

PROPOSED REVISIONS

(See pages 2 and 3)

Parent Portal

The District shall establish a parent portal on the District's website through which parents may submit comments to campus administrators, District administrators, and the Board.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations related to the portal, including placement on the District or campus websites and how campus or District administrators are to address comments received from parents through the portal.

Student Welfare: Parental Authority and Partnership

Overview

The Board has an obligation to provide all students with a safe, healthy, supportive, respectful, and developmentally appropriate learning environment. The Board intends to foster trust and transparency between the District and the parents of its students. To that end, the Board supports the fundamental rights of parents to direct the care and upbringing of their children, including the right to be informed of and involved in all aspects of their children's education.

Purpose

The objectives of this policy are:

1. To reiterate the Board's commitment to the inherent authority of parents to raise their minor children and receive full and accurate information about their children.
2. To emphasize that parents shall be full partners with educators in the education of their children.
3. To ensure neutrality and objectivity in classroom instruction.
4. To encourage a productive academic environment focused on developmentally appropriate student learning.
5. To safeguard the privacy and security of all students with sex-specific privacy spaces, including bathrooms, changing facilities, showers, and locker rooms.
6. Fluidity content is excluded from the classroom and instructional materials.
7. District staff shall not diagnose or treat gender dysphoria and shall respect the right of the parent to determine what is best for the welfare of their child.

Definitions

In this policy, the following definitions apply:

Gender Fluidity

Any belief, theory, or ideology that:

1. Espouses the view that gender is merely a social construct;

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FA
(LOCAL)

2. Espouses the view that it is possible for a person to be any gender or no gender (i.e. non-binary);
3. Espouses the view that an individual's biological sex should be changed to "match" a gender different from that person's biological sex; and
4. Support hormone therapy or other medical treatments or procedures to temporarily or permanently alter a person's body so that is "matches" a gender different from that person's biological sex.

Parent

A person standing in parental relation. The term does not include a person as to whom the parent-child relationship has been terminated or a person not entitled to possession of or access to a child under a court order.

Child or Minor

A person under 18 years of age who is not and has not been married or who has not had the disabilities of a minor removed for general purposes. Except as provided by federal law, all rights of a parent shall be exercised by a student who is 18 years of age or older or whose disabilities of minority have been removed for general purposes, unless the student has been determined to be incompetent or the student's rights have been otherwise restricted by a court order.

Biological Sex

The sex of such person:

1. As listed on the person's official birth certificate, subject to the requirements of ~~Tex. Educ. Code §~~ [Education Code](#) 33.0834;
2. If the person's official birth certificate is unobtainable, as listed on another government-issued record; or
3. As modified by a court order.

Parental Rights and Authority

The fundamental right of parents to direct the upbringing of their children is inherent and shall not be compromised.

The District shall operate under the following guiding principles:

1. Parents have the right to raise their children, including their moral and religious upbringing.
2. School officials shall partner with parents concerning their children's education.
3. Except where limited by law, parents are entitled to full information regarding their children's school activities, including all written records, state assessments, and teaching materials.

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FA
(LOCAL)

4. Parents have the right to make medical decisions for their children.

The District shall only withhold information about a student from the student's parents to the extent authorized by law, and only to the minimum extent necessary.

This policy controls over any other Board policy that may conflict with these statements.

~~Student Gender
Identity and
Parental Notification
and Consent~~

District staff shall not refer to or address minor students by a different name or pronouns that differ from their biological sex, in the course and scope of their employment, ~~without written authorization from a parent.~~

Student Gender Identity
and Parental Notification

~~In the event an adult student or a minor student with written authorization from a parent requests the use of specific pronouns, District staff interacting with the student may comply with the request.~~

The District cannot and shall not compel District employees or other students to address or refer to students in any manner that would violate the speaker's First Amendment rights. Any District employee who objects to using a student's preferred pronouns inconsistent with the student's biological sex shall not be forced to do so. In those cases, District employees may refer to the student by last name or other neutral means, with a focus on respecting the dignity of students and rights of their parents.

~~The document authorizing the change of name and/or pronoun shall be kept on file in the District's administrative offices. This policy does not require parental consent for shortened versions of the legal name of a student.~~

The District shall not be responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of gender dysphoria. The Board acknowledges that District volunteers and staff, including counselors are not employed as experts in diagnosing, affirming, or treating gender dysphoria or related mental health conditions and are prohibited from doing so. Parents have the right to determine whether to seek professional and medical support for their child.

~~Except in kindergarten-grade 5,~~ The District shall only send notifications to the parents if their minor child requests he or she be identified as transgender, changes his or her name, or use different pronouns at school. The administration may create a process that allows District personnel to fulfill their obligation to provide the parental notice required by this paragraph. Such notice may be given by designated District administration, campus counselor, or a family support specialist.

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FA
(LOCAL)

Age-Appropriate
Instruction

Except where required by state-approved curriculum requirements, the District shall not require instruction on human sexuality. Classroom instruction, announcements on human sexuality, or messaging of gender-related concepts shall not be given in kindergarten through grade 5. Neutral and objective instruction on human sexuality may occur, if reasonably related to the course curriculum, in classes during grades 9-12. Parents must be:

1. Notified at the beginning of the school that the course involves those topics; and
2. Provided an opportunity to temporarily remove their children from the instruction as described below.

Except where required by law, the District shall not test or grade students based on human sexuality instruction.

Parents retain the authority to temporarily remove their children from instruction provided the student still meets grade level or graduation requirements, completes required tests, and is not prevented from attending class during the entire semester. Additionally, in classes involving human sexuality instruction, parents retain the authority to remove their children from any portion of human sexuality instruction without penalty.

Controversial
Materials

Consideration of controversial issues has a legitimate place in the instructional program of the District.

For purposes of this policy, a controversial issue means anything that is the subject of intense public argument, disagreement, or disapproval. This includes issues which may have political, social, or personal impacts on students and/or the community, and it includes issues that are likely to arouse both support and opposition in the community.

Properly introduced and conducted, the consideration of such issues can help students learn to identify important issues, explore fully and fairly all sides of an issue, carefully weigh the values and factors involved, and develop techniques for formulating and evaluating positions.

The Board permits the introduction of controversial issues provided that their use in the instructional program:

1. Is related to the instructional goals of the course of study;
2. Is age-appropriate for the students;
3. Does not influence or persuade students to a particular point of view;

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FA
(LOCAL)

4. Encourages analytical thinking and open-mindedness;
5. Does not create a hostile school environment; or
6. Must be educational and pertain to material in alignment with SBOE and TEA guidelines under House Bill HB1605 Legislative 88th Regular Session.

Safeguarding Sex-Specific Spaces and District Privacy Facilities

Sex-specific spaces shall be protected to provide students privacy, safety, and accessibility.

The District administration, staff, and faculty shall comply with the Texas Education Code and UIL regulations regarding privacy facilities, restrooms, locker rooms and sports.

The District shall maintain privacy facilities separated by biological sex. Individuals shall use the privacy facilities corresponding to their biological sex unless a reasonable accommodation is granted for students seeking privacy.

Exceptions to this policy include custodial or maintenance staff when the privacy facility is not occupied by a member of the opposite sex and persons rendering medical assistance or aid during a natural disaster, emergency, or when there is a serious threat to student safety.

Any student may request to use an alternative private restroom, such as the nurse's office, and the District shall work with the student to implement the accommodation.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to prohibit schools from adopting policies necessary to accommodate students with disabilities or young children in need of physical assistance when using privacy facilities.

Gender Fluid Materials

No course of instruction, unit of study, materials, instructional materials, or any other curricular or District-sponsored extracurricular offerings adopting, supporting, or promoting gender fluidity shall be used or introduced in any District classroom. This prohibition shall also include any such materials or instructional materials that a teacher or administrator might seek to provide to any student, including any situation in which a teacher or administrator would allow a student to "borrow" such materials or instructional materials from the District staff member's private collection. Any materials or instructional materials adopting, supporting, or promoting gender fluidity, including but not limited to displays, communications, and related signage, is prohibited in the District's schools and classrooms.

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FA
(LOCAL)

No District staff shall instruct, refer, or otherwise guide any student to any Internet website, chat room, or other online forum for publication for instruction or other information regarding gender fluidity, unless such website, chat room, or other online forum has been approved for use in the District's instructional materials or without parental consent. [See EFA]