

SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: STUDENTS

TITLE: HAZING

ADOPTED: January 17, 2002

REVIEWED: October 2008; June 2014

UPDATED: October 15, 2016

247. HAZING	
1. Purpose	<p>The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of Springfield School District (“District”) and are prohibited at all times.</p>
2. Definitions	<p>For purposes of this policy hazing is defined as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health or safety of any person or which willfully destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation or membership in or affiliation with any organization recognized by the Board of School Directors (“Board”).</p> <p>Endanger the physical health shall include, but not be limited to any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping; beating; branding; bodily abuse (cutting hair; tattooing; etc.) forced calisthenics; exposure to the elements; deprivation of food or beverage; forced consumption of any food, alcoholic beverage, drug, or controlled substance; or other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the individual.</p> <p>Endanger the mental health shall include any activity that would subject an individual to mental stress, such as prolonged sleep deprivation, forced prolonged exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual.</p> <p>Individuals have the right to say no to behavior perceived by them to be hazing. These individuals shall not be excluded from activities because of this choice.</p> <p>Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or a group, shall be presumed to be a forced activity, even if the individual subjected willingly participates.</p>
3. Authority SC 510, 511 Pol. 122, 123	<p>The Board does not condone any form of initiation or harassment, known as hazing, as part of any school-sponsored activity. No student, coach, sponsor, parent/guardian, volunteer or District employee shall plan, direct, encourage, permit, condone, tolerate, assist or engage in any form of hazing in connection with any student activity or organization regardless of whether the conduct occurs on or off</p>

<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>school property or outside of school time. In addition, an environment should be created in which there is no fear of retaliation if a report of hazing is made.</p> <p>The Board encourages any person who believes they have been subjected to; is aware of; or has witnessed hazing to promptly report such incidents to the appropriate administrator.</p> <p>The District will investigate all complaints of hazing and after substantiation will administer appropriate discipline to any individual who violates this policy.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for developing administrative guidelines and procedures to ensure the implementation of this policy.</p> <p><u>DISCLAIMERS:</u></p> <p><i>This policy is superseded by all current federal and state laws and mandates.</i></p> <p><i>This online posting is an electronic copy from Springfield School District's manual of currently adopted policies. The policies on this site are for informational purposes only and do not reflect updating activities in progress. It may be used for information and reference purposes only regarding issues of concern. Certified date-stamped copies are available from the District Open Records Officer and are valid for issues of concern within two (2) weeks of the stamped date.</i></p>
--	---