

HAZING

Maine statute defines injurious hazing as “any action or situation, including harassing behavior, that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of any school personnel or a student enrolled in a public school.”

Injurious hazing activities of any type, either on or off school property, by any student, staff member, group or organization affiliated with GBSD, are inconsistent with the educational process and shall be prohibited at all times.

“Harassing behavior” includes acts of intimidation and any other conduct that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of a student or staff member.

“Acts of intimidation” include extortion, menacing, direct or indirect threats of violence, incidents of violence, bullying, statements or taunting of a malicious and/or derogatory nature that recklessly or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health of another person, and property damage or theft.

No administrator, faculty member, or other employee of GBSD shall encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate injurious hazing activities. No student, including leaders of students’ organizations, shall plan, encourage, or engage in injurious hazing activities.

Students who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary action which may include suspension, expulsion or other appropriate measures.

Administrators, professional staff, and all other employees who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

In the case of an organization affiliated with GBSD that authorizes hazing, penalties may include rescission of permission for that organization to operate on school property or to receive any other benefit of affiliation with GBSD.

Persons not associated with GBSD who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to ejection from school property and/or other measures as may be available under the law.

Administrative Responsibility: The school board shall assign responsibility for administering the policy to the Executive Director and establish procedures for appealing the action or lack of action of the Executive Director.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA § 6553

Cross Reference: JICFA Student Hazing

Adopted: January 20, 2005

Edited for administrator title: January 2014