Helena Public Schools

Personnel

Equal Employment Opportunity and Non-Discrimination

As required by federal law, including but not limited to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX, and Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act and their regulations the District will provide equal employment opportunities with respect to all persons, regardless of their race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, genetic information, ancestry, marital status, military status, citizenship status, culture, social origin or condition, use of lawful products while not at work, political affiliation or a mental, physical or sensory disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic if otherwise able to perform essential functions of a job with reasonable accommodations, and other legally protected categories

The District shall not retaliate against any employee for complaining about not receiving equal employment opportunities or other unlawful discriminatory practices, participating in a proceeding regarding the denial of equal employment opportunities, or otherwise opposing discrimination.

The District will make reasonable accommodation for an individual with a disability known to the District, if the individual is otherwise qualified for the position, unless the accommodation would impose undue hardship on the District. Covid-19 vaccine status will not be used as a basis to deny or allow equal opportunity to employment.

Persons who believe they have not received equal employment opportunities or have been retaliated against should report their claims to the building principal or department supervisor. Inquiries regarding sex discrimination or sexual harassment may also be directed to the District's Title IX Coordinator, the Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Education, or both. Claims of sexual harassment will be handled through the District's Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedures. Claims of disability discrimination will be handled through the District's Section 504 and ADA Grievance Procedure. All other claims will be handled through the Uniform Complaint Procedure.

No employee or applicant will be discriminated against for initiating a complaint, serving as a witness, supplying information or otherwise participating in an investigation or proceeding involving an alleged violation of this policy or State or federal laws. The District reserves the right to take action against any individual who knowingly makes false accusations or knowingly provides false information.

Retaliation against an employee who has filed a discrimination complaint, testified or participated in any manner in a discrimination investigation or proceeding is prohibited.

| Cross References: | Policy 5015 Bullying/Hara | assment/Intimidation Prevention Reporting |
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| | Policy 1085 Uniform Com | plaint Procedure |
| | Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure | |
| | Section 504 and ADA Grievance Procedure | |
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| Legal References: | 29 U.S.C. §§ 621, et seq. Ag | ge Discrimination in Employment Act |
| | 42 U.S.C. §§ 12111, et seq. 1 | Americans with Disabilities Act, Title I |
| | 29 U.S.C. § 206(d) Equal Pa | <u>y Act</u> |
| | <u>8 U.S.C. §§ 1324(a), et seq.</u> | Immigration Reform and Control Act |
| | 29 U.S.C. §§ 791, et seq Re | chabilitation Act of 1973 |
| | 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681, et seq.; Title IX of the Education Amendments 34 C.F.R. Part 106 Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Montana Constitution, Art. X, § 1 - Educational goals and duties § 49-2-101, et seq. MCA Human Rights Act § 49-2-301, MCA Retaliation Prohibited § 49-1-102, MCA Freedom from discrimination § 49-2-303, MCA Discrimination in employment § 49-3-201, MCA et seq Governmental Code of Fair Practices | |
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| | <u>§ 49-2-101, et seq., MCA</u> | Human Rights Act |
| | <u>§ 49-2-312</u> | Discrimination Based on Vaccine Status or |
| | | Immunity Passport Prohibited |
| | <u>§ 50-16-502, MCA</u> | Legislative findings (Cited by House Bill 702) |
| | | Bostock v. Clayton County, 140 S. Ct. 1731 |
| | | (2020) |
| Policy History: | | |
| Adopted on: | 8.13.2013 | |
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Revised on: Reviewed on: 11.10.2020, 11.9.2021, 2.13.2024, 3.11.2025