

Nondiscrimination Policy

It is the policy of the South Shore School District that no person be denied admission to any public school or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil service, recreational or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, age, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability as required by Section 118/13 of the statutes. This policy also prohibits discrimination as defined by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (color, race and national origin) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (disability).

The School Districts encourage informal resolution of complaints under this policy. Feel free to contact the person listed below for your School District whenever there is a question or concern.

A formal complaint resolution procedure is also available to address allegations of violation of the student nondiscrimination policy in the school district.

1. Report the complaint, in writing, to the contact person for your District listed below.
2. Written acknowledgment of a complaint will be processed within twenty (20) days of the receipt of the written complaint. An investigation will be thoroughly conducted. Within fifty (50) days after receiving the complaint, the contact person shall decide the merits of the case, determine the action to be taken, if any, and report in writing the findings and the resolution of the case to the grievant.
3. If the grievant is dissatisfied with the decision, he/she may, within five (5) business days of such decision, appeal the decision in writing to the School Board. The School Board shall hear the appeal at its next regular business meeting, or a special meeting may be called for the purpose of hearing the appeal. The School Board shall make its decision in writing within ninety (90) days after the School District's receipt of the complaint, unless the parties agree to an extension of time. Copies of the written decision shall be mailed or delivered to the grievant.
4. If the grievant is dissatisfied with the School Board's decision, he/she may within thirty (30) days appeal the decision in writing to the State Superintendent.
5. Complainants are reminded that appeals may also be made to the Regional Director of the Office of Civil Rights for federal discrimination law violations.

Any questions concerning this policy should be directed to Clendon Gustafson, District Administrator at 774-3500 ext. 610. (Policy #'s 112, 411, 400 and 551).