

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: A complainant who is an employee shall inform his/her supervisor. However, if the supervisor is the person against whom the employee is complaining, the employee shall inform the coordinator or the Superintendent. A job applicant shall inform the coordinator or the Superintendent or designee.

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. 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 business days of receiving notice of the behavior, regardless of whether a written complaint has been filed or whether the written complaint is complete.
NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

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)

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 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 20 business 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.
NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

4. **Appeal to the Board of Trustees:** The complainant or the person accused may appeal any findings to the Board within 10 business 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 business days.

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

**Other Remedies**

In addition to filing a discrimination or harassment complaint with the district, a person may 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

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)