

Book: Luzerne Intermediate Unit
Section: 200 Pupils
Title: Dating Violence
Code: 252
Status: Active
First Adopted: 10/23/2024



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 Intermediate Unit and is prohibited at all times.

Definitions

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.[1]

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.[1]

Authority

The Board encourages students who have been subjected to dating violence to promptly report such incidents.

The Intermediate Unit shall investigate promptly all complaints of dating violence and shall administer appropriate discipline to any student who violates this policy.[2]

When a student's behavior indicates a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, school facilities, the community or others, Intermediate Unit staff shall report the student to the threat assessment team, in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.[3][4]

Discrimination/Harassment

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 or harassment 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 or harassment 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 or harassment as well as the incidents of alleged dating violence.[5][6]

Discipline of Student Convicted or Adjudicated of Sexual Assault

Upon notification of a conviction or adjudication of an Intermediate Unit student for sexual assault against another Intermediate Unit student attending the same school or Intermediate Unit program, the Intermediate Unit shall coordinate actions with the appropriate member school entity and comply with the disciplinary requirements established by state law and Board policy.[7][8]

Guidelines

Complaint Procedure

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 administrator, program supervisor, or classroom teacher.

The building administrator or program supervisor shall conduct a timely, impartial, and comprehensive investigation of the alleged dating violence.

The building administrator or program supervisor 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.[1]

If the investigation results in a substantiated finding of dating violence, the building administrator or program supervisor shall recommend appropriate disciplinary action, as circumstances warrant, in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.[1][2]

The Intermediate Unit shall document the corrective action taken and, where not prohibited by law, inform the complainant.

This policy on dating violence shall be made available on the Intermediate Unit's website, if available. [1]

Dating Violence Training

The Intermediate Unit may provide dating violence training to guidance counselors, nurses, and mental health staff as deemed necessary. At the discretion of the Executive Director, parents/guardians and other staff may also receive training on dating violence.[1]

Dating Violence Education

The Intermediate Unit may incorporate age-appropriate dating violence education into the annual health curriculum framework for students in grades nine through twelve. The Intermediate Unit shall consult with at least one (1) local domestic violence program or rape crisis program when developing the educational program.[\[1\]\[9\]](#)

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.[\[1\]\[10\]](#)

At the request of the parent/guardian, the student may be excused from all or part of the dating violence education program.[\[1\]\[11\]](#)

Legal

1. 24 P.S. 1553

2. Pol. 218

3. 24 P.S. 1302-E

4. Pol. 236.1

5. Pol. 103

6. Pol. 103.1

7. 24 P.S. 1318.1

8. Pol. 218.3

9. 71 P.S. 611.13

10. Pol. 105.1

11. Pol. 105.2

22 PA Code 12.12

20 U.S.C. 1232g