Etiwanda School District Pupils and Parents/Guardians Notice of District Anti-Discrimination, Anti-Harassment, Anti-Intimidation, and Anti-Bullying Policies

The Etiwanda School District is committed to providing a safe school environment that allows students' equal access and opportunities in the District's academic, extracurricular, and other educational support programs, services, and activities. Etiwanda School District policies, including Board Policies 5131, 5131.2, and 5145.3, and Administrative Policies 5131.2 and 5145.3, prohibit discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students and staff based on actual or perceived protected characteristics, as listed below, including sexual harassment, hate-motivated behavior, cyberbullying, hazing or initiation activity, extortion, or any other verbal, written, or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause violence, bodily harm, or substantial disruption. This policy applies to all acts related to school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of Etiwanda School District.

Protected characteristics include:

- Disability
- Gender
- Nationality
- Race or ethnicity
- Religion
- Sexual orientation
- Gender identity
- Gender expression
- Immigration status
- Association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics

Pursuant to Education Code 48900 (r), "bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils, directed toward one or more pupils that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- (A) Placing a reasonable pupil or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil's or those pupils' person or property.
- (B) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.
- (C) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance.
- (D) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

To the extent possible, District and school strategies shall focus on prevention of bullying by establishing clear rules for student conduct and strategies to establish a positive, collaborative school climate. Students shall be informed, through student handbooks and other appropriate means, of district and school rules related to bullying, mechanisms available for reporting incidents or threats, and the consequences for perpetrators of bullying.

Pupils in grades 4 through 12 in violation of the District's anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, anti-intimidation, and anti-bullying policies may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion pursuant to Education Code sections 48900 et seq. if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has intentionally engaged in harassment, threats, or intimidation, directed against school district personnel or pupils, that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to have the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting class work, creating substantial disorder, and invading the rights of either school personnel or pupils by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment.

REPORTING

Any person who has been a target of, or who has witnessed, discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying on school grounds, during school activities, or going to/coming from school is highly encouraged to report the incident immediately to a counselor, administrator, or other adult personnel on campus. Students have an option of reporting the incident anonymously through the Bullying/Harassment Complaint form located at the school or online on the district's webpage at https://espri-web.etiwanda.org/ReportBullying/.

School personnel who witness an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying based on actual or perceived protected characteristics, as listed above, must take immediate steps to intervene when it is safe to do so.

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COMPLAINT PROCESS

All complaints of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying based on any of the actual or perceived protected characteristics, as listed above, will be investigated and resolved in accordance with law and the Etiwanda District's Uniform Complaint Procedures specified in AR 1312.3. The student who filed the complaint shall have an opportunity to describe the incident, present witnesses and other evidence of the bullying or harassment, and put his/her complaint in writing. Within 60 days of written notification of the alleged incident, the principal or designee shall present documentation to the parent of the student who filed the complaint. The documentation shall include findings, the decision, and the reason for the decision. If the student/parent is in disagreement with the resolution of a complaint, they may appeal the Etiwanda School District's findings to the California Department of Education by filing a written appeal within 30 days of the date of the investigation report.

TRANSFER REQUEST

A child who has been reported as the target of a violent offense or bullying as defined by state law is entitled to transfer to another school within or outside the District, under California Education Code § 46600(b). School placement is contingent upon space availability. Transfer requests can be obtained at the Etiwanda Education Center, Pupil Services Department located at 6061 East Avenue, Etiwanda, CA 91739.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Director of Pupil Services 6061 East Avenue, Etiwanda, CA 91739 (909) 899-2451