

NONDISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT

The Governing 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.

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

(cf. [0410](#) - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. [5131](#) - Conduct)

(cf. [5131.2](#) - Bullying)

(cf. [5137](#) - Positive School Climate)

(cf. [5145.7](#) - Sexual Harassment)

(cf. [5145.9](#) - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

(cf. [5146](#) - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

(cf. [6164.6](#) - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

The Board prohibits, at any district school or activity, unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying, against an individual or group based on one, or a combination of two or more, protected characteristics, which include, but may not be limited to, race or ethnicity; ancestry; color; ethnic group identification; nationality; national origin; immigration status; sex; sexual orientation; sex stereotypes; gender; gender identity; gender expression; religion; disability; medical condition; genetic information; pregnancy, false pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or related conditions or recovery; and parental, marital, and family status; a perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. (Education Code 200, 210.1, 210.2, 212, 212.1, 220, 221.51, 230, 260; Government Code 11135, 12926; 20 USC 1681-1688, 42 USC 2000d-2000d-7)

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 district 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

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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; 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 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.

(cf. [1312.3](#) - *Uniform Complaint Procedures*)

(cf. [1330](#) - *Use of Facilities*)

(cf. [4131](#) - *Staff Development*)

(cf. [4231](#) - *Staff Development*)

(cf. [4331](#) - *Staff Development*)

(cf. [6145](#) - *Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities*)

(cf. [6145.2](#) - *Athletic Competition*)

(cf. [6164.2](#) - *Guidance/Counseling Services*)

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 related to a district activity, attendance, or district-related or district-sponsored activity, including

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discriminatory harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or bullying, shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

(cf. [4118](#) - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. [4119.21/4219.21/4319.21](#) - Professional Standards)

(cf. [4218](#) - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

(cf. [5144](#) - Discipline)

(cf. [5144.1](#) - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. [5144.2](#) - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

(cf. [5145.2](#) - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

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 may engage both the victim and perpetrator in a restorative justice practice suitable to the needs of the students. The principal or designee may also require the perpetrator to engage in a culturally sensitive program that promotes racial justice and equity and combats racism and ignorance and 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.

Complaints alleging unlawful discrimination in district programs and activities shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with Board Policy 1312.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures, when required by law. However, complaints alleging sexual harassment, under Title IX shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with the procedures specified in Administrative Regulation 5145.71 – Title IX Sexual 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.

(cf. [3580](#) - District Records)

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE

[200-262.4](#) Prohibition of discrimination

[48900.3](#) Suspension or expulsion for act of hate violence

[48900.4](#) Suspension or expulsion for threats or harassment

[48904](#) Liability of parent/guardian for willful student misconduct

[48907](#) Student exercise of free expression

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[48950](#) *Freedom of speech*

[48985](#) *Translation of notices*

[49020-49023](#) *Athletic programs*

[49060-49079](#) *Student records*

[51500](#) *Prohibited instruction or activity*

[51501](#) *Prohibited means of instruction*

[60044](#) *Prohibited instructional materials*

CIVIL CODE

[1714.1](#) *Liability of parents/guardians for willful misconduct of minor*

GOVERNMENT CODE

[11135](#) *Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state*

PENAL CODE

[422.55](#) *Definition of hate crime*

[422.6](#) *Crimes, harassment*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

[432](#) *Student record*

[4600-4670](#) *Uniform complaint procedures*

[4900-4965](#) *Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

[1681-1688](#) *Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

[794](#) *Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

[2000d-2000e-17](#) *Title VI and Title VII Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended*

[2000h-2-2000h-6](#) *Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964*

[6101-6107](#) *Age Discrimination Act of 1975*

[12101-12213](#) *Title II equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

[35.107](#) *Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

[99.31](#) *Disclosure of personally identifiable information*

[100.3](#) *Prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color or national origin*

[104.7](#) *Designation of responsible employee for Section 504*

[104.8](#) *Notice*

[106.8](#) *Designation of responsible employee for Title IX*

[106.9](#) *Notification of nondiscrimination on basis of sex*

[110.25](#) *Prohibition of discrimination based on age*

COURT DECISIONS

Donovan v. Poway Unified School District, (2008) 167 Cal.App.4th 567

Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified School District, (2003) 324 F.3d 1130

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Updated Legal Guidance: Protecting Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students Against Sex Discrimination, March 2017

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

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

FIRST AMENDMENT CENTER PUBLICATIONS

Public Schools and Sexual Orientation: A First Amendment Framework for Finding Common Ground, 2006

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS

Examples of Policies and Emerging Practices for Supporting Transgender Students, May 2016

Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015

Resolution Agreement Between the Arcadia Unified School District, U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, and the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, (2013) OCR 09-12-1020, DOJ 169-12C-70

NONDISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT (continued)

Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010

Notice of Non-Discrimination, Fact Sheet, August 2010

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES PUBLICATIONS

Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons, August 2003

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Office of the Attorney General: <http://oag.ca.gov>

California Safe Schools Coalition: <http://www.casafeschools.org>

First Amendment Center: <http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

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Policy

Adopted: January 4, 2012

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Revised: August 5, 2020

Revised: December 13, 2023

Revised: July, 2024

Revised: June 25, 2025

BIGGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Biggs, California