

Wisconsin Act 88 Training

Wisconsin Act 88 made the grooming of a child for sexual activity a felony. Act 89 mandated annual training for all staff and volunteers. Even if a particular behavior does not rise to the level of a crime under this law, it may still be a violation of school board policy. Violations of Act 88 and/or school board policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination, and may be reported to external agencies, including law enforcement and/or Wisconsin Dept of Instruction, as required by law. The level of discipline will depend on the severity of the violation.

Grooming is defined as a person engaging “in a course of conduct, pattern of behavior, or series of acts with the intention to condition, seduce, solicit, lure, or entice a child for the purpose of engaging in sexual intercourse or sexual contact, or for the purpose of producing, distributing, or possessing depiction of the child engaged in sexually explicit conduct.”

Grooming includes, among other activities, any of the following:

- Verbal comments, suggestions, or conversations of a sexual nature directed toward a child.
Ex: Talking about sexual topics that are outside of related curriculum
Ex: Making sexual comments towards students or telling students about past sexual experiences
- Inappropriate or sexualized physical contact or attempts to initiate such contact.
Ex: Kissing or other sexual physical contact with a student
- Written, electronic, or digital communications, including using text messages, emails, social media, or online platforms to seduce, solicit, lure, or entice a child.
Ex: Showing students pornography
- Provision or promise of gifts, favors, privileges, attention, or other items of value with the intent to lower a child's inhibitions, gain trust, or create emotional dependence.
- An act intending to isolate a child, or to encourage a child to separate from family, peers, or guardians.
- Use of a computer, online service, internet service, local bulletin board service, or any device capable of electronic data storage or transmission to contact a child, a child's guardian, or any person believed by the actor to be a child or a child's guardian.
Ex: Getting close to a student's family to gain access to the student

Staff and volunteers must be careful not to commit boundary violations with students. For example:

- Making inappropriate comments about a student's clothing or body;
- Considering students your friend or maintaining a special relationship with a student;
- Having “favorite” students and showing a preference for that student;
- Contacting students beyond the school day for personal purposes;
- Texting, direct messaging, or emailing students about personal topics;
- Giving students a ride in a staff or volunteer's personal without prior administrative approval

All board members, coaches, advisors, staff, and volunteers are required to use only District approved communication tools when communicating with each other or with students.

- District email
- District approved social media platforms
- ParentSquare

If you believe misconduct may have occurred, you must report it immediately to a district or building administrator or a Title IX Coordinator.

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I have read and understand the Act 88 training, and agree to abide by the law and school board policy. I understand that I should contact an administrator or a Title IX Coordinator if I have concerns or questions, or need to report misconduct.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____