

STUDENTS: Student to Student Sexual Harassment

Definition

Behavior constituting sexual harassment includes any deliberate and/or repeated unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature, whether it is verbal, nonverbal, or physical.

Examples of such behavior are:

- Staring or leering at parts of someone else's body
- Comments, gestures, or jokes of a sexual nature
- Displaying of sexual pictures or objects
- Spreading sexual rumors or commenting about sexual behavior
- Repeated pressuring for dates or unwanted sexual activity
- Touching, grabbing, pinching
- Asking for sexual favors
- Physical sexual assault

Schools Responsibility

Each year, administrators or their designees shall provide information and instruction using the Baltimore County Public Schools Sexual Harassment Education Program for students grades 3-5.

Each year, administrators or their designees shall provide information instruction and copies of the Maryland State Department of Education's Sexual Harassment in Schools handbook to students Grades 6-12. Each student must acknowledge receipt of the handbook, information, and instruction by signing a statement of fact provided by the administrators.

Central Office Responsibility

Every year, the Department of Equity and Staff Development shall provide each student, grades 6-12, a copy of the MSD publication, Sexual Harassment in Schools: It's No Laughing Matter.

Action to Recommend to Students

- Whenever possible, tell the harasser verbally or in writing what the specific behaviors are that you find offensive. Ask him or her to stop.
- Report the offensive behaviors to a teacher, counselor, or school administrator.
- Keep a detailed record of the harassing behavior to share with school officials who investigate your complaint.
- Find out about your school and school district's policy and procedures for handling sexual harassment issues. Follow these procedures.

Investigating Student Complaints

Follow system procedure as outlined in Baltimore County Public Schools Handbook on Sexual Harassment, March 1993.

Discipline

1. Confer with student and alleged harasser. Inform alleged harasser that retaliation against the complainant will not be tolerated.
2. Confer with the appropriate parents and other parties involved.
3. If behavior continues, suspension or expulsion are appropriate courses of action.

Rule
Approved: 11/23/93]

Superintendent of Schools