



STUDENTS: Student to Student Sexual Harassment

Sexual Harassment is unwanted and unwelcome behavior of sexual nature which interferes with a student's right to learn, study, work, achieve, or participate in school activities in comfortable and supportive atmosphere.

Under federal and state laws and policies, sexual harassment is illegal and is prohibited in school settings. Students are protected against sexual harassment by Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, a Federal law prohibiting discrimination in schools on the basis of sex. Sexual assault is also covered under the Criminal Code of Maryland.

Students have a right to participate in all school and classroom activities in an atmosphere free from sexual harassment and a responsibility not to engage in behaviors of a sexual nature that are unwelcome or offensive to others.

Therefore, student to student sexual harassment will not be tolerated in the Baltimore County Public Schools. Retaliation against a complainant will also not be tolerated.

Harassment and sexual abuse of student by adult, within or outside of school, is illegal and is to be reported directly to the Department of Social Services or the police by the individual to whom the offense is made known. School personnel follow the direction of these agencies in such matters. (See Policy 4003).

Legal Reference: Title IX of the Education Amendments 1972,
20 U.S.C. 1681-1688

Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 27,
Section 461, 464A, 464B, and 464C

Policy
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Board of Education of Baltimore County