

**Coburg Community
Charter School Policy**

Code: GBNAA/JHFF
Adopted: 2/24/25

Suspected Sexual Conduct with Students and Reporting Requirements *
(Version 1)

{Required policy. ORS 339.372 establishes the requirement for boards to adopt policy on suspected sexual conduct. A **virtual public charter school** should use Version 2.)

Sexual conduct by public charter school employees, contractors¹, agents², and volunteers³ is prohibited and will not be tolerated. All public charter school employees, contractors, agents, volunteers, and students⁴ are subject to this policy.

⁵“Sexual conduct,” means verbal or physical conduct or verbal, written or electronic communications by a school employee, a contractor, an agent or a volunteer that involve a student and that are sexual advances or requests for sexual favors directed toward the student, or of a sexual nature that are directed toward the student or that have the effect of unreasonably interfering with a student’s educational performance, or of creating an intimidating or hostile environment. “Sexual conduct” does not include touching or other physical contact that is necessitated by the nature of the school employee’s job duties or by the services required to be provided by the contractor, agent or volunteer, and for which there is no sexual intent; verbal, written or electronic communications that are provided as part of an education program that meets state educational standards or a policy approved by the Board; or conduct or communications described in the definition of sexual conduct herein if the school employee, contractor, agent or volunteer is also a student and the conduct or communications arise out of a consensual relationship between students, do not create an intimidating or hostile educational environment and are not prohibited by law, any policies of the public charter school or any applicable employment agreements.

“Student” means any person who is in any grade from prekindergarten through grade 12 or 21 years of age or younger and receiving educational or related services from the public charter school that is not a post-secondary institution of education, or who was previously known as a student by the person engaging

¹ “Contractor” means a person providing services to the public charter school under a contract in a manner that requires the person to have direct, unsupervised contact with students.

² “Agent” means a person acting as an agent for the public charter school in a manner that requires the person to have direct, unsupervised contact with students.

³ “Volunteer” means a person acting as a volunteer for the public charter school in a manner that requires the person to have direct, unsupervised contact with students.

⁴ Student conduct may only be sexual conduct if the student is also an employee, contractor, agent, or volunteer.

⁵ This definition of “sexual conduct” affects all conduct that occurs before, on or after June 23, 2021, for purposes of reports that are made, investigations that are initiated, or a collective bargaining agreement, an employment contract, an agreement for resignation or termination, a severance agreement or any similar contract or agreement entered into, on or after June 23, 2021.

in sexual conduct and who left school or graduated from high school within one calendar year prior to the sexual conduct.

The public charter school will post in the school building [and on the school website] the names and contact information of the employees designated for the respective school building to receive reports of suspected sexual conduct and the procedures the designee will follow upon receipt of the report.

Any public charter school employee [{}⁶], contractor, agent or volunteer] who has reasonable cause to believe that a student has been subjected to sexual conduct by another public charter school employee, contractor, agent or volunteer, or that another public charter school employee, contractor, agent or volunteer has engaged in sexual conduct with a student shall immediately report such suspected sexual conduct to the [{}⁷]designated licensed administrator] or the [{}⁸]alternate designated licensed administrator] in the event the designated administrator is the alleged perpetrator, for their school building. If the conduct also constitutes child abuse, the employee must make mandatory reports in accordance with Board policy GBNAB/JHFE – Suspected Abuse of a Child Reporting Requirements.

A report of suspected sexual conduct about the school administrator will be reported to the [insert licensed or registered administrator position title] who shall also report same to the Board chair.

[If an employee fails to report suspected sexual conduct or fails to maintain confidentiality of records, the employee will be disciplined up to and including dismissal.]

When a designated administrator receives a report of suspected sexual conduct by a public charter school employee, contractor, agent or volunteer, the administrator will follow procedures established by the public charter school and set forth in administrative regulation GBNAA/JHFF-AR - Suspected Sexual Conduct Report Procedures and Forms. All such reports will be reported to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) or Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) in accordance with such administrative regulation. The agency receiving a report will complete an investigation regardless of any changes in the relationship or duties of the person who is the alleged perpetrator.

When there is reasonable cause to support the report, a public charter school employee suspected of sexual conduct shall be placed on paid administrative leave pending an investigation and the public charter school will take necessary actions to ensure the student's safety.

⁶ {The following language in brackets, i.e., [, contractor, agent or volunteer], is optional language for the public charter school to consider including. If the language is kept, the public charter school must make these groups aware of the policy and its administrative regulation and their responsibilities under both. This may also be included in contracts with agents and contractors and include reference to this policy.}

⁷ {ORS 339.372 requires the public charter school to have a policy that designates the licensed administrators and requires the school to post the names and contact information of the designees in the respective school building. A “licensed administrator” is a person employed as an administrator by the school and holds an administrative license issued by TSPC or may be a person employed by the school that does not hold an administrative license issued by TSPC if the school does not require the administrator to be licensed by TSPC (ORS 339.370). An administrator not requiring licensing by the school will at least be registered as an administrator with TSPC (ORS 338.125(7)(a)).}

⁸ {Consider that this alternate licensed administrator may need to be a licensed administrator employed by the school's sponsor if a second licensed or registered administrator is not employed by the public charter school. Discuss this with the school sponsor and insert appropriate language.}

When there is reasonable cause to support the report, a public charter school contractor, agent or volunteer suspected of sexual conduct shall be removed from providing services to the public charter school and the public charter school will take necessary actions to ensure the student's safety.

The public charter school will notify, as allowed by state and federal law, the person who was subjected to the suspected sexual conduct about any actions taken by the public charter school as a result of the report.

A public charter school employee, contractor or agent will not assist another public charter school employee, contractor or agent in obtaining a new job if the individual knows, or has reasonable cause to believe the public charter school employee, contractor or agent engaged in sexual conduct. Nothing in this policy prevents the public charter school from disclosing information required by law or providing the routine transmission of administrative and personnel files pursuant to law.

The initiation of a report in good faith about suspected sexual conduct may not adversely affect any terms or conditions of employment or the work environment of the person who initiated the report or who may have been subject to sexual conduct. If a student initiates a report of suspected sexual conduct by a public charter school employee, contractor, agent or volunteer in good faith, the student will not be disciplined by the public charter school or any public charter school employee, contractor, agent or volunteer.

The public charter school will provide to employees at the time of hire, or to a contractor, agent or volunteer at the time of beginning service for the public charter school, the following:

1. A description of conduct that may constitute sexual conduct;
2. A description of the investigatory process and possible consequences if a report of suspected sexual conduct is substantiated; and
3. A description of the prohibitions imposed on public charter school employees, contractors and agents when they attempt to obtain a new job, pursuant to ORS 339.378(2).

All public charter school employees are subject to Board policy GCAB - Personal Electronic Devices and Social Media - Staff regarding appropriate electronic communications with students.

Any electronic communications with students by a contractor, agent or volunteer for the public charter school will be appropriate and only when directed by public charter school administration. When communicating with students electronically regarding school-related matters, contractors, agents or volunteers shall use public charter school e-mail using mailing lists and/or other internet messaging approved by the school to a group of students rather than individual students or as directed by public charter school administration. Texting or electronically communicating with a student through contact information gained as a contractor, agent or volunteer for the public charter school is [[strongly] [discouraged] [prohibited]].

The administrator shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy and to comply with state law.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 338.115](#)

[ORS 338.135\(7\)\(a\)](#)

[ORS 339.370 - 339.400](#)

[ORS 419B.005 - 419B.045](#)

Every Student Succeeds Act, 20 U.S.C. § 7926 (2018).
House Bill 4160 (2024).