 **No. 233**

 **SECTION: PUPILS**

**TITLE: HAZING**

**MEDICAL ACADEMY ADOPTED: 10/8/13**

**CHARTER SCHOOL REVISED:**

 233. HAZING

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the school and are prohibited at all times.

This policy applies to all hazing incidents during the school year, both on Medical Academy Charter School property and at activities sponsored by Medical Academy at locations outside of the Medical Academy Charter School

For purposes of this policy **hazing** is defined as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or membership in or affiliation with any organization recognized by the Board. This includes, but is not limited to, student clubs, extracurricular groups, co-curricular groups and athletic teams.

**Endanger the physical health** shall include but not be limited to any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping; beating; branding; forced calisthenics; exposure to the elements; forced consumption of any food, alcoholic beverage, drug, or controlled substance; or other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the individual.

**Endanger the mental health** shall include any activity that would subject an individual to extreme mental stress, such as prolonged sleep deprivation, forced prolonged exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual.

Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or a group, shall be presumed to be a forced activity, even if a student willingly participates.

The Board does not condone any form of initiation or harassment, known as hazing, as part of any school-sponsored student activity. No student, coach, advisor, volunteer or employee shall plan, direct, encourage, assist or engage in any hazing activity.

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The Board directs that no administrator, coach, advisor, volunteer or employee shall permit, condone or tolerate any form of hazing.

The school will investigate all complaints of hazing and will administer appropriate discipline to any individual who violates this policy.

The Board encourages students who have been subjected to hazing to promptly report such incidents to the administration.

School administrators shall investigate promptly all complaints of hazing and administer appropriate discipline to any individual who violates this policy.

Students, administrators, coaches, advisors, volunteers, and employees shall be alert to incidents of hazing and shall report such conduct to the administration.

Complaint Procedure

1. When a student believes that s/he has been subject to hazing, the student shall promptly report

 the incident, orally or in writing, to the administration.

2. The administrator shall conduct a timely, impartial, thorough, and comprehensive

 investigation of the alleged hazing.

3. The administrator shall prepare a written report summarizing the investigation and

 recommending disposition of the complaint. Copies of the report shall be provided to the

 complainant, the accused, and others directly involved, as appropriate.

4. If the investigation results in a substantiated finding of hazing, the principal shall recommend

 appropriate disciplinary action, as circumstances warrant.

5. If the investigation results in a substantiated finding of unlawful harassment, then the incident

 shall also be referred to the Title IX/Equal Opportunity Coordinator as an unlawful

 harassment incident.