

# HAZING.....

## INCREASING YOUR AWARENESS

Hazing occurs when an act is committed against a student, or a student is coerced into committing an act that creates a substantial risk of harm or humiliation to the student, or to any third party in order for the student to be initiated into or affiliated with any school group, club, athletic team, grade level, activity, or organization.

# CLARIFYING HAZING

Hazing includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Activities involving an unreasonable risk of physical harm, including paddling, beating, whipping, branding, electric shock, sleep deprivation, exposure to weather, placement of harmful substances on the body, and participation in physical dangerous activities.
- Activities involving the consumption of alcohol, drugs, tobacco products, or any other food, liquid, or other substance that subject the student to an unreasonable risk of physical harm.
- Activities involving actions of a sexual nature or the simulation of actions of a sexual nature.
  - Activities that subject a student to an extreme and unreasonable level of embarrassment, shame, or humiliation, or which create a hostile, abusive, and intimidating environment for the student.
- Activities involving any violation of federal, state, or local law, or any violation of school district policies and regulations.

In general, hazing includes any humiliating or dangerous activity expected of a student in order to join a group, regardless of that student's willingness to participate.

## WHAT STEPS CAN I TAKE IF I HAVE BEEN SUBJECT TO A HAZING INCIDENT?

- Communicate your displeasure to the person initiating the hazing activity.
- Report the incident to your sponsor, coach, activity director, athletic director, or administrator.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PREVENTION

- Take hazing seriously and discuss it everywhere – home, school, sports, bands, choirs, clubs, etc. Communicate with teachers, administrators, coaches, sponsors, parents, and students on hazing and its consequences.
- Make sure you understand what activities are considered to be hazing. Be alert to the dangers of hazing.
- Recognize that a willingness to participate on the part of hazing recipients does not absolve offending parties of responsibility.
- Do not dismiss acts of hazing because they are considered “traditions”, “initiation”, or “rites of passage”.
- Model respect and be conscious of others – continually ask, “How does this behavior affect others?”

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT THE SCHOOL TO DO?

- The appropriate administrator will promptly review the incident and will attempt to resolve the problem. If the administrator determines after a confidential investigation that there has been a violation of the policy, penalties will be instituted.
- Hazing is a violation of the Athletic and Extra Curricular Activities Code of Conduct of District 308. Penalties may include suspension or expulsion from school as well as suspension or expulsion from athletic and competitive activities.
- The intimidation of students whether by physical coercion, injury, punishment, or hazing is prohibited by state law and also is forbidden by school regulations. Any infractions of this regulation must be reported to the principal at once.

## NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Contact the school's activity or athletic director:

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