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AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL AND CLASSROOM PRACTICES

The Board of Education shall, in accordance with law, strive to overcome the effects of any previous patterns of discrimination in school and classroom practices and shall systematically monitor district procedures to ensure continuing compliance with anti-discrimination laws and regulations.

The Assistant Superintendent shall serve as Affirmative Action Officer and shall coordinate all activities designed to implement this policy. The Affirmative Action Officer shall identify and recommend the correction or removal of impermissible bias based on race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectational or sexual orientation or sex, social or economic status, or disability. He/She shall:

1. Review current and proposed curriculum guides, textbooks, and supplemental materials for bias and determine whether such materials fairly depict the contribution of both men and women and various racial and ethnic groups in the development of human society;
2. Develop an ongoing program of in-service training for school personnel designed to identify and solve problems of bias in all aspects of the school program;
3. Review current and proposed programs, activities, and practices to ensure that all pupils have equal access to them and are not impermissibly segregated in any duty, work, play, classroom, or school practice except as may be permitted under rules of the State Board of Education;

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4. Ensure that similar aspects of the school program receive commensurate support as to staff size and compensation, purchase and maintenance of facilities and equipment, and access to such facilities and equipment;
5. Ensure that tests, procedures, and guidance and counseling materials that are designed to evaluate pupil progress or rate aptitudes, or analyze personality or in any manner establish or tend to establish a category by which a pupil may be judged are not impermissibly differentiated or stereotyped.

Parent(s) or legal guardians(s), pupils, staff members, and members of the public shall be informed annually about the district's affirmative action plan for school classroom practices, the designation of the Affirmative Action Officer, and the procedure by which an affirmative action complaint may be filed and processed.

The Affirmative Action Officer shall report as required to the Board on progress made in the affirmative action program for school and classroom practices. The Board will annually review district progress toward the objectives of any state-approved affirmative action plan.

20 U.S.C.A. 1701
N.J.S.A. 18A:36-20
N.J.A.C. 6:4-1.3(b)

Cross reference: Policy Guide No. 5750

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Revised: 11 February 1991, 14 March 1994, 21 March 2002