Policy 5145.3: Nondiscrimination/Harassment **Status:** ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 10/01/2014 | **Last Revised Date:** 07/01/2024 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 07/01/2024

This policy shall apply to all acts constituting unlawful discrimination or harassment related to school activity or to school attendance occurring within a district school, to acts which occur off campus or outside of school-related or school-sponsored activities but which may have an impact or create a hostile environment at school, and to all acts of the Governing Board and the Superintendent in enacting policies and procedures that govern the district.

The Board desires to provide a welcoming, safe, and supportive school environment that allows all students equal access to and opportunities in the district's academic, extracurricular, and other educational support programs, services, and activities. The Board prohibits, at any district school or school activity, unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying, of any student by anyone, based on the student's actual or perceived race; color; ancestry; nationality; national origin; immigration status; ethnic group identification; ethnicity; age; religion; pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy or lactation, including related medical conditions or recovery; parental, marital, and family status; physical or mental disability; medical condition; sex; sex stereotypes; sex characteristics; sexual orientation; gender; gender identity; gender expression; or genetic information; or, association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

Unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, may result from physical, verbal, nonverbal, or written conduct based on any of the categories listed above. Unlawful discrimination also occurs when prohibited conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity; creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment; has the effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's academic performance; or otherwise adversely affects a student's educational opportunities.

Unlawful discrimination also includes disparate treatment of students based on one of the categories above with respect to the provision of opportunities to participate in school programs or activities or the provision or receipt of educational benefits or services.

Because unlawful discrimination could occur when disciplining students, including suspension and expulsion, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that staff enforce discipline rules fairly, consistently and in a non-discriminatory manner, as specified in Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5144 - Discipline, Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process, and Administrative Regulation 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students With Disabilities).

The Board also prohibits any form of retaliation against any individual who reports or participates in the reporting of unlawful discrimination, files or participates in the filing of a complaint, or investigates, participates, or refuses to participate in the investigation of a complaint or report alleging unlawful discrimination. Retaliation complaints shall be investigated and resolved in the same manner as a discrimination complaint.

The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate students' access to the educational program by publicizing the district's nondiscrimination policy and related complaint procedures to students, parents/guardians, and employees. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall post the district's policies prohibiting discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying and other required information on the district's website in a manner that is easily accessible to parents/guardians and students, in accordance with law and the accompanying administrative regulation. (Education Code 234.1, 234.6; 34 CFR 106.8)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training and/or information on the scope and use of the policy and complaint procedures and take other measures designed to increase the school community's understanding of the requirements of law related to discrimination. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review the implementation of the district's nondiscrimination policies and practices and, as necessary, shall take action to remove any identified barrier to student access to or participation in the district's educational program. The Superintendent or designee shall report the findings and recommendations to the Board after each review.

Regardless of whether a complainant complies with the writing, timeline, and/or other formal filing requirements, all complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, shall be investigated and prompt action taken to stop the discrimination, prevent recurrence, and address any continuing effect on students.

Students who engage in unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, in violation of law, Board policy, or administrative regulation shall be subject to appropriate consequence or discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion when the behavior is severe or pervasive as defined in Education Code 48900.4. Any employee who permits or engages in prohibited discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

When a student has been suspended, or other means of correction have been implemented against the student for an incident of racist bullying, harassment, or intimidation, the principal or designee shall engage both the victim and perpetrator in a restorative justice practice suitable to the needs of the students. The principal or designee shall also require the perpetrator to engage in a culturally sensitive program that promotes racial justice and equity and combats racism and ignorance and shall regularly check on the victim to ensure that the victim is not in danger of suffering from any long-lasting mental health issues. (Education Code 48900.5)

When appropriate based on the severity or pervasiveness of the bullying, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parents/guardians of victims and perpetrators and may contact law enforcement.

Allegations of unlawful discrimination in district programs and activities shall be brought, investigated, and resolved in accordance with Board Policy 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures, when required by law. However, complaints alleging sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment, under Title IX shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with the procedures specified in 34 CFR 106.44 and 106.45 and Administrative Regulation 5145.71 - Title IX Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Complaint Procedures.

Record-Keeping

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of unlawful

discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, to enable the district to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive prohibited behavior in district schools.

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 17585	School modernization project; all-gender restroom
Ed. Code 200-262.4	Prohibition of discrimination
Ed. Code 33353	California Interscholastic Federation; standardized incident form
Ed. Code 35292.5	School restrooms; all-gender restrooms
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 48900.5	Suspension; other means of correction
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 51204.5	Social sciences instruction; contributions of specified groups
Ed. Code 51500	Prohibited instruction or activity
Ed. Code 51501	Nondiscriminatory subject matter
Ed. Code 60010	Instructional materials; definition
Ed. Code 60040-60052	Requirements for 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 106.1-106.82	Discrimination on the basis of sex; effectuating Title IX

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**
34 CFR 106.30	Discrimination on the basis of sex; definitions
CA Office of the Attorney General Publication	Guidance to School Officials re: Legal Requirements for Providing Inclusive Curricula and Books, January 2024
CA Office of the Attorney General Publication	Promoting a Safe and Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance and Model Policies to Assist California's K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues, April 2018
California Department of Education Publication	California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) Update FLASH #158: Guidance for Changing a Student's Gender in CALPADS, July 2019
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	Reference: State Roles, Responsibilities, and Process for Instructional Materials Adoption, February 2024
CSBA Publication	Fact Sheet: Instructional Materials Adoption: Local governing board responsibilities, February 2024
CSBA Publication	Instructional Materials Adoptions: State and local governing board processes, roles, and responsibilities, February 2024
CSBA Publication	Legal Guidance on Rights of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students in Schools, October 2022
Federal Register	Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance, April 29, 2024, Vol. 89, No. 83, pages 33474-33896
U.S DOE, 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. Department of Education Publication	Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer and Religious Expression in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools, May 2023
U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Publication	Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons, August 2013
U.S. DOE & U.S. DOJ Civil Rights Divisions Pub	Dear Colleague Letter: Resource on Confronting Racial Discrimination in Student Discipline, May 2023
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Dear Colleague Letter: Protecting Students from Discrimination, such as Harassment, Based on Race, Color, or National Origin, Including Shared Ancestry or Ethnic Characteristics, May 2024
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Dear Colleague Letter: Discrimination, Including Harassment, Based on Shared Ancestry or Ethnic Characteristics, November 2023

U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Enforcement of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 With Respect to Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Light of Bostock v. Clayton County, June 2021
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Dear Colleague Letter: Addressing Discrimination Against Jewish Students, May 2023
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	U.S. Department of Education Toolkit: Creating Inclusive and Nondiscriminatory School Environments for LGBTQI+ Students, June 2023
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Questions and Answers on the Title IX Regulations on Sexual Harassment, June 2022
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Supporting Students with Disabilities and Avoiding the Discriminatory Use of Student Discipline under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Dear Colleague Letter: Race and School Programming, August 2023
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services
Website	First Amendment Center
Website	California Interscholastic Federation
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
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
1312.2	Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials
1312.2	Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials
1312.2-E(1)	Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3-E(1)	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3-E(2)	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.4	Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.4-E(1)	Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.4-E(2)	Williams 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
4112.9-E(1)	Employee Notifications
4118	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4118	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4119.11	Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment
4119.11	Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment
4119.21	Professional Standards
4119.21-E(1)	Professional Standards
4119.23	Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information
4131	Staff Development
4212.6	Personnel Files
4212.9	Employee Notifications
4212.9-E(1)	Employee Notifications
4218	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4218	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4219.11	Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment
4219.11	Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment
4219.21	Professional Standards
4219.21-E(1)	Professional Standards
4219.23	Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information
4231	Staff Development
4312.6	Personnel Files
4312.9	Employee Notifications
4312.9-E(1)	Employee Notifications
4319.11	Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment
4319.11	Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment
4319.21	Professional Standards
4319.21-E(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
5116.2	Involuntary Student Transfers
5125	Student Records
5125	Student Records
5125.1	Release Of Directory Information
5125.1	Release Of Directory Information
5125.1-E(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
5138	Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation
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
5145.12	Search And Seizure
5145.2	Freedom Of Speech/Expression
5145.2	Freedom Of Speech/Expression
5145.6	Parent/Guardian Notifications
5145.6-E(1)	Parent/Guardian Notifications
5145.7	Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment
5145.7	Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment
5145.71	Title IX Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Complaint Procedures
5145.71-E(1)	Title IX Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Complaint Procedures
5145.9	Hate-Motivated Behavior
5146	Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students
6142.1	Sexual Health And HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction
6142.1	Sexual Health And HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction
6142.8	Comprehensive Health Education
6142.8	Comprehensive Health Education
6143	Courses Of Study
6143	Courses Of Study
6144	Controversial Issues
6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities
6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities
6145.2	Athletic Competition
6145.2	Athletic Competition
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(1)	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials
6161.11	Supplementary Instructional Materials
6163.1	Library Media Centers
6163.4	Student Use Of Technology
6163.4-E(1)	Student Use Of Technology
6164.2	Guidance/Counseling Services
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth
7110	Facilities Master Plan