

## 5756 TRANSGENDER STUDENTS

The Board of Education strives to provide a safe and supportive environment for all students. In furthering this goal, the Board adopts this Policy to address the needs of transgender and gender nonconforming students enrolled in the school district.

For the purposes of this Policy:

1. “Gender expression” refers to the way a student represents or expresses gender to others, often through behavior, clothing, hairstyles, activities, voice, or mannerisms.
2. “Gender identity” means a student's deeply held sense or psychological knowledge of their own gender, regardless of the gender they were assigned at birth.
3. “Gender identity or expression” also means having or being perceived as having a gender-related identity or expression whether or not stereotypically associated with a person’s assigned sex at birth.
4. “Gender nonconforming” describes a student whose gender expression differs from stereotypical expectations, such as "feminine" boys, "masculine" girls, and those who are perceived as androgynous.
5. “Transgender” describes students whose gender identity is different from their gender assigned at birth.

The Board of Education believes the responsibility for determining a student's gender identity or expression rests with the student, or in the case of young students not yet able to advocate for themselves, with the parent. Therefore, the Board will accept a student's assertion of his or her gender identity when there is consistent and uniform assertion of the gender identity or expression, or any other evidence that the gender identity is sincerely held as a part of the student’s core identity. The Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to question a student's asserted gender identity or expression when there is a credible basis for believing the student's gender identity or expression is being asserted for some improper purpose. Confirmation of a student's asserted gender identity or expression must include a letter from a parent or the adult student to the Superintendent of Schools indicating the student is gender nonconforming.



The Board recognizes school-related issues regarding transgender students will vary on a case-by-case basis. The school district will take reasonable measures to accommodate the needs of transgender students. Therefore, the Superintendent of Schools or designee will meet with the parent(s) and student to discuss school-related issues such as: the name and pronoun to be used by district staff in referring to the student; the gender identification to be used on the student's records; district staff members that should be informed of the student's access to and use of restrooms, locker rooms, changing facilities, and physical education classes; and other gender issues affecting the transgender student and his/her attendance at school. Prior to change any student records, a student's gender identity or expression will be confirmed to the school district by the parent or adult student through evidence including, but not limited to: medical history, care or treatment of the gender identity, consistent and uniform assertion of the gender identity or expression, or any other evidence that the gender identity or expression is sincerely held as part of the student's core identity.

Adopted:

