

528 STAFF-STUDENT RELATIONS

Staff members shall be expected to regard each student as an individual and to accord each the rights and respect due any individual. The role of staff shall be seen, not as dictators or controllers, but as resource persons, aides, and guides in the learning processes. Staff members shall provide for the fullest self-determination by each student in regard to his or her learning program, consistent with district and local goals and with optimum opportunities for all students. Students shall be treated with courtesy and consideration. Neither insults, sarcasm, nor negativism shall be used before a student's peers as a way of forcing compliance with a staff member's requirements or expectations, nor shall sarcasm or negativism be used in reporting a pupil's performance to a parent or guardian.

Staff members shall not engage in student harassment. Student harassment is defined as behavior towards students based in whole or in part, on sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability which substantially interferes with a student's school performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive school environment, and is considered a form of student discrimination as defined by PI 9.02 (5) of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

It is, further, the policy of the District that sexual relationships between staff and students are not permissible because such relationships interfere with the educational process and involve elements of coercion by reason of the relative status of a staff member to a student.

Each student is urged to regard staff members as people with specific knowledge and capabilities, which can be well utilized to advance the student's own knowledge and development.

Students shall be expected to regard staff members as individuals, employed to provide direct or indirect contributions to learning. While students are to have considerable latitude in making choices for themselves, they shall be required to respect the right of staff members and other students as well, and interference with those rights shall not be condoned. No student shall have the right to interfere with the efforts of instructional staff to coordinate or assist in learning, to disseminate information for purposes of learning, or to otherwise implement a learning program. Nor shall a student have the right to interfere with the motivation to learn or the learning activities and efforts of other students.

CROSS REF: Policy 411.1 Student Harassment

Reviewed, revised, and approved by the Board of Education on January 15, 2007.