

(X) Required

() Local

() Notice

NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The Board of Education, its officers and employees, shall not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of legally protected classes, such as, but not limited to: race, color, national origin, creed, religion, economic status, marital status, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical condition), age, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability (physical or mental), predisposing genetic characteristic, military work or status, domestic violence victim status, or use of a guide dog, hearing dog, or service dog, as applicable. The Board shall be committed to this policy in all its practices. The district will provide notice of this policy in accordance with federal and state law and regulation.

This policy of nondiscrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services for students, course offerings, and student activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or terminations.

The district shall establish and maintain an atmosphere that is conducive to every child's developing attitudes and skills for effective and cooperative living, including:

1. Respect for individuals regardless of their economic status, intellectual capacity, race, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or age;
2. Respect for cultural differences;
3. Respect for economic, political, and social rights of others;
4. Respect for the right of others to seek and maintain their own identities; and
5. Respect for protected classes as described in paragraph one of this policy.

In an effort to promote good human relations, the district shall encourage the removal of every vestige of prejudice and discrimination. The district shall continue to act affirmatively to make opportunities available for employment and promotion to every individual based solely on his or her legitimate qualifications.

The Board of Education, its officers and employees shall not discriminate against students on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sex; sexual orientation, or gender (including gender identity and expression).

A finding that an individual has engaged in conduct in violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action and/or filing of a report with third parties in the manner prescribed by the district code of conduct, the law or applicable contract.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to prohibit a denial of admission into, or exclusion from, a course of instruction or activity based on a person's gender that would be permissible under the law, or to prohibit, as discrimination based on disability, or actions that would be permissible under the law.

Annual Notification

At the beginning of each school year, the district shall publish a notice of the established grievance procedures for resolving complaints of discrimination to parents/guardians, employees, students and the community. The district shall:

1. Inform parents, employees, students and the community that education programs, including but not limited to vocational programs, are offered without regard to actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sex; sexual orientation, pregnancy or gender (including gender identity and expression) or any protected class as described in paragraph one of this policy;
2. Provide the name, address and telephone number of the person designated to coordinate activities concerning discrimination; and
3. Be included in announcements, bulletins, catalogues, and applications made available by the district.

The Superintendent has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the district's non-discrimination policies. Contact information for the Superintendent is available on the district's website. Complaints of sexual harassment or discrimination are covered by policy 0110.

All complainants and those who participate in the investigation of a complaint in conformity with state law and district policies, who have acted reasonably and in good faith, have the right to be free from retaliation of any kind.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to establish such rules, regulations and procedures necessary to implement and maintain this policy.

Cross-ref: 0110, Sexual Harassment
5030, Student Complaints and Grievances
5300, Code of Conduct
9140.1, Staff Complaints and Grievances

Ref: Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 29 U.S.C. §§621 *et seq.*
Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12101 *et seq.*
Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000d *et seq.* (*nondiscrimination based on race, color, and national origin in federally assisted programs*)
Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000e *et seq.* (*nondiscrimination based on race, color, and national origin in employment*)

Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §1681 *et seq.* (*nondiscrimination based on sex*)

§504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §794

Individuals with Disabilities Education Law, 20 U.S.C. §§1400 *et seq.*

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Acts of 2008 P.L. 110-233

34 C.F.R. §§ 100.6; 104.8; 106.9; 110.25

New York State Human Rights Law, Executive Law §§290 *et seq.*

Education Law §§10-18 (The Dignity for All Students Act)

Education Law §§313(3); 3201, 3201-a

ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments, Website Accessibility Under Title II of the ADA (see Chapter 5 and Chapter 5 Addendum checklist), www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/toolkitmain.htm

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