

STUDENTS

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Equal Education, Nondiscrimination and Sex Equity

The District will make equal educational opportunities available for all students without regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, ethnicity, language barrier, religious belief, physical or mental handicap or disability, economic or social condition, actual or potential marital or parental status, gender identity, sexual orientation, or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity and no student will be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, or advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

Inquiries regarding discrimination or intimidation should be directed to the District Title IX Coordinator. Any individual may file a complaint alleging violation of this policy, Policy 3225-Sexual Harassment/Intimidation of Students, or Policy 3226-Bullying/Harassment/Intimidation/Hazing by following those policies or Policy 1700-Uniform Complaint Procedure.

The District, in compliance with federal regulations, will notify annually all students, parents, staff, and community members of this policy and the designated coordinator to receive inquiries. This annual notification will include the name and location of the coordinator and will be included in all handbooks.

The District will not tolerate hostile or abusive treatment, derogatory remarks, or acts of violence against students, staff, or volunteers with disabilities. The District will consider such behavior as constituting discrimination on the basis of disability, in violation of state and federal law.

Explanation:

This optional provision is provided for school districts that choose to maintain the standards established in May 2016 by the previous U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Justice.

In February 2017, the current U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Education rescinded and withdrew the guidance upon which these standards were based. The 2016 standards are no longer binding upon school districts. The withdrawal, however, does not affect other district policies establishing a safe education setting. Specifically, when rescinding the previous guidance in February 2017, the Departments also stated the following:

“Please note that this withdrawal of these guidance documents does not leave students without protections from discrimination, bullying, or harassment. All schools must ensure that all students, including LGBT students, are able to learn and thrive in a safe environment. The Department of Education Office for Civil Rights will continue its duty under law to hear all claims of discrimination and will explore every appropriate opportunity to protect all students and to encourage civility in our

classrooms. The Department of Education and the Department of Justice are committed to the

2 application of Title IX and other federal laws to ensure such protection.
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