

Section 400: Students

Equal Educational Opportunities

Code #411.00

The Tri-County Area School District is committed and dedicated to the task of providing education for every child 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, extracurricular, student services, recreational or other programs or activities shall not be abridged or impaired because of a student's sex, race, religion, national origin, color, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap. Modifications of facilities necessary to provide a student with equal opportunities shall be made as required by law and permitted by budgetary limitations.

It is the policy of the District to ensure that homeless children and youth are provided with equal access to educational programs, have an opportunity to meet the same challenging academic achievement standards, are not segregated on the basis of their homeless status and to establish safeguards that protect homeless students from discrimination on the basis of their homelessness. 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.

Students who have been identified as having a disability under Section 504.00 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 disabled under this policy even if they are not covered under the District's special education policies and procedures.

The District shall also 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 Principal. Accommodation may include, but not necessarily be limited to exclusion from participation in an activity, alternative assignments, release time from school to participate in religious activities and opportunities to make up work missed due to religious observances. Any

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accommodation granted under this policy shall be provided to students without prejudicial effect.

Complaints regarding the interpretation or application of this policy shall be referred to the District Administrator and processed in accordance with established procedures. Notice of this policy and its accompanying complaint procedures shall be published at the beginning of each school year and posted in each building in the District. In addition, a student non-discrimination statement shall be included in student and staff handbooks, course selection handbooks and other published materials distributed to the public describing school activities and opportunities.

Legal Reference: Sections 115.28(31), 118.13 and 118.155, Wisconsin Statutes
Chapters PI 9 and PI 41 of the 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
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
Civil Rights Act of 1991
McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Cross Reference: 341.21, Work Experience Program
341.22, Consumer Education
341.23, Cooperative Education Programs
341.24, Vocational Education Instruction
341.25, Career Education
427.00, Homeless Education

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