



Anti-Racist & Anti-Oppression Learning Communities

I. Purpose

Portland Public Schools is committed to an anti-racist and racial equity and social justice approach to public education to ensure a learning environment that is free from hate and the legacy of school segregation and institutional racism for all students and staff. The District unequivocally affirms that Black lives matter. We believe in the fundamental right to human dignity and that generating an equitable world requires an educational system that intentionally disrupts—and builds leaders to disrupt—systems of oppression.

We can begin the process of healing through our policies and curriculum to address cultural and institutional racism. The District must create an inclusive environment that reflects and supports the racial and ethnic diversity of our student population and community.

Every student is entitled to a high-quality educational experience, affirming and free from discrimination or harassment based on perceived race, color, ethnicity, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin.

Every employee is entitled to work in an environment that is affirming and free from discrimination or harassment based on perceived race, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin.

Every visitor is entitled to participate in an environment that is affirming and free from discrimination or harassment based on perceived race, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin.

Administrators, coaches, advisors, student participants, and others associated with the District's activities, programs, and events shall conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent with the letter and spirit of the District's policies, rules and regulations and of any voluntary organization, including voluntary organizations that administer interscholastic activities or that facilitate the scheduling and programming of interscholastic activities.

II. Definitions

1. "Bias incident" means a person's hostile expression of animus toward another person, relating to the other person's perceived race, color, ethnicity, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin of which criminal investigation or prosecution is impossible or inappropriate. Bias incidents may include derogatory language or behavior directed at or about any of the preceding demographic groups.



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2. “Symbol of hate” means a symbol, image, or object that expresses animus on the basis of race, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin including, the noose, swastika, or confederate flag, and symbols contained in the [Hate on Display Hate Symbols Database](#), and whose display:

- a. Is reasonably likely to cause a substantial disruption of or material interference with school activities; or
- b. Is reasonably likely to interfere with the rights of students to full access to the services, activities, and opportunities offered by a school or program; or
- c. Is reasonably likely to create a hostile educational environment which interferes with the psychological and emotional well-being of a student.

3. “Hate Speech” means the written, verbal, visual or symbolic expression of animus on the basis of race, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin.

III. Expectations and Consequences

We will not tolerate in our schools, programs, activities, or on our property any symbols of hate that are disruptive to the learning environment; contain language, symbols, or images that are discriminatory; are recognized to promote hate or violent conduct; or contain threats. These include, but are not limited to, student and adult apparel, accessories, gestures, or other symbols such as those that depict symbols of hate. Exceptions will be made where symbols are used in teaching curriculum and other learning opportunities that are aligned to the Oregon State Standards and support the goals of this policy. The District will incorporate learning opportunities to support the goals of this policy.

The District has adopted restorative justice practices in the belief that they help resolve

