

SCHOOL-BASED DECISION MAKING

School: J. GRAHAM BROWN SCHOOL

Subject of the Policy: SCHOOL SPACE POLICY

Policy Statement:

The principal will have the responsibility of assigning school space during the school day based on the following criteria: class size, program need, accessibility for students, appropriate supervision of students, safety, close proximity of instructional teaching teams, overall effective school management, academic and diverse needs of students, and improving classroom teaching and learning.

The principal will inform the faculty and staff in writing of space assignments for the next school year by **May 15**. Changes in space assignment will only be made after **May 15** due to an increase/decrease in a class/program or the addition or abolishment of a class/program. If a change is necessary, the principal will notify those affected as soon as possible to explain the necessity of the change.

Restroom Accessibility

Two restroom locations will be labeled as Gender Neutral Restrooms. One restroom is located on the third floor and is accessible to all middle and high school students. The other restroom is on the first floor near stairwell #10 and is accessible both during the school day and during after-school events.

Physical Privacy and Safety of Students

- a.) Students may not use restrooms, locker rooms, or shower rooms that are reserved for students of a different biological sex; A student's biological sex shall be recorded in the District student data system as reported by the student's parent/guardian; and
- b.) If a student asserts to school officials that his/her/their gender is different from his/her/their biological sex and whose parent/guardian provides written consent to school officials with the best available accommodation, accommodation shall not include the use of school restrooms, locker rooms, or shower rooms designated for use by students of a different biological sex while students of a different biological sex are present or could be present.

Accommodations may include but are not limited to access to, single-stall restrooms or controlled use of faculty bathrooms, locker rooms, or shower rooms.

Exception to Policy for a Student with Gender Dysphoria

The American Psychiatric Association describes Gender Dysphoria as a condition characterized by "psychological distress that results from an incongruence between one's sex assigned at birth and one's gender identity." To meet the criteria for a diagnosis of Gender Dysphoria under the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition (DSM-5), the condition

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must be associated with clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational and other important areas of functioning.

A diagnosis of gender dysphoria may support a finding that a student has a disability and is eligible for either a 504 Plan under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or an Individual Education Program (IEP) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Such accommodations may include permitting access and use of a certain restroom for a student, which may include the bathroom(s) consistent with the student's gender identity.

Date of First Reading: September 5, 2023

Date of Second Reading: October 10, 2023

Date Adopted: **October 10, 2023**

Signature: Angela Parsons
(SBDM Council Chairperson)