

Section 500 – Students

Educational Equity

File: 501.01

The District is committed to equity and excellence for all students. Educational equity is defined as providing all students, regardless of socioeconomic status, race (including skin color, hair texture, and protective hairstyles), ethnicity, language, religion, sex, gender, orientation, cognitive/physical ability, or mobility the high-quality instruction and support needed to reach and exceed state educational standards.

The district will identify and address any disparities that result in low-income students and minority students being taught at higher rates than other students by ineffective, inexperienced, or out-of-field teachers.

To achieve educational equity, the District will commit to:

1. using district-wide and individual school-level data disaggregated, when appropriate, by socioeconomic status, race/ethnicity, national origin, language, special education, and mobility, to inform district decision making;
2. working to raise the achievement of all students; and
3. graduating all students ready to succeed.

In order to reach the goal of educational equity for each and every student, the District shall monitor students' progress in meeting the state academic standards by:

1. developing and implementing a well-rounded program of instruction to meet the academic needs of all students;
2. identifying students who may be at risk for academic failure;
3. supporting efforts to reduce the overuse of discipline practices that remove students from the classroom;
4. providing additional educational assistance to individual students the District determines need help in meeting the state academic standards; and
5. identifying and implementing instructional and other strategies intended to strengthen academic programs and improve school conditions for student learning.

The District will provide organized, system-wide means of incorporating educational equity into its educational program by:

1. Providing every student with access to high quality curriculum, support, and other educational resources;
2. Providing multiple pathways to success in order to meet the needs of the entire student body and actively encourage, support, and expect high academic achievement for each student;
3. Working to create schools with a safe, supportive and inclusive environment; and
4. Seeking to promote educational equity as a priority in professional development.

The Superintendent will include equity practices leading to specific goals and strategies in the District's school improvement plan. The Superintendent will periodically report to the Board on progress in the implementation of this policy.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. §6312