

Regulation 5145.3: Nondiscrimination/Harassment

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 09/01/2016 | **Last Revised Date:** 10/25/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 10/25/2022

The District designates the individual(s) identified below as the employee(s) responsible for coordinating the District's efforts to comply with applicable state and federal civil rights laws and to answer inquiries regarding the District's nondiscrimination policies. The individual(s) shall also serve as the compliance officer(s) specified in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures as the responsible employee to handle complaints alleging unlawful discrimination targeting a student, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, or any other legally protected status or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. The coordinator/compliance officer(s) may be contacted at: (Education Code 234.1; 5 CCR 4621)

Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
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Measures to Prevent Discrimination

To prevent unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, and bullying, of students at District schools or in school activities and to ensure equal access of all students to the educational program, the Superintendent or designee shall implement the following measures:

1. Publicize the District's nondiscrimination policy and related complaint procedures, including the coordinator/compliance officer's contact information, to students, parents/guardians, employees, volunteers, and the general public by posting them in prominent locations and providing easy access to them through District-supported communications;
2. Post the District's policies and procedures prohibiting discrimination, harassment, student sexual harassment, intimidation, bullying, and cyberbullying, including a section on social media bullying that includes all of the references described in Education Code 234.6 as possible forums for social media, in a prominent location on the District's website in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students (Education Code 234.6);
3. Post the definition of sex discrimination and harassment as described in Education Code 230, including the rights set forth in Education Code 221.8, in a prominent location on the District's website in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students (Education Code 234.6);
4. Post in a prominent location on the District website in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students information regarding Title IX prohibitions against discrimination based on a student's sex, gender, gender identity, pregnancy, and parental

status, including the following: (Education Code 221.6, 221.61, 234.6);

- a. The name and contact information of the District's Title IX Coordinator, including the phone number and email address;
 - b. The rights of students and the public and the responsibilities of the District under Title IX, including a list of rights as specified in Education Code 221.8 and web links to information about those rights and responsibilities located on the websites of the Office for Equal Opportunity and the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR);
 - c. A description of how to file a complaint of noncompliance under Title IX, which shall include:
 - i. An explanation of the statute of limitations within which a complaint must be filed after an alleged incident of discrimination has occurred and how a complaint may be filed beyond the statute of limitations;
 - ii. An explanation of how the complaint will be investigated and how the complainant may further pursue the complaint, including web links to this information on the OCR's website;
 - iii. A web link to the OCR complaints form and the contact information for the office, including the phone number and email address for the office;
 - d. A link to the Title IX information included on the California Department of Education's (CDE) website;
5. Post a link to statewide CDE-compiled resources, including community-based organizations, that provide support to youth who have been subjected to school-based discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying and to their families. Such resources shall be posted in a prominent location on the District's website in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students. (Education Code 234.5, 234.6);
 6. Provide to students a handbook that contains age-appropriate information that clearly describes the District's nondiscrimination policy, procedures for filing a complaint, and resources available to students who feel that they have been the victim of any such behavior;
 7. Annually notify all students and parents/guardians of the District's nondiscrimination policy, including its responsibility to provide a safe, nondiscriminatory school environment for all students. The notice shall inform students and parents/guardians that they may request to meet with the compliance officer to determine how best to accommodate or resolve concerns that may arise from the District's implementation of its nondiscrimination policies. The notice shall also inform all students and parents/guardians that, to the extent possible, the District will address any individual student's interests and concerns in private;
 8. Ensure that students and parents/guardians, including those with limited English proficiency, are notified of how to access the relevant information provided in the District's nondiscrimination policy and related complaint procedures, notices, and forms in a language they can understand;

If 15 percent or more of students enrolled in a particular District school speak a single primary language other than English, the District's policy, regulation, forms, and notices concerning nondiscrimination shall be translated into that language in accordance with Education Code 234.1 and 48985. In all other instances, the District shall ensure meaningful

access to all relevant information for parents/guardians with limited English proficiency;

9. Provide to students, employees, volunteers, and parents/guardians age-appropriate training and/or information regarding the District's nondiscrimination policy; what constitutes prohibited discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying; how and to whom a report of an incident should be made; and how to guard against segregating or stereotyping students when providing instruction, guidance, supervision, or other services to them. Such training and information shall include details of guidelines the District may use to provide a discrimination-free environment for all District students;
10. At the beginning of each school year, inform school employees that any employee who witnesses any act of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, against a student is required to intervene if it is safe to do so. (Education Code 234.1);
11. At the beginning of each school year, inform each principal or designee of the District's responsibility to provide appropriate assistance or resources to protect students from threatened or potentially discriminatory behavior and ensure their privacy rights.

Enforcement of District Policy

The Superintendent or designee shall take appropriate actions to reinforce BP 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment. As needed, these actions may include any of the following:

1. Removing vulgar or offending graffiti;
2. Providing training to students, staff, and parents/guardians about how to recognize unlawful discrimination, how to report it or file a complaint, and how to respond;
3. Disseminating and/or summarizing the District's policy and regulation regarding unlawful discrimination;
4. Consistent with laws regarding the confidentiality of student and personnel records, communicating to students, parents/guardians, and the community the school's response plan to unlawful discrimination or harassment;
5. Taking appropriate disciplinary action against students, employees, and anyone determined to have engaged in wrongdoing in violation of District policy, including any student who is found to have filed a complaint of discrimination that the student knew was not true.

Process for Initiating and Responding to Complaints

Students who feel that they have been subjected to unlawful discrimination described above or in District policy are strongly encouraged to immediately contact the compliance officer, principal, or any other staff member. In addition, students who observe any such incident are strongly encouraged to report the incident to the compliance officer or principal, whether or not the alleged victim files a complaint.

Any school employee who observes an incident of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, or to whom such an incident is reported shall report the incident to the compliance officer or principal within a school day, whether or not the alleged victim files a complaint.

Any school employee who witnesses an incident of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, shall immediately intervene to stop the incident when it is safe to do so. (Education Code 234.1)

When a report of unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, is made to or received by the principal or compliance officer, the principal or compliance officer shall notify the student or parent/guardian of the right to file a formal complaint in accordance with AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures or, for complaints of sexual harassment that meet the federal Title IX definition, AR 5145.71 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures. Once notified verbally or in writing, the compliance officer shall begin the investigation and shall implement immediate measures necessary to stop the discrimination and ensure that all students have access to the educational program and a safe school environment. Any interim measures adopted to address unlawful discrimination shall, to the extent possible, not disadvantage the complainant or a student who is the victim of the alleged unlawful discrimination.

Any report or complaint alleging unlawful discrimination by the principal, compliance officer, or any other person to whom a report would ordinarily be made or complaint filed shall instead be made to or filed with the Superintendent or designee who shall determine how the complaint will be investigated.

Issues Unique to Intersex, Nonbinary, Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Students

Gender identity of a student means the student's gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior as determined from the student's internal sense, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the student's physiology or assigned sex at birth.

Gender expression means a student's gender-related appearance and behavior, whether stereotypically associated with the student's assigned sex at birth. (Education Code 210.7)

Gender transition refers to the process in which a student changes from living and identifying as the sex assigned to the student at birth to living and identifying as the sex that corresponds to the student's gender identity.

Gender-nonconforming student means a student whose gender expression differs from stereotypical expectations.

Intersex student means a student with natural bodily variations in anatomy, hormones, chromosomes, and other traits that differ from expectations generally associated with female and male bodies.

Nonbinary student means a student whose gender identity falls outside of the traditional conception of strictly either female or male, regardless of whether or not the student identifies as transgender, was born with intersex traits, uses gender-neutral pronouns, or uses agender, genderqueer, pangender, gender nonconforming, gender variant, or such other more specific term to describe their gender.

Transgender student means a student whose gender identity is different from the gender assigned at birth.

The District prohibits acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility that are based on sex, gender identity, or gender expression, or that have the purpose or effect of

producing a negative impact on the student's academic performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment, regardless of whether the acts are sexual in nature. Examples of the types of conduct which are prohibited in the District and which may constitute gender-based harassment include, but are not limited to:

1. Refusing to address a student by a name and the pronouns consistent with the student's gender identity;
2. Disciplining or disparaging a student or excluding the student from participating in activities, for behavior or appearance that is consistent with the student's gender identity or that does not conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity, as applicable;
3. Blocking a student's entry to the restroom that corresponds to the student's gender identity;
4. Taunting a student because the student participates in an athletic activity more typically favored by a student of the other sex;
5. Revealing a student's gender identity to individuals who do not have a legitimate need for the information, without the student's consent;
6. Using gender-specific slurs;
7. Physically assaulting a student motivated by hostility toward the student because of the student's gender, gender identity, or gender expression.

The District's uniform complaint procedures (AR 1312.3) or Title IX sexual harassment procedures (AR 5145.71), as applicable, shall be used to report and resolve complaints alleging discrimination against intersex, nonbinary, transgender, and gender-nonconforming students.

Examples of bases for complaints include, but are not limited to, the above list, as well as improper rejection by the District of a student's asserted gender identity, denial of access to facilities that correspond with a student's gender identity, improper disclosure of a student's gender identity, discriminatory enforcement of a dress code, and other instances of gender-based harassment.

To ensure that intersex, nonbinary, transgender, and gender-nonconforming students are afforded the same rights, benefits, and protections provided to all students by law and Board policy, the District shall address each situation on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. Right to privacy: A student's intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconforming status is the student's private information. The District shall develop strategies to prevent unauthorized disclosure of students' private information. Such strategies may include, but are not limited to, collecting or maintaining information about student gender only when relevant to the educational program or activity, protecting or revealing a student's gender identity as necessary to protect the health or safety of the student, and keeping a student's unofficial record separate from the official record;

The District shall only disclose the information to others with the student's prior written consent, except when the disclosure is otherwise required by law or when the District has compelling evidence that disclosure is necessary to preserve the student's physical or mental well-being. In any case, the District shall only allow disclosure of a student's personally identifiable information to employees with a legitimate educational interest as determined by the District pursuant to 34 CFR 99.31. Any District employee to whom a

student's intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconforming status is disclosed shall keep the student's information confidential. When disclosure of a student's gender identity is made to a District employee by a student, the employee shall seek the student's permission to notify the compliance officer. If the student refuses to give permission, the employee shall keep the student's information confidential, unless the employee is required to disclose or report the student's information pursuant to this administrative regulation, and shall inform the student that honoring the student's request may limit the District's ability to meet the student's needs related to the student's status as an intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconforming student. If the student permits the employee to notify the compliance officer, the employee shall do so within three school days;

As appropriate given the student's need for support, the compliance officer may discuss with the student any need to disclose the student's intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconformity status or gender identity or gender expression to the student's parents/guardians and/or others, including other students, teacher(s), or other adults on campus. The District shall offer support services, such as counseling, to students who wish to inform their parents/guardians of their status and desire assistance in doing so;

2. **Determining a Student's Gender Identity:** The compliance officer shall accept the student's assertion of gender identity and begin to treat the student consistent with that gender identity unless District personnel present a credible and supportable basis for believing that the student's assertion is for an improper purpose;
3. **Addressing a Student's Transition Needs:** The compliance officer shall arrange a meeting with the student and, if appropriate, the student's parents/guardians to identify and develop strategies for ensuring that the student's access to educational programs and activities is maintained. The meeting shall discuss the intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconforming student's rights and how those rights may affect and be affected by the rights of other students and shall address specific subjects related to the student's access to facilities and to academic or educational support programs, services, or activities, including, but not limited to, sports and other competitive endeavors. In addition, the compliance officer shall identify specific school site employee(s) to whom the student may report any problem related to the student's status as an intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconforming individual, so that prompt action can be taken to address it. Alternatively, if appropriate and desired by the student, the school may form a support team for the student that will meet periodically to assess whether the arrangements for the student are meeting the student's educational needs and providing equal access to programs and activities, educate appropriate staff about the student's transition, and serve as a resource to the student to better protect the student from gender-based discrimination;
4. **Accessibility to Sex-Segregated Facilities, Programs, and Activities:** When the District maintains sex-segregated facilities, such as restrooms and locker rooms, or offers sex-segregated programs and activities, such as physical education classes, intermural sports, and interscholastic athletic programs, students shall be permitted to access facilities and participate in programs and activities consistent with their gender identity. To address any student's privacy concerns in using sex-segregated facilities, the District shall offer available options such as a gender-neutral or single-use restroom or changing area, a bathroom stall with a door, an area in the locker room separated by a curtain or screen, or use of the locker room before or after the other students. However, the District shall not require a student to utilize these options because the student is intersex, nonbinary, transgender, or gender-nonconforming. In addition, a student shall be permitted to participate in accordance with the student's gender identity in other circumstances where students are separated by gender, such as for class discussions, yearbook pictures, and field trips. A student's right to participate in a sex-segregated activity in accordance with the student's gender identity shall not render invalid or inapplicable any other eligibility rule established for participation

in the activity;

5. Student Records: Upon each student's enrollment, the District is required to maintain a mandatory permanent student record (official record) that includes the student's gender and legal name;

A student's legal name as entered on the mandatory student record required pursuant to 5 CCR 432 shall only be changed with proper documentation. A student's gender as entered on the student's official record required pursuant to 5 CCR 432 shall only be changed with written authorization of a parent/guardian having legal custody of the student. (Education Code 49061);

However, when proper documentation or authorization, as applicable, is not submitted with a request to change a student's legal name or gender, any change to the student's record shall be limited to the student's unofficial records such as attendance sheets, report cards, and school identification;

6. Names and Pronouns: If a student so chooses, District personnel shall be required to address the student by a name and the pronoun(s) consistent with the student's gender identity, without the necessity of a court order or a change to the student's official District record. However, inadvertent slips or honest mistakes by District personnel in the use of the student's name and/or consistent pronouns will, in general, not constitute a violation of this administrative regulation or the accompanying District policy;
7. Uniforms/Dress Code: A student has the right to dress in a manner consistent with the student's gender identity, subject to any dress code adopted on a school site.

Policy Reference Disclaimer:

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
5 CCR 432	Student records
5 CCR 4600-4670	Uniform complaint procedures
5 CCR 4900-4965	Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary educational programs receiving state or federal financial assistance
Civ. Code 1714.1	Liability of parent or guardian for act of willful misconduct by a minor
Ed. Code 200-262.4	Prohibition of discrimination
Ed. Code 48900.3	Suspension or expulsion for act of hate violence
Ed. Code 48900.4	Suspension or expulsion for harassment, threats, or intimidation
Ed. Code 48904	Liability of parent/guardian for willful student misconduct
Ed. Code 48907	Exercise of free expression; time, place and manner rules and regulations
Ed. Code 48950	Speech and other communication

Ed. Code 48985	Notices to parents in language other than English
Ed. Code 49020-49023	Athletic programs
Ed. Code 49060-49079	Student records
Ed. Code 51500	Prohibited instruction or activity
Ed. Code 51501	Prohibited means of instruction
Ed. Code 60044	Prohibited instructional materials
Gov. Code 11135	Prohibition of discrimination
Pen. Code 422.55	Definition of hate crime
Pen. Code 422.6	Crimes; harassment
Federal	Description
20 USC 1681-1688	Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; discrimination based on sex
28 CFR 35.107	Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints
29 USC 794	Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Section 504
34 CFR 100.3	Prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color or national origin
34 CFR 104.7	Section 504; Designation of responsible employee and adoption of grievances procedures
34 CFR 104.8	Notice of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap
34 CFR 106.8	Designation of coordinator; dissemination of policy, and adoption of grievance procedures
34 CFR 106.9	Severability
34 CFR 110.25	Prohibition of discrimination based on age
34 CFR 99.31	Disclosure of personally identifiable information
42 USC 12101-12213	Americans with Disabilities Act
42 USC 2000d-2000e-17	Title VI and Title VII Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
42 USC 2000h-2-2000h-6	Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
42 USC 6101-6107	Age Discrimination Act of 1975
Management Resources	Description
CA Office of the Attorney General Publication	Promoting Safe & Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance & Model Policies to Assist CA K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues, 4/2018
Court Decision	Donovan v. Poway Unified School District, (2008) 167 Cal.App.4th 567
Court Decision	Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified School District, (2003, 9th Cir.) 324 F.3d 1130
CSBA Publication	Updated Legal Guidance: Protecting Transgender and

	Gender Nonconforming Students Against Sex Discrimination, March 2017
First Amendment Center Publication	Public Schools and Sexual Orientation: A First Amendment Framework for Finding Common Ground, 2006
U.S Dept of Ed Office for Civil Rights Publication	Resolution Agreement Between the Arcadia USD, US Dept of Ed, OCR, & the US DOJ, CRD, (2013) OCR 09-12-1020, DOJ 169-12C-70
U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Publication	Guid. to Fed Fin. Assist. Recipients Re. Title VI Prohibition Against Nat'l Origin Discrimination Affect Limited English Proficient Persons, Aug. 2013
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Examples of Policies and Emerging Practices for Supporting Transgender Students, May 2016
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Notice of Non-Discrimination, Fact Sheet, August 2010
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services
Website	First Amendment Center
Website	California Office of the Attorney General
Website	California Safe Schools Coalition
Website	CSBA
Website	California Department of Education
Website	U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights

Cross References

Code	Description
0410	Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities
0415	Equity
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
0470	COVID-19 Mitigation Plan
1114	District-Sponsored Social Media
1114	District-Sponsored Social Media
1240	Volunteer Assistance
1240	Volunteer Assistance
1312.1	Complaints Concerning District Employees

1312.1	Complaints Concerning District Employees
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3-E PDF(1)	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3-E PDF(2)	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1313	Civility
1340	Access To District Records
1340	Access To District Records
3515.4	Recovery For Property Loss Or Damage
3515.4	Recovery For Property Loss Or Damage
3530	Risk Management/Insurance
3530	Risk Management/Insurance
3553	Free And Reduced Price Meals
3553	Free And Reduced Price Meals
3580	District Records
3580	District Records
4112.6	Personnel Files
4112.9	Employee Notifications
4118	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4118	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4119.21	Professional Standards
4119.21-E PDF(1)	Professional Standards
4119.23	Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information
4131	Staff Development
4212.6	Personnel Files
4212.9	Employee Notifications
4218	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4218	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4219.21	Professional Standards
4219.21-E PDF(1)	Professional Standards
4219.23	Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information
4231	Staff Development
4312.6	Personnel Files

4312.9	Employee Notifications
4319.21	Professional Standards
4319.21-E PDF(1)	Professional Standards
4319.23	Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information
4331	Staff Development
5000	Concepts And Roles
5030	Student Wellness
5111	Admission
5111	Admission
5113.1	Chronic Absence And Truancy
5113.1	Chronic Absence And Truancy
5113.12	District School Attendance Review Board
5113.12	District School Attendance Review Board
5125	Student Records
5125	Student Records
5125.1	Release Of Directory Information
5125.1	Release Of Directory Information
5125.3	Challenging Student Records
5131	Conduct
5131.2	Bullying
5131.2	Bullying
5131.5	Vandalism And Graffiti
5132	Dress And Grooming
5132	Dress And Grooming
5137	Positive School Climate
5141.22	Infectious Diseases
5141.22	Infectious Diseases
5141.27	Food Allergies/Special Dietary Needs
5141.27	Food Allergies/Special Dietary Needs
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting
5141.52	Suicide Prevention
5141.52	Suicide Prevention

5144	Discipline
5144	Discipline
5144.1	Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process
5144.1	Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process
5144.2	Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process (Students With Disabilities)
5145.12	Search And Seizure
5145.2	Freedom Of Speech/Expression
5145.2	Freedom Of Speech/Expression
5145.6	Parent/Guardian Notifications
5145.7	Sexual Harassment
5145.7	Sexual Harassment
5145.71	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
5145.71-E PDF(1)	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
5145.9	Hate-Motivated Behavior
6142.8	Comprehensive Health Education
6142.8	Comprehensive Health Education
6143	Courses Of Study
6143	Courses Of Study
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6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities
6153	School-Sponsored Trips
6153	School-Sponsored Trips
6159.4	Behavioral Interventions For Special Education Students
6161.1	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials
6161.1	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials
6161.1-E PDF(1)	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials
6163.4	Student Use Of Technology
6163.4-E PDF(1)	Student Use Of Technology
6164.2	Guidance/Counseling Services
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth

