

HAZING

Maine law defines injurious hazing as "any action or situation, including harassing behavior that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of any school personnel or a student enrolled in a public school."

Injurious hazing activities of any type, either on or off school property, by any student, staff member, group or organization affiliated with Region Two, are inconsistent with the educational process and shall be prohibited at all times.

"Harassing behavior" includes acts of intimidation and any other conduct that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of a student or staff member.

"Acts of intimidation" include extortion, menacing, direct or indirect threats of violence, incidents of violence, bullying, statements or taunting of a malicious and/or derogatory nature that recklessly or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health of another person, or result in property damage or theft.

No administrator, faculty member or other employee of Region Two shall encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate injurious hazing activities. No student, including leaders of students' organizations, shall plan, encourage, or engage in, injurious hazing activities

Students who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary action which may include suspension, expulsion or other appropriate measures. Administrators, professional staff and all other employees who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

In the case of an organization affiliated with Region Two that authorizes hazing, penalties may include rescission of permission for that organization to operate on Region Two property or to receive any other benefit of affiliation with Region Two.

Persons not associated with Region Two, who fail to abide by this policy, may be subject to ejection from Region Two property and/or other measures available under the law.

These penalties shall be in addition to any civil or criminal penalties to which the violator or organization may be subject.

The Director/designee shall be responsible for administering this policy. In the event that an individual or organization disagrees with an action - or lack of action - on the part of the Director/designee as he/she carries out the provisions of this policy, that individual or organization may appeal to the Board. The ruling of the Board with respect to the provisions of this policy shall be final.

This right to appeal does not apply to student suspensions of 10 (ten) days or less or to matters submitted to grievance procedures under applicable collective bargaining agreements.

A copy of this policy shall be included in all Region Two, parent and employee handbooks or otherwise distributed to all Region Two employees and students.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA § 6553

Cross Reference: ACAA - Harassment and Sexual Harassment of Students
ACAB - Harassment and Sexual Harassment of Employees
JICIA - Weapons, Violence and School Safety

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