

**STOUGHTON PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
**Anti – Hazing Policy**

The term “hazing” will be defined as 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.

Any student found to be the a principal organizer or participant in the crime of hazing will be immediately referred to the building administration for discipline as defined by the Code of Conduct. Consent shall not be available as a defense for any actions taken which may be defined as “hazing.”

Any adult found to be the a principal organizer or participant in the crime of hazing will be immediately referred to the police for prosecution, as required under M.G.L. Chapter 269 Section 17.

Any student or faculty member that knows that another person is the victim of hazing 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 a school official as soon as reasonably practicable. Any student or faculty member that fails to report such crime shall be subject to the appropriate disciplinary action.

Annually, secondary principals will issue to every student group, student team or student organization which is part of the school or is recognized by the school or permitted by the school to use its name or facilities or is known by the school to exist as an unaffiliated student group, student team or student organization, a copy of M.G.L Chapter 269 Sections 16, 17, and 18.

Each such group, team or organization shall distribute a copy of M.G.L Chapter 269 Sections 16, 17, and 18 to each of its members, plebes, pledges or applicants for membership. It shall be the duty of each such group, team or organization, acting through its designated officer, to deliver annually, to the institution an attested acknowledgement stating that such group, team or organization has received a copy of M.G.L Chapter 269 Sections 16, 17, and 18, that each of its members, plebes, pledges, or applicants has received a copy of M.G.L Chapter 269 Sections 16, 17, and 18, and that such group, team or organization understands and agrees to comply with the provisions of M.G.L Chapter 269 Sections 16, 17, and 18.

Each secondary school shall, at least annually, before or at the start of enrollment, deliver to each person who enrolls as a full time student in such institution a copy of this M.G.L Chapter 269 Sections 16, 17, and 18

Each secondary school shall file, at least annually, a report with the board of higher education certifying that the school has complied with its responsibility to inform student groups, teams or organizations and to notify each full time student enrolled by it of the provisions of M.G.L Chapter 269 Sections 16, 17, and 18 and also certifying that said institution has adopted a disciplinary policy with regard to the organizers and participants of hazing, and that such policy has been set forth with appropriate emphasis in the student handbook or similar means of communicating the institution’s policies to its students.