

POLICY

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Related Entries: AC, GAGG, GAGG-RA, JCCA, JCCA-RA, JP-RA

Responsible Office: OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES, DIVISION OF EEO/ADA/TITLE IX, OFFICE OF STUDENT AND SYSTEMIC SUPPORTS, DIVISION OF SAFE AND ORDERLY SCHOOLS

STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND MISCONDUCT

A. PURPOSE

To establish a policy prohibiting the sexual harassment and misconduct of a student in Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS).

B. ISSUE

The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County (Board) acknowledges that sexual harassment and misconduct is a form of discrimination on the basis of sex that is prohibited by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX). AACPS complies with the aforementioned federal law and enforces federal, State, and local laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex.

Sexual harassment and misconduct include sex discrimination as defined by Title IX as well as any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, other physical or verbal conduct, or any conduct of a sexual nature which substantially interferes with a student's educational benefits, opportunities, or performance. The prevention of sexual harassment and misconduct requires a concerted effort to support a whole-school based prevention and intervention program that involves all stakeholders in the school community.

C. POSITION

1. The Board is committed to providing AACPS students a safe and supportive environment free of sexual harassment and misconduct. Accordingly, sexual harassment and misconduct are prohibited at AACPS.
2. AACPS students are expected to treat others with mutual respect.
3. It is a violation of this policy for an AACPS student to engage in sexual harassment or misconduct on AACPS property, on a school vehicle, or at school-sponsored activities.

4. It is a violation of this policy for an AACPS student to engage in retaliation against individuals – victims, witnesses, or bystanders – who report acts of sexual harassment or misconduct.
5. A violation of this policy shall be addressed in accordance with the accompanying regulation and the *AACPS Code of Student Conduct*.
6. This policy applies to all incidents of sexual harassment or misconduct involving an AACPS student.
 - a. Complaints alleging student sexual harassment or misconduct involving students shall be addressed in accordance with the procedures set forth in the accompanying regulation.

D. IMPLEMENTATION

The Superintendent is authorized to develop regulations to implement this policy.

Policy History: Adopted on 12/04/19; Revised 07/22/26

Note Previous Policy History: None

Legal References: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972