

## STUDENTS

### Hazing

#### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the District and are prohibited at all times.

#### Definitions

For purposes of this policy, hazing is defined as any intentional, knowing, or reckless act directed to or required of a student for the purpose of being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any group, organization, club, or athletic team whose members are or include other students.

Prohibited hazing includes, but is not be limited to, any brutality of a physical nature such as whipping; beating; branding; forced calisthenics; exposure to the elements; forced consumption of any food, alcoholic beverage, drug or controlled substance; or other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the individual.

Prohibited hazing also includes, but is not limited to, any activity that would subject an individual to extreme mental stress such as prolonged sleep deprivation, forced prolonged exclusion from social contract, forced conduct, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity, including but not limited to sexual acts mimicked or feigned, which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual.

Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or group, shall be presumed to be a forced activity, even if a student willingly participates.

No student, coach, sponsor, volunteer or District employee shall plan, direct, encourage, assist or engage in any hazing activity. No administrator, coach, sponsor, volunteer or District employee shall permit, condone or tolerate any form of hazing.

Reporting and Investigation

Students who have been subjected to hazing or observe incidents of hazing are encouraged to report such incidents to the Building Principal. The District will investigate all complaints of hazing and will administer appropriate discipline to any individual who violates this policy.

Administrators, coaches, sponsors, volunteers and District employees shall be alert to incidents of hazing and shall report such conduct in accordance with Board Policy 5:90.

Notice of Policy

The District shall annually inform students, parents, coaches, sponsors, volunteers and District employees that hazing of District students is prohibited by means of:

- Distribution of written policy through inclusion in the student handbook
- Verbal instructions by the coach or sponsor at the start of the season or program

LEGAL REF: 720 ILCS 5/12C-50

CROSS REF: 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting)

Reviewed: February 8, 2016

Adopted: March 14, 2016