

UNIONVILLE-
CHADDS FORD
SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS
TITLE: HAZING
ADOPTED: September 15, 2014
REVISED: October 24, 2016

247. HAZING	
<p>1. Purpose 24 P.S. § 5351 <i>et seq.</i></p>	<p>The Pennsylvania Legislature has enacted the Antihazing Law, which prohibits hazing and makes such conduct a crime. This Policy implements the Antihazing Law and emphasizes the District’s commitment to maintain a safe environment for students and staff that is free from hazing.</p>
<p>2. Definitions 24 P.S. § 5352</p>	<p>The following words and phrases when used in this Policy shall have the meanings given to them in this Policy unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:</p> <p>“Hazing.” Any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a person or which willfully destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in, any organization.</p> <p>The term shall include, but 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, liquor, drug or other substance, or any other forced physical activity which could adversely affect the physical health and safety of the individual, and shall include any activity which would subject the individual to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual, or any willful destruction or removal of public or private property.</p> <p>For purposes of this definition, any activity as described in this definition upon which the initiation or admission into or affiliation with or continued membership in an organization is directly or indirectly conditioned shall</p>

<p>3. Prohibition</p> <p>24 P.S. §§ 5351, 5353</p>	<p>be presumed to be “forced” activity, the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity notwithstanding.</p> <p>“School Organization.” Any organization operating under the sanction of or recognized as an organization by a secondary school.</p> <p>“Secondary School.” Any District school providing instruction in grades 7 through 12 or any combination of those grades.</p>
<p>4. Reporting Incidents of Hazing</p>	<p>In accordance with the Antihazing Law, the District prohibits hazing by any person associated with any school or school organization, including, but not limited to, employees, students, parents or guardians, coaches, activity leaders, sponsors, and volunteers. This prohibition shall apply to acts conducted on or off school property or outside school hours whenever such acts are deemed to constitute hazing.</p> <p>The District encourages any student who has been subjected to hazing or any person who is aware of an incident of hazing to report it to the District. Students should report incidents to teachers, counselors, building principals, other administrators, or their parents or guardians. Other persons should report incidents of hazing to building principals or other administrators. In all cases, any District employee who receives information of a hazing incident should report it to the Superintendent.</p>
<p>5. Investigation</p>	<p>No District employees, coaches, activity leaders, sponsors, volunteers, or school organizations shall ignore, condone, or tolerate any form of hazing.</p> <p>Upon receipt of a report of an incident of hazing, the Superintendent, or designee, shall promptly investigate it and take such action as appropriate, in accordance with this Policy.</p>
<p>6. Reports to Law Enforcement</p>	<p>If the District reasonably believes that a person or organization has engaged in hazing, the Administration shall report such incident to the appropriate law enforcement authority.</p>
<p>7. District Enforcement and Penalties</p> <p>24 P.S. § 5354</p>	<p><u>Students.</u> Hazing by a student shall constitute a Level F offense under the Code of Student Conduct (Policy 218) and the penalties and procedures for such offense shall apply, which include suspension and expulsion.</p> <p><u>Staff.</u> Hazing by employees or any person appointed by the Board or Administration shall constitute grounds for suspension or dismissal under the Public School Code or Collective Bargaining Agreement, if applicable.</p> <p><u>Volunteers or Other Persons.</u> The District may impose reasonable restrictions of access to schools and school activities to volunteers or</p>

<p>8. Posting on Website 24 P.S. § 5354</p> <p>9. Other Notices of Policy</p>	<p>other persons who have engaged in hazing.</p> <p><u>School Organizations.</u> If an organization has authorized hazing in blatant disregard of this Policy, the District may rescind its permission for such organization to operate on school property and to otherwise operate under the sanction or recognition of the District.</p> <p>All penalties imposed by the District under the authority of this Policy shall be in addition to any penalty imposed for violation of the criminal laws of Pennsylvania or for violation of any other District Policy, rule, or regulation.</p> <p>The District shall post this Policy on its publically accessible Website.</p> <p>Written copies of this Policy shall be distributed annually, or at other appropriate times for newcomers arriving during the school year, to students, their parents or guardians, employees, coaches, sponsors, activity leaders, volunteers, and school organizations.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>Public School Code, Antihazing Law - 24 P.S. § 24 P.S. 5353 <i>et seq.</i></p> <p>Public School Code. Section 511 - 24 P.S. § 5-511</p> <p>Board Policy – 218, 233, 317, 411, 916</p>
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