

NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITIES

Policy Code: **1730/4022/7231**

The board of education will not discriminate against qualified persons with disabilities on the basis of a disability. This non-discrimination policy includes, but is not limited to, benefits of and participation in system programs and activities. The system will provide aids, benefits and school services to a person with disabilities in the most integrated school setting appropriate to his or her needs so that he or she may have an opportunity commensurate to that provided to persons without disabilities to obtain the same results, gain the same benefit or reach the same level of achievement.

The superintendent is directed to develop appropriate procedures to implement this nondiscrimination policy. The superintendent or designee shall:

1. submit an assurance of nondiscrimination with each application for federal financial assistance;
2. designate a person to coordinate the system's efforts to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504") and its regulations;
3. designate a person to coordinate the system's efforts to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and its regulations;
4. publish the name, office address and phone number of the Section 504 coordinator and the ADA coordinator in a manner intended to ensure that employees, applicants, students, parents, and other individuals who participate in the school system's programs are aware of the coordinators;
5. make complaint procedures available as provided in policy 1720/4015/7225, Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Complaint Procedure, which provides opportunities for prompt and equitable resolutions to complaints alleging actions prohibited by Section 504 or ADA or regulations for these statutes;
6. provide notice that the school system does not discriminate on the basis of disability in violation of Section 504 or the ADA, or their implementing regulations, and make such notice accessible to employees, applicants, students, and parents;
7. make reasonable accommodations for qualifying applicants or employees with disabilities; however, a reasonable accommodation does not include an accommodation that demonstrably would impose an undue hardship on the program or would fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program or activity;
8. not inquire about any disabilities that may need accommodation until after an applicant has been made an offer and, additionally, avoid using employment tests or other selection criteria that tend to screen out persons with disabilities unless the criteria are

demonstrably job-related and effective alternatives are not available; and

9. provide a free appropriate public education to each qualified student with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 and its regulations.

Legal References: Americans With Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12101, 28 C.F.R. pt. 35; Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 705(20), 794, 34 C.F.R. pt. 104

Cross References: Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Complaint Procedure (policy 1720/4015/7225)

Adopted: March 2, 2009

Revised: December 2009