4118.24/4218.24 STAFF/STUDENT NON-FRATERNIZATION

The relationship between the teacher and the student should be one of cooperation, understanding and mutual respect. The teacher has the responsibility to provide an atmosphere conducive to learning and to motivate each student to perform to his/her capacity.

Staff members are expected to regard each student as an individual and to accord each the rights and respect due to any individual. Neither insults, disparaging names, nor sarcasm shall be used as a way of forcing compliance with a staff member's requirements or expectations.

The Salisbury Board of Education believes that students and staff members should interact with each other in a warm, open, and positive fashion. However, there must be maintained a certain distance in order to preserve the businesslike atmosphere that is necessary to achieve the educational mission of the school. In recognition of the fact that sexual harassment, whether verbal or physical, may create a psychological harmful atmosphere, inhibit performance, undermine the integrity of the staff-student relationship and constitute a form of illegal sex discrimination, the Board prohibits all forms of sexual remarks or conduct between staff and students of the District.

Further, school system personnel (employees, contractors, and agents of the school system) shall provide no assistance to an employee in finding another job, beyond the routine transmittal of personnel or administrative files, if the employee engaged in sexual misconduct with a minor or student in violation of the law (ESEA, 20 U.S.C. 7926(a)).

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(cf. <u>4118.112</u>/<u>4218.112</u> - Sexual Harassment)
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(cf. 4118.23/4218.23 - Conduct)

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse/Neglect)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

<u>10</u>-53a-71 Sexual assault in the second degree: Class C or B felony.

<u>10</u>-151 Employment of teachers. Definitions. Notice and hearing on failure to renew or termination of contract. Appeal

PA 15-205 An Act Protecting School Children

<u>17a</u>-106 Cooperation in relation to prevention, identification, and treatment of child abuse/neglect

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended ESSA, 20 U.S.C. 7 926(a); Prohibition on aiding and abetting sexual abuse (aka "don't pass the trash")

Approved by the Salisbury Board of Education: January 24, 2022

4118.24R/4218.24R STAFF/STUDENT NON-FRATERNIZATION

Staff members are expected to use good judgment in their relationships with students both inside and outside of the school context including, but not limited to, the following guidelines:

- 1. Staff members shall not make derogatory comments to students regarding the school and/or staff.
- 2. The exchange of purchased gifts between staff members and students is discouraged.
- 3. Staff-sponsored parties, at which students are in attendance, unless they are a part of the school's extracurricular program and are properly supervised, are prohibited.
- 4. Staff members shall not fraternize, written or verbally, with students except on matters that pertain to school-related issues.
- 5. Staff members shall not associate with students at any time in any situation or activity which could be considered sexually suggestive or involve the presence or use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs.
- 6. Dating between staff members and students is prohibited.
- 7. Staff members shall not use insults or sarcasm against students as a method of forcing compliance with requirements or expectations.
- 8. Staff members shall maintain a reasonable standard of care for the supervision, control, and protection of students commensurate with their assigned duties and responsibilities.
- 9. Staff members shall not send students on personal errands.
- 10. Staff members shall, pursuant to law and Board policy, immediately report any suspected signs of child abuse or neglect.
- 11. Staff members shall not attempt to counsel, assess, diagnose or treat a student's personal problem relating to sexual behavior, substance abuse, mental or physical health and/or family relationships but instead, should refer the student to the appropriate individual or agency for assistance.
- 12. Staff members shall not disclose information concerning a student, other than directory information, to any person not authorized to receive such information. This includes, but is not limited to, information concerning assessments, ability scores, grades, behavior, mental or physical health and/or family background.
- 13. Sexual relations with students, regardless of age and/or consent, is prohibited and will result in dismissal.