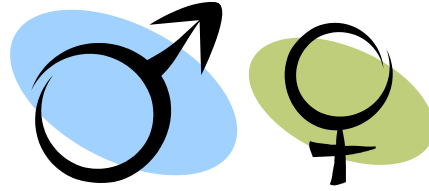


# Harassment Is ILLEGAL



**SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS PROHIBITED** based on Federal Law - Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and State Law – Sec. 10-15c. Harassment based on sexual orientation is also protected under State Law – Sec. 10-15c.

**FOR STUDENTS:** Sexual harassment is **unwanted and unwelcome** behavior of a sexual nature which interferes with a student’s right to learn, study, work, achieve, or participate in school activities in a comfortable and supportive atmosphere. You have a right to participate in all school and classroom activities in an atmosphere free from sexual harassment. You have a responsibility not to engage in sexual behaviors that are unwelcome or offensive to others.

**Examples of Sexual Harassment** include: unwelcome sexual advances, suggestive or lewd remarks, unwanted hugs, touches, kisses; requests for sexual favors; retaliation for complaining about sexual harassment, derogatory or pornographic posters, cartoons or drawings.

**If you have questions or believe that you or others are being harassed, contact:**

<b>District Title IX Coordinator: Dr. Kristen Brooks</b>
Office Address: 1 School Street, Bethel, CT 06801
Telephone number: 203-794-8613
Email Address: brooksk@bethel.k12.ct.us

<b>Building Title IX Coordinator: Ms. Mari Lerz, Bethel High School</b>
Office Address: 300 Whittlesey Drive, Bethel, CT 06801
Telephone number: 203-794-8600
Email Address: troettic@bethel.k12.ct.us

<b>Building Title IX Coordinator: Mr. Nicholas DaPonte, Bethel Middle School</b>
Office Address: 600 Whittlesey Drive, Bethel, CT 06801
Telephone number: 203-794-8670
Email Address: daponten@bethel.k12.ct.us

<b>Building Title IX Coordinator: Mrs. Alison Salerno, Johnson School</b>
Office Address: 500 Whittlesey Drive, Bethel, CT 06801
Telephone number: 203-794-8700
Email Address: salernoa@bethel.k12.ct.us

<b>Building Title IX Coordinator: Ms. Trisha Soucy, Rockwell School</b>
Office Address: 400 Whittlesey Drive, Bethel, CT 06801
Telephone number: 203-794-8690
Email Address: soucyt@bethel.k12.ct.us

<b>Building Title IX Coordinator: Mrs. Danielle Legnard, Berry School</b>
Office Address: 200 Whittlesey Drive, Bethel, CT 06801
Telephone number: 203-794-8680
Email Address: legnardd@bethel.k12.ct.us

**Sexual harassment** is not limited to prohibited behavior by a male toward a female, or by a supervisory employee toward a non-supervisory employee, or a teacher to a student. The victim does not have to be the opposite sex of the harasser. Harassment may be student to student, teacher to student, student to teacher or teacher to teacher. The gender of the complainant and/or the alleged harasser is irrelevant, even if they are of the same gender. Sexual harassment based on sexual orientation or gender identity is also prohibited under State Law.

► ***What should I do if I believe I am being sexually harassed?***

- Find out about your school or school district’s policy and procedures for handling sexual harassment issues. Follow those procedures.
- Take action and get help when needed. Ignoring sexual harassment is not an effective way to stop it.
- Whenever possible, tell the harasser verbally or in writing what the specific behaviors are that you find offensive. Ask him or her to stop.
- Report the offensive behaviors to a teacher, counselor, Title IX coordinator, or school administrator.
- Keep a detailed record of the harassing behavior to share with school officials who investigate your complaint.
- If not satisfied with the resolution of your concerns, contact one of the appropriate organizations listed.

**The victim** does not have to be the person at whom the unwelcome sexual conduct is directed; the victim may be someone who is a witness to and personally offended by such conduct although directed toward another. Sexual harassment is unwelcome conduct that is personally offensive, lowers morale, and interferes with educational performance. This unwelcome sexual behavior is defined from the perspective of the victim, not the harasser.

► *Where to Get Help*

• **State Title IX Coordinator:**

Dr. Adrian R. Wood, Connecticut State Department of Education  
165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 713-6795  
email: [adrian.wood@ct.gov](mailto:adrian.wood@ct.gov)

• **The Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO)**

25 Sigourney Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
Telephone: 860-541-3400  
Toll Free (CT): 1-800-477-5737  
Web site: <http://www.state.ct.us/chro/>

**Filing complaints electronically:** [http://www.ct.gov/chro/lib/chro/Fillable\\_Complaint\\_Forms.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/chro/lib/chro/Fillable_Complaint_Forms.pdf)

• **Boston Office for Civil Rights**

US Department of Education  
8th Floor  
5 Post Office Square  
Boston, MA 02109-3921  
Telephone: 617-289-0111  
FAX: 617-289-0150; TDD: 877-521-2172  
Email: [OCR.Boston@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.Boston@ed.gov)

**Filing complaints electronically:** <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html>.

The Bethel Public Schools do not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, genetic information, protected veteran status or any other basis prohibited by law. The Bethel Public Schools provide equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding the Bethel Public Schools nondiscrimination policies should be directed to:

**Title IX District Coordinator**

Dr. Kristen Brooks  
Assistant Superintendent  
1 School Street  
Bethel, CT 06801  
Phone: **(203) 794-8613**  
Email: [brooksk@bethel.k12.ct.us](mailto:brooksk@bethel.k12.ct.us)

**Section 504 District Coordinator**

Mrs. Susan Budris  
Director of Special Education and Pupil Services  
1 School Street  
Bethel, CT 06801  
Phone: **(203) 794-8616**  
Email: [budriss@bethel.k12.ct.us](mailto:budriss@bethel.k12.ct.us)

