

Personnel - All Employees (& Students)AntidiscriminationA. **Elimination of Discrimination.**

The Holdrege Public School District hereby gives this statement of compliance and intends to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. This school district intends to take any necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination. The Superintendent shall be the Coordinator for anti-discrimination laws (including Title VI, Title IX; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)) and complaints or concerns involving discrimination should be addressed to said Coordinator.

## B. Preventing Harassment and Discrimination of Employees and/or Students.

1. **Purpose:** Holdrege Public Schools is committed to offering employment and educational opportunity to its employees and students based on ability and performance, in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination or harassment of any kind by administrators, teachers, co-workers or other persons is prohibited. In addition, the Holdrege Public Schools will try to protect employees or students from reported discrimination or harassment by non-employees or others in the work place and educational environment.

For purposes of this policy, discrimination or harassment based on a person's race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or age is prohibited. The following are general definitions of what might constitute prohibited harassment.

- a. In general, ethnic or racial slurs or other verbal or physical conduct relating to a person's race, color, religion, disability or national origin constitute harassment when they unreasonably interfere with the person's work performance or create an intimidating work, instructional or educational environment.
- b. Age harassment has been defined by federal regulations as a form of age discrimination. It can consist of demeaning jokes, insults or intimidation based on a person's age.
- c. Sexual harassment has been defined by federal and state regulations as a form of sex discrimination. It can consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature by supervisors or others in the work place, classroom or educational environment.
  - (i) Sexual harassment may exist when:
    - (a) Supervisors or managers make submission to such conduct either an explicit or implicit term and condition of employment (including hiring, compensation, promotion, or retention);

(b) Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used by supervisors or managers as a basis for employment related decisions such as promotion, performance evaluation, pay adjustment, discipline, work assignment, etc.

(c) The conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, classroom or educational environment.

(ii) Sexual harassment may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", "practical jokes", jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, displays of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact, such as patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

## 2. Procedures:

- a. Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination or harassment to their immediate supervisor or teacher. However, if the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student is encouraged to go to the next level of supervision.
- b. If the employee or student's complaint is not resolved to his or her satisfaction within five (5) to ten (10) working days, or if the discrimination or harassment continues, please report your complaint to the Superintendent of Holdrege Public Schools. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent of Holdrege Public Schools, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.
- c. The supervisor, teacher or the Superintendent of Holdrege Public Schools will thoroughly investigate all complaints. These situations will be treated with the utmost confidence, consistent with resolution of the problem. Based on the results of the investigation, appropriate corrective action, up to and including discharge of offending employees, etc., may be taken. Under no circumstances will a supervisor or teacher threaten or retaliate against an employee or student for alleging a violation of this policy.

Date of Adoption: December 9, 1996

Amended: January 10, 2005

FORM A

GENERAL AUTHORITY TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION

I understand the Holdrege Public Schools will be conducting an investigation of my complaint. By affixing my signature to this paragraph, I authorize the investigator to disclose such portions of the information I have set forth in my complaint and which I may provide in the future with respect to this complaint. By affixing my signature to this paragraph, I hold harmless the district and its duly authorized investigator for any claim I may have resulting from the disclosure of any facts set forth in this complaint when such disclosure occurs in the course and scope of the investigation. By signing this paragraph, I acknowledge that I have read it fully and understand its contents.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Complaining Party's Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

FORM B

LIMITED AUTHORITY TO DISCLOSE

I understand the Holdrege Public Schools will be conducting an investigation of my complaint. However, it is my wish that certain facts set forth in this complaint not be disclosed to others or that certain facts be disclosed only to such persons as I specifically direct. The information which I wish to be disclosed to no one during the course of any investigation is as follows:

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Below is listed factual information that I do not wish to have generally disclosed. Beside each specific fact stated below I have provided the name or names of those during the course of any investigation to whom I specifically authorize you to disclose such information:

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I specifically acknowledge by signing this paragraph, rather than the general authority paragraph, that I may have placed limitations on the investigation which may make it difficult or impossible for the district to fully resolve my complaint.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Complaining Party's Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_