Policy © 4-202 ~~Staff/Student Boundaries~~No Grooming and Child Protection

The Peoria United School District is committed to making the safety and welfare of students one of our top priorities. This No Grooming and Child Protection Policy is designed to safeguard and protect the wellbeing of all students and create a safe educational environment ensuring they can learn in a setting free from exploitation or manipulation.

All members of the school community share the responsibility to uphold these standards and work together to safeguard the children in our care.

District staff are expected to maintain appropriate boundaries with students consistent with professional, ethical, and legal standards. District staff shall ***not*** engage in any of the following behaviors with a student:

1. Flirtatious communication, including commenting on a student's attractiveness, appearance, or dress.
2. Banter, allusions, jokes, or innuendos of a sexual nature.
3. Confiding in a student on a personal and private matter.
4. Except in the case of counselors, inviting a student to confide in a staff member on a personal and private matter.
5. Socializing with a student outside of school or a school activity.
6. Giving or receiving a personal gift.
7. Asking a student to keep a secret.
8. Peer-like language and behavior.
9. Having personal private contact with a student.
10. Being alone with a student behind a closed door or in a confined space.
11. Physical contact that lacks a legitimate educational purpose.
12. Sending a student on a personal errand.
13. Providing tobacco, alcohol, or drugs to a student or failing to report a student's use of such substances.
14. Transporting a student in a private vehicle without administrative approval.
15. Sharing a room with a student on an overnight trip.
16. Visiting a student's home or allowing a student to visit a staff member's home without approval from the student's parent/legal guardian and the staff member's supervisor.
17. Sharing intimate or revealing photos or images or asking a student to share intimate or revealing photos or images.
18. Favoring a student with special treatment or privileges.

DRAFT BY HEATHER ROOKS

19. Addressing a student by a personalized term of endearment or pet name or allowing a student to address a staff member by a personalized term of endearment or pet name.

20. District staff shall ~~only~~not use ~~District approved~~any technologies and programs when communicating electronically with students and/or parents/legal guardians~~. District employees shall ensure that technologies used to communicate with students and District staff are maintained separate from personal technologies used to communicate with others~~ with the exception of those approved by the District.

Policy Guidelines:

Training and Awareness

- All staff and volunteers will receive regular training on recognizing grooming behaviors, understanding the signs of abuse, and the importance of maintaining professional boundaries with students.

Reporting Procedures

- All employees, volunteers, and contractors are required to report any suspected grooming behaviors or signs of abuse to the school administration, designated child protection officers and the State Board of Education as required in statute. The school district will ensure that reports are handled with confidentiality, sensitivity, and in accordance with state and federal laws.

Collaboration with Law Enforcement

- The school district will cooperate fully with local law enforcement and child protection agencies in investigating any allegations of grooming or abuse.

Disciplinary Action

- Any District staff member that violates this Policy is subject to disciplinary action, including suspension without pay and termination of employment.

Adopted:

Legal Authority:

~~A.R.S. § 15-341~~

~~Ariz. Admin. Code R7-2-1307~~

~~Ariz. Admin. Code R7-2-1308~~

DRAFT BY HEATHER ROOKS