

EPHRATA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: DATING VIOLENCE

ADOPTED: April 16, 2012

REVISED: September 27, 2021

252. DATING VIOLENCE	
1. Purpose	The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, positive learning environment for all students that is free from dating violence. Dating violence is inconsistent with the educational goals of the district and is prohibited at all times.
2. Definitions 24 P.S. 1553	Dating Partner shall mean a person, regardless of gender, involved in an intimate relationship with another person, primarily characterized by the expectation of affectionate involvement, whether casual, serious or long-term.
24 P.S. 1553	Dating Violence shall mean behavior where one person uses threats of, or actually uses, physical, sexual, verbal or emotional abuse to control the person’s dating partner.
3. Authority	The Board encourages students who have been subjected to dating violence to promptly report such incidents.
Pol. 218	The district shall investigate promptly all complaints of dating violence and shall administer appropriate discipline to any student who violates this policy.
24 P.S. 1302-E Pol. 236.1	When a student's behavior indicates a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, school facilities, the community or others, district staff shall report the student to the threat assessment team, in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.
Pol. 103, 103.1	<p><u>Title IX Sexual Harassment and Other Discrimination</u></p> <p>Every report of alleged dating violence that can be interpreted at the outset to fall within the provisions of policies addressing potential violations of laws against discrimination shall be handled as a joint, concurrent investigation into all allegations and coordinated with the full participation of the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator. If, in the course of a dating violence investigation, potential issues of discrimination are identified, the Title IX Coordinator shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged discrimination as well as the incidents of alleged dating violence.</p>

<p>24 P.S. 1318.1 Pol. 218.3</p>	<p><u>Discipline of Student Convicted or Adjudicated of Sexual Assault</u></p> <p>Upon notification of a conviction or adjudication of a student in this district for sexual assault against another student enrolled in this district, the district shall comply with the disciplinary requirements established by state law and Board policy.</p>
<p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p><u>Complaint Procedure</u></p> <p>When a student believes that they have been subject to dating violence, the student is encouraged to promptly report the incident, orally or in writing, to the building principal, guidance counselor or classroom teacher.</p> <p>The building principal shall conduct a timely, impartial, and comprehensive investigation of the alleged dating violence.</p> <p>24 P.S. 1553 The building principal shall prepare a written report summarizing the investigation and recommending disposition of the complaint. The complainant and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of the investigation.</p> <p>24 P.S. 1553 Pol. 218 If the investigation results in a substantiated finding of dating violence, the building principal shall recommend appropriate disciplinary action, as circumstances warrant, in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.</p> <p>The district shall document the corrective action taken and, where not prohibited by law, inform the complainant.</p> <p>24 P.S. 1553 This policy on dating violence shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Published in the Code of Student Conduct. 2. Published in the Student Handbook. 3. Made available on the district’s website, if available. 4. Provided to parents/guardians.
<p>24 P.S. 1553</p>	<p><u>Dating Violence Training</u></p> <p>The district may provide dating violence training to guidance counselors, nurses, and mental health staff at the high school as deemed necessary. At the discretion of the Superintendent, parents/guardians and other staff may also receive training on dating violence.</p>

<p>24 P.S. 1553 71 P.S. Sec. 611.13</p> <p>24 P.S. 1553 Pol. 105.1</p> <p>24 P.S. 1553 Pol. 105.2</p>	<p><u>Dating Violence Education</u></p> <p>The district may incorporate age-appropriate dating violence education into the annual health curriculum framework for students in grades nine through twelve. The district shall consult with at least one (1) local domestic violence program or rape crisis program when developing the educational program.</p> <p>A parent/guardian of a student under the age of eighteen (18) shall be permitted to examine the instructional materials for the dating violence education program.</p> <p>At the request of the parent/guardian, the student may be excused from all or part of the dating violence education program.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1318.1, 1553</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.12</p> <p>Domestic Violence and Rape Victims Services – 71 P.S. Sec. 611.13</p> <p>Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g</p> <p>Board Policy – 103, 103.1, 105.1, 105.2, 218, 218.3</p>
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