

Policy

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES/NONDISCRIMINATION

Code JAA Issued 3/16/22

It is the policy of the District to follow state and federal laws and guidelines pertaining to unlawful discrimination. The Board believes that the District must provide public education in an atmosphere where differences are understood and appreciated. The District should treat all persons fairly, with respect, and without discrimination or threats of violence or abuse.

Every student of this school district will have equal educational opportunities regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, sex, gender identity, age, genetic information, or any other protected trait or characteristic as may be required by federal or state law. The district schools will not refuse to admit or exclude any person based on these criteria. As required by Title IX and its implementing regulations, the District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs and activities.

This concept of equal educational opportunity serves as a guide for the Board and the staff in making decisions related to students. It will be the superintendent's responsibility for developing a plan and providing procedures to assure support of this policy. Each building principal will be responsible for working with the staff and students in his/her school to ensure equal opportunity for all students in all building level programs and activities.

Adopted 5/16/06; Revised 3/15/22

Legal references:

A. Federal Law:

1. Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. Section 2000c-6 - Prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin, among other factors, by public elementary and secondary schools.
2. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C.A. Section 2000d - No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.
3. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C.A. Sections 1681-86 - Prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex.

B. S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:

1. Section 59-1-435 - Religious Viewpoints Antidiscrimination Act.
2. Section 59-63-40 - Discrimination on account of race, creed, color, or national origin prohibited.

C. Federal Cases:

1. *Plyler vs. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202 (1982).