

Mission – Goals – Objectives

Nondiscrimination

The Board of Education, in compliance with federal and state law, affirms its policy of equal educational opportunity for all students and equal employment opportunity for all persons.

Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices

It is the policy of the District to provide equal opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential through the programs offered in all District schools regardless of race, color, age, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ancestry, national origin or disability.

The District shall provide to all students without discrimination, course offerings, counseling, assistance, employment, athletics and extracurricular activities. The District shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and mental impairments that constitute disabilities, consistent with federal and state statutes and regulations.

The District provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Students and third parties who have been subject to discrimination are encouraged to promptly report such incidents to the District's Compliance Officer.

All complaints of discrimination shall be investigated promptly. Corrective action must be taken when allegations are substantiated. Confidentiality of all parties shall be maintained, consistent with the District's legal and investigative obligations.

Neither reprisals nor retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith charges of discrimination.

Nondiscrimination in Employment/Contract Practices

It is the Board's policy to provide all persons equal access to all categories of employment in this District regardless of race, color, age, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, disability, or status as a Veteran. The District shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and mental impairments that constitute disabilities, consistent with federal and state statutes and regulations.

Employees and third parties who have been subject to discrimination are encouraged to promptly report such incidents to the District's Compliance Officer.

All complaints of discrimination shall be investigated promptly. Corrective action must be taken when allegations are substantiated. Confidentiality of all parties shall be maintained, consistent with the District's legal and investigative obligations.

Neither reprisals nor retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith charges of discrimination.

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Delegation of Responsibility

In order to maintain a program of nondiscrimination practices that is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, the Board designates the Director of Special Education/Services as the District's Compliance Officer.

This policy shall be published in student and staff handbooks annually, and on the district web site. Nondiscrimination statements shall include the position, office address and telephone number of the Compliance Officer.

(cf. 4111 – Recruitment and Selection)
(cf. 4111.1/4211.1 – Affirmative Action)
(cf. 4118.11 – Nondiscrimination)
(cf. 4118.111 – Grievance Procedure-Title IX)
(cf. 5145.4 – Nondiscrimination)
(cf. 5145.5 – Sexual Harassment)
(cf. 5145.6 – Student Grievance Procedure)
(cf. 6121 – Nondiscrimination)
(cf. 6121.1 – Equal educational Opportunity)

Legal Reference: Title VII, Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 2000e, et seq.
29 CFR 1604.11, EEOC Guidelines on Sex Discrimination.
Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.
34 CFR Section 106.8(b), OCR Guidelines for Title IX.
Definitions, OCR Guidelines on Sexual Harassment, Fed. Reg. Vol 62, #49, 29 CFR Sec. 1606.8 (a) 62 Fed Reg. 12033 (March 13, 1997) and 66 Fed. Reg. 5512 (January 19, 2001)
20 U.S.C. 7905 (Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act contained in No Child Left Behind Act of 2001)
Meritor Savings Bank. FSB v. Vinson, 477 U.S. 57 (1986)
Faragher v. City of Boca Raton, No. 97-282 (U.S. Supreme Court, June 26, 1998)
Gebbs v. Lago Vista Indiana School District, No. 99-1866, (U.S. Supreme Court, June 26, 1998)
Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education, No. 97-843, (U.S. Supreme Court, May 24, 1999.)
Connecticut General Statutes
46a-60 Discriminatory employment practices prohibited.
10-15c Discrimination in public schools prohibited. School attendance by five-year olds. (Amended by P.A. 97-247 to include “sexual orientation”)
10-153 Discrimination on account of marital status.
17a-101 Protection of children from abuse.

Policy adopted: December 19, 2006
Policy revised: May 20, 2014
Policy revised: June 19, 2018

PUTNAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Putnam, Connecticut

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Nondiscrimination

Complaint Procedure –Student/Employee/Third Party

Step 1 – Reporting

A student, employee or third party who believes he/she has been subject to conduct that constitutes a violation of this policy is encouraged to report the incident immediately to the Building Principal.

A school employee who suspects or is notified that a student has been subject to conduct that constitutes a violation of this policy shall immediately report the incident to the Building Principal.

If the Building Principal is the subject of the complaint, the student, employee or third party shall report the incident directly to the Compliance Officer.

The complainant is encouraged to use the report form available from the Building Principal, but oral complaints shall be acceptable.

Step 2 – Investigation

Upon receiving a complaint of discrimination, the Building Principal shall immediately notify the Compliance Officer, who shall then authorize the Building Principal to investigate the complaint, unless the Building Principal is the subject of the complaint or is unable to conduct the investigation.

The investigation may consist of individual interviews with the complainant, the accused and others with knowledge relative to the incident. Other information and materials relevant to the investigation may also be evaluated.

The obligation to conduct this investigation shall not be negated by the fact that a criminal investigation is pending or has been concluded.

Step 3 – Investigative Report

The Building Principal shall prepare a written report within fifteen (15) days, unless additional time to complete the investigation is required. The report shall include a summary of the investigation, a determination of whether the complaint has been substantiated as factual and whether it is a violation of this policy, and a recommended disposition of the complaint.

Copies of the report shall be provided to the complainant, the accused and the Compliance Officer.

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Complaint Procedure –Student/Employee/Third Party (continued)

Step 4 – District Action

If the investigation results in a finding that the complaint is factual and constitutes a violation of this policy, the District shall take prompt, corrective action to ensure that such conduct ceases and will not reoccur.

Disciplinary actions, in the case of students, shall be consistent with the school disciplinary practices, Board policies, administrative regulations, and state and federal laws.

Disciplinary actions, in the case of employees and third parties, shall be consistent with the Board policies, administrative regulations, state and federal laws, and applicable collective bargaining unit agreements.

Step 5 - Appeal Procedure

The complainant, if not satisfied with a finding of no violation of the policy or with the corrective action recommended in the investigative report, he/she may submit a written appeal to the Compliance Officer within fifteen (15) days.

The Compliance Officer shall review the investigation and the investigative report and may also conduct an investigation.

The Compliance Officer shall prepare a written response to the appeal within fifteen (15) days. Copies of the response shall be provided to the complainant, the accused and the Building Principal who conducted the initial investigation.

- (cf. 4111 – Recruitment and Selection)
- (cf. 4111.1/4211.1 – Affirmative Action)
- (cf. 4118.11 – Nondiscrimination)
- (cf. 4118.111 – Grievance Procedure-Title IX)
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Mission – Goals – Objectives

Nondiscrimination (continued)

Complaint Procedure –Student/Employee/Third Party

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Regulation approved: December 19, 2006
Regulation revised: June 19, 2018

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REPORT FORM FOR COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION

Complainant: _____
Home Address: _____
Home Phone: _____
School Building: _____
Date of Alleged Incident(s): _____

Alleged harassment was based on: (Check all that apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/> Race	<input type="checkbox"/> Color	<input type="checkbox"/> National Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Gender Identity
<input type="checkbox"/> Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion	or Expression
<input type="checkbox"/> Ancestry	<input type="checkbox"/> Age	<input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status as a Veteran

Name of person you believe violated the District's nondiscrimination policy:

If the alleged discrimination was directed against another person, identify the other person:

Describe the incident as clearly as possible, including any verbal statements (i.e., threats, derogatory remarks, demands, etc.) and any actions or activities. Attach additional pages if necessary:

When and where incident occurred: _____

List any witnesses who were present: _____

This complaint is based on my honest belief that _____ has discriminated against me or another person. I certify that the information provided in this complaint is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Complainant's Signature

Date

Received By

Date

Discrimination Grievance Form

Any student, parent/guardian, employee or employment applicant who feels that he/she has been discriminated against on the basis of race, color, age, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, Veteran status, or handicap may discuss and/or file a grievance with either of the Civil Rights Coordinators of the Putnam Public Schools. Reporting should take place within 40 calendar days of the alleged discrimination. Civil Rights Coordinators:

_____ at _____ or _____ at _____

Name of Presenter/Complainant: _____

Employee _____ Employment Applicant _____ Student _____ Parent/Guardian _____

Home address _____

Phone _____ Date of Claim _____ Date of Incident _____

1. Statement of Incident/Issue (include all pertinent information: who, how, where, when, how often, feelings, witness).
2. Please attach any additional information/documentation as necessary.

Signature of Presenter: _____

Signature of Civil Rights Coordinator: _____

Date Received: _____

*Forms are available from either of the Civil Rights Coordinators,
Administrators and Guidance Offices.*