

## Equal Educational Opportunities

The South Shore School District is committed and dedicated to the task of providing the best education possible for every student in the district for as long as the student can benefit from attendance and the student's conduct is compatible with the welfare of the entire student body.

The right of the student to be admitted to school and to participate fully in curricular, co-curricular, student services, recreational or other programs or activities shall not be abridged or impaired because of a student's sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, age, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability, or other basis prohibited under state or federal law. Facilities modifications necessary to provide a student with equal opportunities shall be made as required by law and permitted by budgetary limitations.

Complaints regarding the interpretation or application of this policy shall be referred to the building principal and processed in accordance with established procedures.

- a. Students who have been identified as having a handicap or disability, under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Americans with Disabilities Act, shall be provided with reasonable accommodations in educational services or programs. Students may be considered handicapped or disabled under this policy even if they are not covered under the district's special education policies and procedures.
- b. The district shall provide for the reasonable accommodation of a student's sincerely held religious beliefs with regard to examinations and other academic requirements. Requests for accommodations shall be made in writing and approved by the building principal. Accommodations may include, but not necessarily be limited to, exclusion from participation in an activity, alternative assignments, released time from school to participate in religious activities and opportunities to make up work missed due to religious observances. Any accommodations granted under this policy shall be provided to students without prejudicial effect.
- c. Children of homeless individuals and unaccompanied homeless youth (youth not in the physical custody of a parent/guardian) residing in the District shall have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including comparable services, as provided to other children and youth who reside in the District. Homeless children and youth shall not be required to attend a

separate school or program for homeless children and shall not be stigmatized by school personnel.

Notice of this policy and its accompanying complaint procedures shall be published at the beginning of the school year and posted in each school building in the district. In addition, a student nondiscrimination statement shall be included on student and staff handbooks, course selection handbooks and other published materials distributed to the public describing school activities and opportunities.

LEGAL REF.:                   Section 118.13 WI Statutes  
                                  PI 9, Wisconsin Administrative Code  
                                  Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972  
                                  Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964  
                                  Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973  
                                  Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990  
                                  Individuals with Disabilities Education Act  
                                  Civil Rights Act of 1991  
                                  McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act

CROSS REF.:               411-Rule, Student Discrimination Complaint Procedures  
                                  420 School Admissions

APPROVED:               July 15, 1987

REVISED:                July 13, 1989  
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