MOUNTAIN HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT 193

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<u>SCHOOL SAFETY & DISCIPLINE FORMS 1a-1f (STEPS 1-6) – REPORT, INVESTIGATION,</u> <u>REVIEW, & DETERMINATION OF UNWELCOME AND/OR INAPPROPRIATE</u> <u>BEHAVIOR/REMARKS/ACTIONS/CONDUCT/RETALIATION</u>

Mountain Home School District No. 193 maintains a firm policy against all forms of unwelcome, offensive, and inappropriate behavior, remarks, actions, conduct, etc., and retaliation against students or employees and will not be tolerated in our school district. An investigation will commence upon reports of such and dealt with accordingly. All students and employees are to be treated with respect and dignity.

1. Investigate:

- Within 24-hours after receiving a complaint of unwelcome and/or inappropriate behavior/remarks/ actions/conduct/retaliation, begin the investigation.
 - ~ Start a discipline file to hold all investigative and evidentiary documents.
 - ~ Then have the victim/target complete the included <u>Report of Complaint of Unwelcome and/or</u> <u>Inappropriate Behavior/Remarks/Actions/Conduct/Retaliation Form 1a (Step-1)</u>.
- The investigator of any allegation of unwelcome and/or inappropriate behavior/remarks/actions/conduct/ retaliation, should be an administrator in a position of authority, <u>not</u> a school security officer.
- Take all claims or complaints of unwelcome and/or inappropriate behavior/remarks/actions/conduct/ retaliation, seriously.
- Interview all parties involved: victim/target, the witnesses, and the alleged offender/assailant using the included <u>Interview Victim/Target/Witness/Offender/Assailant Report Form 1b-d (Steps 2-4)</u>. Be thorough.
 - ~ Keep an open mind. Act in a neutral and professional manner.
 - Preserve privacy and confidentiality of the investigation and the involved parties; remind all parties of the district's prohibition of any form of retaliation.
- Separate the victim/target and offender/assailant. Make sure that the victim/target is not penalized in this action.
- Complete the investigation within <u>10-days</u> of the complaint, if possible.

2. Document:

- Using the <u>Report of Unwelcome and/or Inappropriate Behavior/Remarks/Actions/Conduct/Retaliation Form</u> <u>1a (Step-1)</u> and <u>Interview Victim/Target/Offender/Assailant Report Forms 1b-1d (Step 2-4)</u> begin the investigation.
- Collect, document, and file all investigative and evidentiary items, dates, times, all communications, written statements, your own investigation notes, pictures, electronic/digital records/recordings/texts, etc., from individuals, and add those documents to the newly created investigative and evidentiary file.
- Document where the incident occurred.

3. Determine:

- Using all collected, investigative, and evidentiary documents complete the <u>Result of Allegation of Complaint</u> of Complaint of Unwelcome and/or Inappropriate Behavior/Remarks/Actions/Conduct/Retaliation <u>Investigation Report Form 1e (Step 5)</u>, to determine if the behavior/remarks/actions/conduct/ retaliation are in fact unwelcome and/or inappropriate, and to what degree.
- Attach all supporting investigative and evidentiary documentation such as witness statements, investigation notes, emails, photographs, texts, etc.
- Send a complete copy of the complaint form and supporting documentation to the Principal or Superintendent.
- Keep a copy of this in your Investigative and Evidentiary file. Log student incidents in Milepost.
- 4. <u>Action:</u>
 - Complete the <u>Conclusion & Action Taken of Allegation of Complaint of Unwelcome and/or Inappropriate</u> <u>Behavior/Remarks/Actions/Conduct/Retaliation Investigation Report Form 1f (Step 6)</u> and state the recommended action(s).
 - We are not a court of law we do not need proof beyond a reasonable doubt. We collect as much information as we can to make an informed decision.
 - Counseling for victim/target and/or offender/assailant; Oral or Written Warnings, Suspension, Transfer, Expulsion, Placement on Administrative Leave, Termination, etc.; Recommendation to go before the District Review Committee or School Board of Trustees for possible expulsion or termination.
 - Document date and time parents of victim/target and assailant/offender were notified.

REPORT OF COMPLAINT OF UNWELCOME AND/OR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR/REMARKS/ACTIONS/CONDUCT/RETALIATION FORM 1a – Step 1

(Aggression may be eventually determined to be a harassment, intimidation, bullying, or peer conflict)

Names(s) of person(s) filing the Complaint Form:

e of Investigator:all that apply		Date:		
Unwelcome and/or Inappropriate Physical Contact:		Electronic/Digital/Technological Remarks/Offenses: Social		
Touching, Grabbing, Groping		Media, Texting, Emails, Instagram, Snap Chat, etc.		
Unwelcome and/or Inappropriate Behavior/Remark/ Action		Spreading Rumors or Making False Accusations		
Physical Harm or Threats of Harm		Damage to Personal Property		
Physical/Psychological Injuries		Inappropriate/Derogatory Writings/Graffiti		
Sexual or Sex Orientation Offensive Behavior/Remarks		Repeated Unwelcome/Inappropriate Behavior		
Exclusion/Prevention from Activities/Events		Intimidation Directed Towards Me		
Block/Limit Movement		Racial Slurs, Comments, Gestures/Behavior/Remarks		
Unwelcome/Inappropriate Gestures		Other Unwelcome/Inappropriate Behavior/Remarks/Actions		

Describe in detail the unwelcome/inappropriate behavior/remark(s)/action(s):

(Please attach additional pages if needed.)

Date(s) of Alleged Unwelcome/Inappropriate Behavior/Remarks/Actions:

Name of Alleged Victim/Target	Grade/Job Title of Alleged Victim/Target

Name of Alleged Offender/Assailant	Grade/Job Title Alleged Offender/Assailant

Name of Witness	Grade/Job Title of Witness

(Please attach additional pages if needed.)

Signature of Complainant:_____

Next Step: Investigate and interview <u>all</u> parties involved.

Date

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INTERVIEW VICTIM/TARGET INVESTIGATION REPORT FORM 1b – Step 2

Interview the alleged Victim/Target:

- □ <u>Adults</u>: The alleged Victim/Target may wish or allow a support person of his/her choice to be present during the interview.
- □ <u>Students</u>: It may be appropriate, given the age of the child, or other circumstances, to interview parents, guardians, teachers, or other adults who can provide information regarding the alleged incident and its effect on the individual.

Describe Investigation Process to the alleged Victim/Target:

- □ Indicate that confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible. Tell the Victim/Target that although you will try to keep their name confidential that you may have to share with the accused their name along with the allegations. Tell them that you will also be reminding the accused about the district policy against retaliation.
- □ The alleged Offender/Assailant and any Witnesses will also be interviewed;
- \Box A written report will be prepared;
- □ The final determination regarding what action, if any, will be taken as specified in the district policy.

Ask the alleged Victim/Target:

- □ How were you hurt, harmed, or offended? Describe what happened as clearly as possible (i.e., threats, requests, demands, comments, force used, touching, groping, etc.).
- □ Where did the incident take place? Did the incident occur in school and where; did it occur on school grounds or off school grounds and where; did it occur on the bus or waiting for the bus?
- □ Has this happened before? If yes, how many times? When?
- \Box Were there witnesses? If yes who?
- Did the alleged Offender/Assailant's unwelcome and/or inappropriate behavior/remarks/actions/conduct/ retaliation cause you to change the way you normally act?
- Did the Victim/Target confront the alleged Offender/Assailant and advise him/her of the unwelcome and/or inappropriate behavior/remarks/actions/conduct/retaliation?
- □ Have you missed any school/work, school/work events, or felt unsafe in the building or on the bus because of the unwelcome and/or inappropriate behavior/remarks/actions/conduct/retaliation?
- □ Has your schoolwork/job been affected?
- □ Have you made any changes to your participation at school/work, school/work events, riding the bus?
- Ask the alleged Victim/Target what he/she thinks should be done. What can be done to help them feel better/safer?
- Ask the alleged Victim/Target to immediately tell someone in authority if the alleged Offender/Assailant or anyone else confronts him/her regarding the investigation.

Document:

- □ Ask the alleged Victim/Target to write and sign a statement of his or her version of the facts. Keep notes of the interview process. Try to determine if the alleged Victim/Target is telling the truth. Remember that the alleged Victim/Target may be scared, nervous, hurt, or embarrassed. These feelings can often result in unexpected and inappropriate reactions (i.e. laughing, getting angry, etc.). Lack of perceived credibility of the alleged Victim/Target is not grounds to abandon an investigation. The investigation policies and procedures must be followed.
- □ Note the individual's body language. Does the individual sound believable or does his/her story sound made-up?
- Does the individual have reason to lie? Does the individual seem reluctant or refuse to relate specifics?
- □ Instruct the alleged Victim/Target to keep everything regarding the interview confidential.
- Document the date and time parents of victim/target were notified.

Continue to Step 3: Investigate and interview Witnesses.

INTERVIEW WITNESS INVESTIGATION REPORT FORM 1c – Step 3

Interview the Witness(es):

- □ A separate investigative report must be made for each individual.
- □ If possible, do not reveal the identity of either the alleged Victim/Target or alleged Offender/Assailant to the witness at the beginning of the interview, but do tell him/her the reason for the interview.
- □ Ask broad questions.
- □ If the witness does not offer information, ask if he/she saw or heard anything that the witness may feel was unwelcome and/or inappropriate behavior/remarks/actions/conduct/retaliation the incident(s) he/she may have.
- Distinguish between firsthand and secondhand (hearsay) knowledge. Instruct the witness to keep everything regarding the interview confidential.
- □ Inform the witness that retaliation against the alleged Victim/Target or any of the witnesses is prohibited.

Documentation:

- Ask each witness to write and sign a statement setting forth his/her version of the facts. Keep notes of the interview process.
- □ Try to determine if the Witness is telling the truth. Remember that the Witness may be nervous and reluctant to say anything but do try to convince the witness that his/her statement is important.
- □ Note the individual's body language. Does the individual sound believable or does his/her story sound made-up?
- Does the individual have reason to lie? Does the individual seem reluctant or refuse to relate specifics?
- □ Instruct the Witness(es) to keep everything regarding the interview confidential.

Continue to Step 4: Investigate and interview Offender/Assailant.

INTERVIEW OFFENDER/ASSAILANT INVESTIGATION REPORT FORM 1d – Step 4

Interview the alleged Offender/Assailant:

- □ <u>Adults</u>: The alleged Offender/Assailant may wish or allow a support person of his/her choice to be present during the interview.
- Students: It may be appropriate, given the age of the child, or other circumstances, to interview parents, guardians, teachers, or other adults who can provide information regarding the alleged incident.

Explain/Describe Investigation Process to the alleged Victim/Target:

- □ Allegations of unwelcome and/or inappropriate behavior/remarks/actions/conduct/retaliation has been made against the individual and that the purpose of the interview is to investigate the complaint.
- □ The alleged Victim/Target was interviewed, and any witnesses will also be interviewed.
- □ Indicate that confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible. Tell them the district policy against retaliation that any form of retaliation will be dealt with.
- □ A written report will be prepared.
- □ The final determination regarding what action, if any, will be taken as specified in the district policy.
- □ State that the school takes all allegations of unwelcome and/or inappropriate behavior/remarks/actions /conduct/retaliation seriously, and that unwelcome and/or inappropriate behavior/remarks/actions/conduct/ retaliation is not tolerated, and that each complaint of unwelcome and/or inappropriate behavior/remarks /actions/conduct/retaliation is fully investigated.
- Ask if the alleged Offender/Assailant knows why the allegations would have been made against him/her.

Due Process

- Ask the alleged Offender/Assailant to offer his/her version of the facts. The interviewer will give the individual a chance to tell his/her side of the story. Explain the investigation process. Indicate that confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible. Explain that no decision has yet been made as to the truth of the allegations. Only if necessary, identify the Victim/Target. Provide the alleged Offender/Assailant an opportunity to set forth whether he/she has had recent interactions with the alleged Victim/Target.
- Determine if the alleged Offender/Assailant has any witnesses to back-up his/her statements.
- □ If the alleged Offender/Assailant denies that the incident occurred, ask if he/she has had any contact with the alleged Victim/Target.
- □ Instruct the alleged Offender/Assailant to keep everything regarding the interview confidential.
- □ Inform the alleged Offender/Assailant that retaliation against the alleged Victim/Target or any of the witnesses is prohibited.

Documentation:

- □ Have alleged Offender/Assailant write and sign a statement of his/her version of the facts. Keep notes of the interview process. Try to determine if the alleged Offender/Assailant is telling the truth. Remember that the alleged Offender/Assailant may be scared, nervous, or embarrassed. These feelings can often result in unexpected and inappropriate reactions (i.e. laughing, getting angry, etc.). Lack of perceived remorse, sorrow, regret, or indifference of the alleged Offender/Assailant is not grounds for guilt. The investigation policies and procedures must be followed.
- □ Note the individual's body language. Does the individual sound believable or does his/her story sound made-up?
- Does the individual have reason to lie? Does the individual seem reluctant or refuse to relate specifics?
- □ Instruct the alleged Offender/Assailant to keep everything regarding the interview confidential.
- □ Keep notes of the interview process.
- Document date and time parents of Assailant/Offender were notified.

Note: At this point, the investigator may now have enough information to determine those areas of agreement between the alleged Victim/Target's and alleged Offender/Assailant's versions of the incident. If necessary, additional questions may be asked. Also, if the investigator has reason to believe that child under the age of 18 years has been abused, abandoned, or neglected, the investigator must cause a report to be made to law enforcement and Health & Welfare within 24 hours.

Continue to Step 5: Determination of Investigation.

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<u>RESULT OF ALLEGATION OF COMPLAINT OF UNWELCOME AND/OR INAPPROPRIATE</u> <u>BEHAVIOR/REMARKS/ACTIONS/CONDUCT/RETALIATION INVESTIGATION FORM 1e</u> – Step 5

Based on the information gathered in the investigation, make a decision on whether this incident is an unwelcome and/or inappropriate behavior/remarks/actions/conduct/retaliation. We are not a court of law, no one is subpoenaed, or testifies under oath; we do not need proof beyond a reasonable doubt. We collect as much information as we can in order to make an informed decision about student discipline.

Unwelcome and/or Inappropriate Physical	Electronic/Digital/Technological Remarks/	
Contact: Touching, Grabbing, Groping	Offenses: Social Media, Texting, Emails,	
	Instagram, Snap Chat, etc.	
Unwelcome and/or Inappropriate Behavior/	Spreading Rumors or Making False Accusations	
Remark/Action		
Physical Harm or Threats of Harm	Damage to Personal Property	
Physical/Psychological Injuries	Inappropriate/Derogatory Writings/Graffiti	
Sexual or Sex Orientation Offensive Behavior/	Repeated Unwelcome and/or Inappropriate	
Remarks	Behavior	
Exclusion/Prevention from Activities/Events	Intimidation Directed Towards Me	
Block/Limit Movement	Racial Slurs, Comments, Gestures/Behavior/	
	Remarks	
Unwelcome and/or Inappropriate Gestures	Other Unwelcome and/or Inappropriate	
	Behavior/Remarks/ Actions	

Peer Conflict	Behavior/Actions	One Time or Isolated
Bullying	Remarks	Repeated Over Time
Harassment	Gestures	Unwelcome
Intimidation	Physical/Emotional Injury or Damage	Inappropriate
Abuse	Damage to property	Derogatory
Assault/Attack	Interferes with Individuals Ability	Imbalance of Power
Sexual	Blocking Individual's Movement	Planned/Intentional
Gender Orientation	Interfering with Participation	Provoked
Racial/Ethnic/Origin	Electronically/Digitally/Cyber-Tech	Unprovoked
Religion/Culture	Social Media/Instagram/Snap Chat	Debilitating
Disability		Severe
		Persistent/Pervasive

Determination - Unwelcome and/or Inappropriate Behavior/Remarks/Actions/Conduct/Retaliation:

- □ Once a decision has been reached, notify the Victim/Target of the outcome of the investigation. If disciplinary action is taken against the Offender/Assailant, this will be considered confidential information and cannot be revealed to the Victim/Target without prior written consent.
 - Offer school counseling support for the Victim/Target.
- □ Collect documentation from investigation. Complete <u>Report of Complaint of Unwelcome and/or</u> <u>Inappropriate Behavior/Remarks/Actions/Conduct/Retaliation Forms 1a-1f (Steps 1-6</u>. Attach all supporting documentation including witness statements, investigative & evidentiary documents, correspondence, emails, etc.
- Send a copy of <u>all</u> documentation, recordings, videos, evidence, etc., to Principal and Superintendent.
- □ If disciplinary action will be taken against the Offender/Assailant, document the discipline action taken in MilePost or Personnel Record.
- □ **Possible Corrective Actions to be Taken** (*The following list of possible corrective actions is intended to provide suggestions; other corrective actions may be appropriate.*)
 - Separate the victim and harasser. Make sure that the victim is not penalized for reporting.
 - □ Oral or written warnings.
 - □ Counseling.
 - Suspension, Expulsion, Termination, Placement on Administrative Leave, Probation, etc.
 - □ Transfer.
 - Recommendation to the District Review Panel.
- □ Monitor the situation to be reasonably sure behavior/remark/action do not resume or continue, and that retaliation does not occur.

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<u>CONCLUSION & ACTION TAKEN OF ALLEGATION OF COMPLAINT OF UNWELCOME AND/OR</u> INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR/REMARKS/ACTIONS/CONDUCT/RETALIATION INVESTIGATION &

FORM 1f- Step 6

(A separate report must be made for each individual)

Form completed by:

Administrator's Name	(\mathbf{s})	

School:

Date:

1. Victim/Target							
Name:	Student ID:	Employee ID:					
School:	Grade:	Position:					
2. Allegations(s) of unwelcome and/or Inappropriate behavior/remarks/actions/conduct made against:							
Name:							
School:	Grade:	Position:					
3. Allegation(s): (use additional paper, if necessary)							
4. Results of Investigation: (use ad	4. Results of Investigation : (use additional paper, if necessary)						
5. Conclusion & Action(s) Taken:	: (use additional paper, if necessary)						

Attach written statements from all individuals interviewed.

Attach any other documentation (emails, text messages, photographs, electronic device captures, etc.)

□ Submit a copy of this <u>School Safety & Discipline Forms 1a-1f – Investigation & Determination of Unwelcome</u> <u>and/or Inappropriate Behavior/Remarks/Actions/Conduct/Retaliation</u> and all supporting documentation to the Principal and the Superintendent.

Administrator Signature

Title

Date

ADOPTED: January 19, 2016

Revised: December 17, 2019

Reviewed: March 16, 2021