

# **POLICY**

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## **Board of Education Bernards Township**

**File Code: M5755**

### **EQUITY IN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

#### **Equity In Student Access**

It is the policy of the Board of Education to ensure equal and bias-free access to all school facilities, courses, programs, activities, and services, regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectational or sexual orientation or sex, social or economic status, or disability.

The school district administration will ensure: that all students will have equal and barrier-free access to all school and classroom facilities, that minority and female students are not under-represented in gifted and talented or accelerated/advanced courses and that minority and male students are not over-represented in detentions, suspensions, expulsions, dropouts, or special needs classifications. Support services will be available to all students and that all limited English-proficient students and students with disabilities will have equal and bias-free access to all school programs and activities. The school district will ensure equal and bias-free access for all students to computers, computer classes, vocational education classes, and technologically-advanced instructional assistance, regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectational or sexual orientation or sex, social or economic status, or disability.

The Board of Education will refrain from locating new facilities in areas that will contribute to imbalanced, isolated, or racially identifiable school enrollments. The school district administration will assign students to ensure that the racial/national origin composition of each school's enrollment reflects the composition of the district-wide enrollment and so that school and classroom enrollments are not identifiable on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectational or sexual orientation or sex, social or economic status, or disability.

Students will not be separated or isolated by race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectational or sexual orientation or sex, social or economic status, or disability within schools, courses, classes, programs, or extracurricular activities. Bias-free multiple measures for determining the special needs of language-minority students and students with disabilities will be utilized. Pregnant students will be permitted to remain in the regular school program and activities and if not permitted to attend school by her doctor, the student will be provided equivalent instruction.

#### **Equity in Guidance Programs and Services**

The school district will ensure the guidance program provides access to adequate and appropriate counseling services for minority students, limited English-proficient students, non-college bound students, and students with disabilities. A full range of possible career, professional, and/or vocational choices will be presented to all students.

## **EQUITY IN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

### **Equity in Physical Education Training**

All school district physical education programs will be co-educational, with the exception of wrestling practice and a minimum of 75% of the electives are chosen by at least 30% of enrolled male and female students, when the physical education programs are elective.

### **Equity in Athletic Programs**

The school district's athletic program will provide equitable opportunities for female and male students to participate in athletics and equitable support for cheerleading programs and comparable facilities for male and female teams. The athletic program will have relatively equal numbers of varsity and sub-varsity teams for male and female teams and equitable scheduling of night games, practice times, and numbers of games for male and female teams.

### **Appeal Procedure**

Any pupil or their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may appeal school practices involving equity through the procedure established in Regulation No. 5750.

N.J.A.C. 6:4-1 et seq.

**ADOPTED: April 27, 2009**