

# Herscher Community Unit School District #2

## Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Policy

Please read this document carefully and completely before signing.

It is the policy of Herscher CUSD#2 to provide an environment free from harassment and sexual misconduct of any kind (including sexual harassment). Verbal or physical conduct by any employee or individual, which harasses, disrupts, or interferes with another's work performance or a student's education environment or which creates an intimidating, offensive or hostile environment will not be tolerated. Herscher CUSD#2 is committed to maintaining a workplace where each employee / student's privacy and personal dignity are respected and protected from offensive or threatening behavior.

District employees shall not make unwelcome sexual advances or request sexual favors or engage in any unwelcome conducts of a sexual nature when 1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly a term or condition of employment or a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program, 2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual or student is used as the basis for employment or educational decisions affecting such individual or student, 3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work performance or a student's ability to participate or benefit from an educational program or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or educational environment. The terms intimidating, hostile, or offensive include but are not limited to, conduct which has the effect of humiliation, embarrassment, or discomfort. Sexual harassment will be evaluated in light of all the circumstances, but is understood to include a wide range of behaviors, including but not limited to the actual coercing of sexual relation, verbal or physical sexual advances, sexually explicit or derogatory statement, and physical aggressiveness. Such behavior may offend the aggrieved party, cause discomfort or humiliation and interfere with job performance and/or the educational environment.

A violation of this policy may result in discipline, up to and including discharge. Any person who makes a knowingly false accusation regarding harassment or sexual misconduct will likewise be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

### Compliant Procedure:

Aggrieved persons, who feel comfortable doing so, should directly inform the person engaging in harassing conduct or communication that such conduct or communication is offensive and must stop.

Employees should report claims of harassment or sexual misconduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and/or use the Uniform Grievance Procedure. Employees may choose to report to a person of the employee's same sex. Initiating a complaint of harassment or sexual misconduct shall not adversely affect the complainant's employment, compensation or work assignment.

There are no express time limits for initiating complaints and grievances under this policy; however, every effort should be made to file such complaints as soon as possible, while facts are known and potential witnesses are available.

Contact with a Report or Compliant: **Superintendent or Non-Discrimination Coordinator**

### Discipline:

The district will discipline any individual who retaliates against any person who reports alleged harassment or sexual misconduct or who retaliates against any person who testifies, assists or participates in an investigation, a proceeding or a hearing relating to a harassment or sexual misconduct complaint. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment.

### THIS POLICY IS TO BE REVIEWED AND SIGNED BY ALL EMPLOYEES

The undersigned hereby acknowledges that he/she has read this Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Policy, understands the contents thereof and agrees to abide by all terms set forth in this Policy.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher/Staff (Print)

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher/Staff Signature

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Date