# **EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**

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The District is committed and dedicated to the task of providing the best education possible for every student in the District.

The right of the student to be admitted to school and to participate fully in curricular, career and technical education, co-curricular, student services, recreational or other programs or activities shall not be abridged or impaired because of a student's sex, race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap, or any other legally protected status or classification.

Children of homeless individuals and unaccompanied homeless youth (youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) residing in the District shall have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including comparable services, as provided to other children and youth who reside in the District. Homeless children and youth shall not be required to attend a separate school or program for homeless children and shall not be stigmatized by school personnel.

The District shall provide appropriate educational services and/or programs for students who have been identified as having a disability, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability, and regardless of whether the student qualifies for the District's special education programs. Facilities modifications necessary to provide for appropriate access and participation for persons with disabilities shall be made to the extent required by law.

The District shall also provide for the reasonable accommodation of a student's sincerely held religious beliefs with regard to examinations and other academic requirements. Requests for accommodations shall be made in writing and approved by the building principal. Accommodations may include, but not necessarily be limited to, exclusion from participation in an activity, alternative assignments, released time from school to participate in religious activities, and opportunities to make up work missed due to religious

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observances. Any accommodations granted under this policy shall be provided to students without prejudicial effect.

Reporting of complaints regarding the interpretation or application of this policy shall be referred to the *District Administrator* and processed in accordance with established procedures.

Notice of this policy and its accompanying reporting procedures shall be published at the beginning of each school year and posted in each school building in the District. In addition, a student nondiscrimination statement shall be included in student and staff handbooks, course selection handbooks and other published materials distributed to the public describing school activities and opportunities.

### **Legal References:**

### **WISCONSIN STATUTES**

- <u>Section 118.13</u> [student nondiscrimination; policy/procedures required]
- <u>Section 118.134</u> [race-based nicknames, logos, mascots]

### **WISCONSIN ADMINISTRATIVE CODE**

- <u>PI9</u> [student nondiscrimination; policy/procedure/notice required]
- <u>PI 41</u> [accommodating student religious beliefs; policy required]

#### **FEDERAL LAWS**

- <u>Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972</u> [sex discrimination]
- <u>Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964</u> [race, color and national original discrimination]
- <u>Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act</u> [handicap discrimination; accommodations]
- Americans with Disabilities Act [disability discrimination; accommodations]
- <u>Individuals with Disabilities Education Act</u> [programs and services for students with disabilities]
- McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [equal access for homeless students; required policies to remove barriers]

### **Cross References:**

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