

## School Policy

**Grounds for short-term suspension, long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment.**

- Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, bullying (which includes any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal or electronic abuse), harassment or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
- The use of language, written, oral or electronic, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language, conduct or electronic communications includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon economic status, race, ethnic background, culture, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age or ability.
- Public indecency and sexual conduct.
- Dressing in a manner wherein such dress is dangerous to the student's health and safety or to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of the student dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school; or dressing, grooming or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.



**Be aware that in Nebraska, teenagers who send or receive sexually explicit photographs by cell phone or computer are at risk of felony child pornography charges.**

- Child pornography includes depiction of someone under the age of 18 engaged in sexually explicit conduct such as actions, poses or nudity.
- Even if the student was not there to capture the photo or video, it is against the law to be in possession of such photographs or to share such photographs with other students.
- Possession and distribution of child pornography carry serious penalties that will affect the future of our students.
- In addition, there are real risks that sexually explicit pictures, meant to be shared with a friend or partner, will make their way into wider publication on the Internet.
- Students who come into possession of child pornography should immediately contact a trusted adult and notify police.
- Students should not delete the image or video, because that would destroy potential evidence. They should save the images to share with police.

**For additional information please contact your school counselor, school social worker, school administrator or school nurse.**



**1-888-866-8660**

For the hearing and speech impaired with TTY equipment call 1-888-556-5117

[www.nebraskafamilyhelpline.ne.gov](http://www.nebraskafamilyhelpline.ne.gov)

- Trained counselors 24/7/365
- Children's behavioral issues
- Parent/child conflict resolution
- Youth mental health referrals

**Need help? Don't know where to start?  
Dial 2-1-1 or go to [www.ne211.org](http://www.ne211.org).**

*Provided by LPS School Social Workers  
BECAUSE FAMILIES MATTER*



## Sexual Harassment



**Sexual Harassment often happens over and over.**

**Sexual Harassment gets worse if it's not stopped.**

**Sexual Harassment violates LPS policy.**

**Sexual Harassment is against the law.**

 **Lincoln Public Schools  
Department of Student Services**

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**SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS UNWANTED AND UNWELCOME SEXUAL BEHAVIOR THAT MAKES A STUDENT FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE OR UNSAFE.**

It is a continuum of unwanted behaviors ranging from spoken or written comments and stares to actual physical assault and attempted rape. Sexual harassment demeans a student on the basis of his/her sex. It should not be confused with flirting. Sexual harassment does not feel good to the victim. It can be a form of bullying. It is about one person exerting power or control over another. Sexual harassment is against the law.

Sexual harassment can happen to anybody, both girls and boys. It may involve different-sex or same-sex situations. When in doubt, if the receiver does not feel good or comfortable about the interaction, it is probably sexual harassment. It doesn't matter what the harasser intended, if it was perceived as harassment it needs to stop. Sexual harassment can be a one-time occurrence, or it can happen many times over several weeks or months. No one deserves to be sexually harassed.

## Sexual Harassment May Be

### VISUAL

- Mimicking someone in an insulting way
- Making suggestive body movements
- Making sexual or suggestive gestures or looks (i.e., winking, licking lips)
- Staring at someone's body or body parts
- Sexual drawings, photos or writings

### PHYSICAL

- Touching, pinching, or grabbing body parts
- Pulling someone's clothes or your own clothes off
- Giving "snuggies" or snapping bra straps
- Brushing up against someone
- Being forced to kiss, hug, etc. without your consent

### VERBAL

- Sexual or dirty notes and jokes
- Name calling or obscene remarks
- Making suggestive or sexual remarks about someone's body
- Spreading sexual rumors or rating other students as to sexual activity or performance
- Name-calling
- Talking about one's sexual activity in front of others

### ELECTRONIC

- Email, text or any other electronic communication that makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable

## Sexual Harassment Hurts Everyone

### THE RECEIVER MAY

- Experience a loss of self-confidence or self-esteem
- Feel fear, anger, embarrassment, humiliation, anxiety, shame, or helplessness
- Find it hard to pay attention or concentrate in school
- Dread, or even avoid going to school or a class in which they expect harassment
- Withdraw from others, or develop other social problems
- Have difficulty sleeping
- Exhibit a change in dress or behavior
- Develop an inability to trust others

### THE HARASSER MAY

- Experience disciplinary action at school including suspension or expulsion
- Suffer legal consequences that may include criminal or civil charges
- Be unaware that their behavior may be seen as sexual harassment
- Have trouble knowing and understanding how other people feel
- Have difficulty knowing the difference between flirting and sexual harassment
- Experience embarrassment and/or blame
- Experience isolation from peers
- Develop more serious behavioral problems without intervention



## What can students do?

- Tell the harasser to stop even though doing this may be difficult or embarrassing.
- Avoid being alone with the harasser.
- Do not blame yourself. Harassment is not your fault.
- If the harassment continues, keep a record of what happened (times, places, witnesses and how you reacted).
- Save any notes, texts, pictures, emails or other electronic communication from the harasser.
- Tell a trusted adult and keep telling until you find someone who believes you.
- Find out who at your school is responsible for dealing with complaints about sexual harassment.
- Always tell an adult if you see someone else being sexually harassed.

## What can parents do?

- Set a good example; treat everyone with respect.
- Talk to your child about sexual harassment.
- Be aware that sexual harassment may involve different-sex or same-sex situations.
- Encourage children to talk openly with you.
- Build self-esteem by focusing on your child's positive qualities.
- Do not encourage or ignore sexual harassment.
- Do not confuse sexual harassment with normal "kid stuff." It is not teasing, flirting or harmless fun!
- Assist your child in making contact with school personnel.
- You have a right to file a legal complaint.