

VIRTUAL SCHOOL OF ARIZONA SCHOOL SAFETY

The purpose of this school safety policy is to generally set forth the principles by which the School responds to threats against the School and its students, employees, and volunteers. Given the sensitivity of the subject matter contemplated by this policy, this is intentionally a non-exhaustive consideration of the School's safety protocols; therefore, this policy supplements but does not replace any other safety protocols or applicable state or federal laws governing the School's obligations to maintain a safe learning environment.

Reporting of Suspected Criminal Conduct. In order to comply with A.R.S. § 15-153, the School's Principal or their designee, will report to local law enforcement any suspected crime against a person or property that (i) is a Serious Offense or involves a Deadly Weapon or Dangerous Instrument or Serious Physical Injury; or (ii) any conduct that poses a threat of death or Serious Physical Injury to a School employee, student, or other person on the School's property (collectively, "Suspected Criminal Conduct"). All capitalized terms in this paragraph have the meaning set forth in Arizona law.

In accordance with applicable state and federal law, including FERPA, the School's Principal or their designee, will notify the parent or guardian of each student who is involved in Suspected Criminal Conduct. School employees are expected to report and document any Suspected Criminal Conduct by immediately notifying any member of the School administration of the incident and promptly preparing a written report of the incident and providing the report to a member of the School Administration. The School may, in its discretion, discipline any School employee who the School believes failed to properly report and document Suspected Criminal Conduct, and the School will maintain a record of such disciplinary action. In accordance with applicable law, the School will, upon reasonable request, make such a disciplinary record available to a public school considering hiring that employee.

Parental Notification of Threatening or Intimidating Behavior or Harassment. In accordance with A.R.S. § 15-186.01, if the School determines a student has been harassed, threatened, or intimidated on School grounds or in a manner that substantially disrupts the School's learning environment, the School's Principal or their designee, will notify the parent or guardian of that affected student. Threatening or intimidating behavior and harassment have the meanings set forth in A.R.S. § 15-186.01.

Prohibition on Threatening or Intimidating Behavior, Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying. Students may not engage in threatening or intimidating behavior, discrimination, bullying, or harassment of any kind, including sex discrimination and sex-based harassment that is prohibited under Title IX. The School has a zero tolerance policy regarding these behaviors. Students engaging in such behavior will be subject to disciplinary action, and potential sex discrimination will be subject to the provisions of the School's Title IX Policy.

Prohibition on Hazing. Students may not engage in hazing, as defined in A.R.S. § 15-2301, or solicit other students to engage in hazing. Aiding and abetting another person who is engaged in hazing is also prohibited. All students, teachers and staff must take reasonable measures within the scope of their authority to prevent hazing and violations of this policy. Students engaging in prohibited hazing behavior will be subject to disciplinary action. In such disciplinary proceedings, a student may not rely on the defense that the victim consented to or acquiesced in the prohibited hazing behavior.