

The School Committee forbids hazing in any form. Should an alleged instance of hazing occur, the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 269, Sections 17, 18 and 19 shall be adhered to. In addition, the Superintendent and the School Committee shall immediately be notified of the circumstances of the complaint and the actions taken.

Any student found guilty of a charge of hazing shall be subject to the disciplinary actions stated in the student handbook.

Any employee found guilty of a charge of hazing shall be subject to disciplinary/legal action.

M.G.L. 269:17 – Crime of Hazing; Definition; Penalty

“Whoever is a principle organizer or participant in the crime of hazing as defined herein, shall be punished by a fine of not more than three thousand dollars or by imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.”

“The term hazing as used in this section and in sections eighteen and nineteen, shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or other person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation.”

M.G.L. 269:18 – Duty to report Hazing

“Whoever knows that another person is the victim of hazing as defined in section seventeen and is at the scene of such crime, shall, to the extent that such person can do so without danger or peril to himself or others, report such crime to an appropriate law enforcement official as soon as reasonably practicable. Whoever fails to report such crime shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars.”

M.G.L. 269:19 – Hazing Statutes to be Provided; Statement of Compliance and Discipline Policy Required

Each secondary school shall issue to every student group, student team or student organization under its authority or operating on or in conjunction with the school, and to every member, or applicant for membership in such group or organization, a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen. An officer of each such group or organization, and each individual receiving a copy of sections seventeen and eighteen shall sign an acknowledgment stating that such group, organization or individual has received a copy of sections seventeen and eighteen.

Massachusetts General Law References:

M.G.L. 269:17 – Crime of Hazing, Definition; Penalty

M.G.L. 269:18 – Duty to Report Hazing

M.G.L. 269:19 – Statutes to be Provided to Student Groups; Compliance Statement and Discipline Policy Required

Other References:

Student Handbooks

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