

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment will not be tolerated at Dierks High School. The definition of sexual harassment means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and verbal, written or physical contact of a sexual nature. The legal definition of sexual harassment is broad and in addition to the above definition, other sexually oriented conduct, whether it is intended or not, that is unwelcome and has the effect of creating an environment that is hostile, offensive, intimidating, or humiliating may also constitute sexual harassment, but the following are some examples of conduct, which if unwelcome, may constitute sexual harassment:

Unwelcome sexual advances—whether physical or not

Sexual epithets, jokes, written or oral references to sexual conduct gossip regarding one's sex life, comments about someone else's body, etc.

Displaying sexually suggestive objects, pictures or cartoons

Unwelcome leering, whistling, brushing against the body, sexual gestures, suggestive or insulting comments

Inquiries into one's sexual experience

Discussion of one's sexual activities

Further, any retaliation against an individual who has complained about sexual harassment or retaliation against individuals for cooperation in an investigation of a sexual harassment complaint will not be allowed and will also subject the guilty party to disciplinary action.

SCHOOL DISTRICT—ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Bullying is intentional, repeated hurtful behaviors committed by one or more children against another. These behaviors are not provoked by the victims, but result from a real or perceived imbalance of power between the bully and the victim. Bullying will not be tolerated on school property, at school sponsored activities, at the bus stop, on the school bus, in school vehicles and at school sanctioned events. Any student who engages in bullying will be subject to disciplinary action as listed below. This rule is in compliance with Act 681 of 2003.

Any school employee who witnesses or has reliable information that a pupil has been a victim of bullying shall report the incident to the principal of the school.

Electronic Bullying

Electronic act means without limitation a communication or image transmitted by means of an electronic device, including without limitation a telephone, wireless phone or other wireless communications device, computer or pager that results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment.

Electronic acts of bullying are prohibited whether or not the electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school, and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose.

The person or persons reporting behavior they consider to be bullying shall not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, consideration may be given to other violations of the student handbook which may have simultaneously occurred.