100	Legal Status of the School District
101	Educational Philosophy of the School District
102	Equal Educational Opportunity
102-R(1)	<u>Equal Educational Opportunity - Grievance</u> <u>Procedure</u>
102-EH(1)	<u>Equal Educational Opportunity - Annual Notice of Nondiscrimination</u>
102-EH(2)	Equal Educational Opportunity - Continuous  Notice of Nondiscrimination
102-EH(3)	<u>Equal Educational Opportunity - Notice of Section</u> <u>504 Student and Parental Rights</u>
102-E(4)	Equal Educational Opportunity - Discrimination Complaint Form
102-E(5)	Equal Educational Opportunity - Witness <u>Disclosure Form</u>
102-E(6)	Equal Educational Opportunity - Disposition of Complaint Form
103	Long-Range Needs Assessment
103-R(1)	Long-Range Needs Assessment - Regulation
104	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy
104-R(1)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Investigation Procedures
104-E(1)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Complaint Form
104-E(2)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Witness <u>Disclosure Form</u>
104-E(3)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Disposition of Complaint Form

105 <u>Assistance Animals</u>

106 <u>Title IX - Discrimination and Harassment Based on Sex Prohibited</u>

**Status: ADOPTED** 

Policy 100: Legal Status of the School District

Original Adopted Date: 11/11/15 Review Date: 4/23/2025 Revised: 4/23/2025

Iowa law authorizes the creation of a Essex Community School District. As part of Essex Community School District, this school district is a school corporation created and organized under Iowa law. This school district is known as the Essex Community School District.

This school corporation is located in Page and Fremont County, and its affairs are conducted by appointed school officials, the Essex Community School District Board of Directors. This school corporation has exclusive jurisdiction over school matters in the territory of the school district.

Legal Reference: lowa Code §§ 274.1, .2, .6, .7; 279.8; 594A.

I.C. Iowa Code Iowa Code § 274.1	Description Legal Status	
Iowa Code § 274.6	School Districts - Names	
Iowa Code § 279.8	<u>Directors - General Rules - Bonds of Employees</u>	
Iowa Code § 280.12	<u>Uniform School Requirements - School Improvement</u> <u>Advisory Committee</u>	
Iowa Code § 594A	School Corporations	
Cross References		
<b>Code</b> 501.01	<b>Description</b> Resident Students	

**Status: ADOPTED** 

## Policy 101: Educational Philosophy of the School District

Original Adopted Date: 11/11/15 Review Date: 4/23/2025 Revised: 4/23/2025

As a school corporation of Iowa, the Essex Community School District, acting through its board of directors, is dedicated to promoting an equal opportunity for a quality public education to its students. The board's ability may be limited by the school district's ability and willingness to furnish financial support in cooperation with student's parents and school district community. The board is also dedicated to providing the opportunity to develop a healthy social, intellectual, emotional, and physical self-concept in a learning environment that provides guidance to, and encourages critical thinking in, the students for a lifetime.

The board endeavors, through the dedication of the school district's resources, to encourage students, who come to the school district from a variety of backgrounds, to look forward to the time when they will have jobs, homes, families, places in the school district community, and attain recognition as individuals. In order to achieve this goal, the board will seek qualified employees dedicated to development of their professional skills for the betterment of the education program and for the expertise for educational productivity.

Instruction and curriculum are the key elements of a public education. Critical thinking and problem-solving skills that will assist the students' preparation for life is instructed as part of a sequentially coordinated curriculum. The school district strives to prepare students for employment, to discover and nurture creative talent and to prepare them to meet and cope with social change in an atmosphere conducive to learning.

The support and involvement of the home and the school district community are essential to achieve educational excellence in the school district. The school district strives to maintain an active relationship with the home and the school district community to create within the students an awareness of dignity and worth of the individual, civic responsibility and respect for authority.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 256.11

I.C. Iowa Code

Description

Iowa Code § 256.11

DE - Educational Standards

**Cross References** 

Code

Description

102

**Equal Educational Opportunity** 

102-R(1)

Equal Educational Opportunity - Grievance Procedure

**Status: ADOPTED** 

#### **Policy 102: Equal Educational Opportunity**

Original Adopted Date: 10/14/15 Review Date: 4/23/2025 Revised: 4/23/2025

It is the goal of the board to develop a healthy social, intellectual, emotional, and physical self-concept in the students enrolled in the school district. Each student attending school will have the opportunity to use its education program and services as a means for self-improvement and individual growth. In so doing, the students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that assures each student the same educational opportunity.

The Essex Community School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. The belief in equal educational opportunity serves as a guide for the board and employees in making decisions relating to school district facilities, employment, selection of educational materials, equipment, curriculum, and regulations affecting students. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact Equity Coordinator, 111 Forbes Street, Essex, lowa 51638 (712) 379-3114.

Board policies, rules and regulations affect students while they are on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school owned and/or operated school or chartered vehicles; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district.

The board requires all persons, agencies, vendors, contractors and other persons and organizations doing business with or performing services for the school district to subscribe to all applicable federal and state laws, executive orders, rules and regulations pertaining to contract compliance and equal opportunity.

Inquiries by students regarding compliance with equal educational opportunity and affirmative action laws and policies, including but not limited to complaints of discrimination, are directed to the Affirmative Action Coordinator by writing to the Affirmative Action Coordinator, Essex Community School District, 111 Forbes Street, Essex, Iowa 51638.

Inquiries by students regarding compliance with equal educational opportunity and affirmative action laws and policies, including but not limited to complaints of discrimination, may also be directed in writing to the Director of the Region VII office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, John C. Kluczynski Federal Building, 230 S. Dearborn St., 37th Floor, Chicago, IL, 60604 (312) 730-1560, fax (312) 730-1576 OCR.Chicago@ed.gov, the Iowa Civil Rights Commissioner, https://icrc.iowa.gov, (515) 281-4121 or the Iowa Dept. of Education, Grimes State Office Bldg., Des Moines, IA 50319. (515) 281-5294. This inquiry or complaint to the federal or state office may be done instead of, or in addition to, an inquiry or complaint at the local level.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. §§ 1221 et seq.

20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 et seq. 20 U.S.C. §§ 1701 et seq. 29 U.S.C. § 206 et seq.

29 U.S.C. § 794

42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d and 2000e. 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.

34 C.F.R. Pt. 100. 34 C.F.R. Pt. 104.

Iowa Code §§ 216.6; 216.9; 256.11; 280.3.

281 I.A.C. 12.

I.C. Iowa Code Iowa Code § 216.6	Description Unfair Employment Practices
Iowa Code § 216.9	<u>Unfair/Discriminatory Practices</u>
Iowa Code § 256.11	DE - Educational Standards
Iowa Code § 280.3	Education Program - Attendance Center Requirements
I.A.C. Iowa Administrative Code 281 I.A.C. 12	<b>Description</b> General Accreditation Standards
U.S.C - United States Code 20 U.S.C. §§ 1221	<b>Description</b> <u>Education - FERPA - General Provisions</u>
20 U.S.C. §§ 1681	Education - Sex
20 U.S.C. §§ 1701	Education - EEO
29 U.S.C. § 206	<u>Labor - Minimum Wage</u>
29 U.S.C. §§ 794	<u>Labor - Vocation Rehab Rights</u>
42 U.S.C. § 12101	Public Health - Equal Opportunity - Disabilities
42 U.S.C. § 2000d	Public Health - Civil Rights - Federally Programs
42 U.S.C. § 2000e	Public Health - EEO Civil Rights - Definitions
<b>C.F.R Code of Federal Regulations</b> 34 C.F.R. Pt. 100	<b>Description</b> <u>Education - Nondiscrimination for Programs</u>
34 C.F.R. Pt. 104	Education - Nondiscrimination on Basis of Handicap

#### **Cross References**

<b>Code</b> 101	<b>Description</b> Educational Philosophy of the School District
104	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy
104-R(1)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Investigation Procedures
104-E(1)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Complaint Form
104-E(2)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Witness Disclosure Form
104-E(3)	<u>Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Disposition of Complaint Form</u>
401.01	Equal Employment Opportunity
502.03	Student Expression and Student Publications Code
502.03-R(1)	<u>Student Expression and Student Publications Code -</u> <u>Regulation</u>
506.01	Education Records Access
506.01-R(1)	Education Records Access - Regulation
506.01-E(1)	Education Records Access - Request of Nonparent for Examination or Copies of Education Records
506.01-E(2)	Education Records Access - Authorization for Release of Education Records
506.01-E(3)	Education Records Access - Request for Hearing on Correction of Education Records
506.01-E(4)	Education Records Access - Request for Examination of Education Records
506.01-E(5)	<u>Education Records Access - Notification of Transfer of</u> <u>Education Records</u>
506.01-E(6)	Education Records Access - Letter to Parent Regarding Receipt of a Subpoena
506.01-E(7)	Education Records Access - Juvenile Justice Agency Information Sharing Agreement
506.01-E(8)	Education Records Access - Annual Notice
603.01	Basic Instruction Program
603.04	Multicultural/Gender Fair Education
802.05	Buildings & Sites Adaptation for Persons with Disabilities

# Exhibit-HTML 102-EH(1): Equal Educational Opportunity - Annual Notice Status: ADOPTED of Nondiscrimination

Original Adopted Date: 11/11/15 Review Date: 4/23/2025 Revised: 4/23/2025

The Essex Community School District offers career and technical programs in the following areas of study:

Industrial Arts (Construction Trades)

Metals (Welding)

Consumer Science (Culinary)

**Business (Technology)** 

It is the policy of the Essex Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact Superintendent of Schools, 111 Forbes Street, Essex, lowa 51638.

I.C. Iowa Code Iowa Code § 216.6	<b>Description</b> <u>Unfair Employment Practices</u>
Iowa Code § 216.9	Unfair/Discriminatory Practices
Iowa Code § 256.11	DE - Educational Standards
Iowa Code § 280.3	Education Program - Attendance Center Requirements
I.A.C. Iowa Administrative Code 281 I.A.C. 12	<b>Description</b> <u>General Accreditation Standards</u>
U.S.C - United States Code 20 U.S.C. §§ 1221	<b>Description</b> <u>Education - FERPA - General Provisions</u>
20 U.S.C. §§ 1681	Education - Sex
20 U.S.C. §§ 1701	Education - EEO
29 U.S.C. § 206	<u> Labor - Minimum Wage</u>
29 U.S.C. §§ 794	<u>Labor - Vocation Rehab Rights</u>
42 U.S.C. § 12101	Public Health - Equal Opportunity - Disabilities
42 U.S.C. § 2000d	Public Health - Civil Rights - Federally Programs
42 U.S.C. § 2000e	Public Health - EEO Civil Rights - Definitions

# C.F.R. - Code of Federal Regulations

Description

34 C.F.R. Pt. 100

**Education - Nondiscrimination for Programs** 

34 C.F.R. Pt. 104

Education - Nondiscrimination on Basis of Handicap

## **Cross References**

<b>Code</b> 101	<b>Description</b> <u>Educational Philosophy of the School District</u>
104	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy
104-R(1)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Investigation Procedures
104-E(1)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Complaint Form
104-E(2)	<u> Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Witness Disclosure Form</u>
104-E(3)	<u>Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Disposition of Complaint</u> <u>Form</u>
401.01	Equal Employment Opportunity
502.03	Student Expression and Student Publications Code
502.03-R(1)	<u>Student Expression and Student Publications Code -</u> <u>Regulation</u>
506.01	Education Records Access
506.01-R(1)	Education Records Access - Regulation
506.01-E(1)	Education Records Access - Request of Nonparent for Examination or Copies of Education Records
506.01-E(2)	Education Records Access - Authorization for Release of Education Records
506.01-E(3)	Education Records Access - Request for Hearing on Correction of Education Records
506.01-E(4)	Education Records Access - Request for Examination of Education Records
506.01-E(5)	Education Records Access - Notification of Transfer of Education Records
506.01-E(6)	Education Records Access - Letter to Parent Regarding Receipt of a Subpoena
506.01-E(7)	Education Records Access - Juvenile Justice Agency Information Sharing Agreement
506.01-E(8)	Education Records Access - Annual Notice

Basic Instruction Program

Multicultural/Gender Fair Education

Buildings & Sites Adaptation for Persons with Disabilities

**Status:** ADOPTED

Exhibit-HTML 102-EH(2): Equal Educational Opportunity - Continuous

**Notice of Nondiscrimination** 

Original Adopted Date: 11/11/15 Review Date: 4

Review Date: 4/23/2025 Revised: 4/23/2025

It is the policy of the Essex Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact Superintendent of Schools, 111 Forbes Street, Essex, Iowa 51638.

I.C. Iowa Code Iowa Code § 216.6	Description Unfair Employment Practices
Iowa Code § 216.9	<u>Unfair/Discriminatory Practices</u>
Iowa Code § 256.11	DE - Educational Standards
Iowa Code § 280.3	Education Program - Attendance Center Requirements
I.A.C. Iowa Administrative Code 281 I.A.C. 12	<b>Description</b> <u>General Accreditation Standards</u>
U.S.C - United States Code 20 U.S.C. §§ 1221	<b>Description</b> <u>Education - FERPA - General Provisions</u>
20 U.S.C. §§ 1681	Education - Sex
20 U.S.C. §§ 1701	Education - EEO
29 U.S.C. § 206	<u>Labor - Minimum Wage</u>
29 U.S.C. §§ 794	<u>Labor - Vocation Rehab Rights</u>
42 U.S.C. § 12101	Public Health - Equal Opportunity - Disabilities
42 U.S.C. § 2000d	<u>Public Health - Civil Rights - Federally Programs</u>
42 U.S.C. § 2000e	Public Health - EEO Civil Rights - Definitions
C.F.R Code of Federal Regulations 34 C.F.R. Pt. 100	<b>Description</b> <u>Education - Nondiscrimination for Programs</u>
34 C.F.R. Pt. 104	Education - Nondiscrimination on Basis of Handicap

#### **Cross References**

Code	Desc	ripti	on	
	1			_

101

**Educational Philosophy of the School District** 

104	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy
104-R(1)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Investigation Procedures
104-E(1)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Complaint Form
104-E(2)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Witness Disclosure Form
104-E(3)	<u>Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Disposition of Complaint Form</u>
401.01	Equal Employment Opportunity
502.03	Student Expression and Student Publications Code
502.03-R(1)	<u>Student Expression and Student Publications Code -</u> <u>Regulation</u>
506.01	Education Records Access
506.01-R(1)	Education Records Access - Regulation
506.01-E(1)	Education Records Access - Request of Nonparent for Examination or Copies of Education Records
506.01-E(2)	Education Records Access - Authorization for Release of Education Records
506.01-E(3)	Education Records Access - Request for Hearing on Correction of Education Records
506.01-E(4)	Education Records Access - Request for Examination of Education Records
506.01-E(5)	Education Records Access - Notification of Transfer of Education Records
506.01-E(6)	Education Records Access - Letter to Parent Regarding Receipt of a Subpoena
506.01-E(7)	Education Records Access - Juvenile Justice Agency Information Sharing Agreement
506.01-E(8)	Education Records Access - Annual Notice
603.01	Basic Instruction Program
603.04	Multicultural/Gender Fair Education
802.05	Buildings & Sites Adaptation for Persons with Disabilities

**Status: ADOPTED** 

Exhibit-HTML 102-EH(3): Equal Educational Opportunity - Notice of

**Section 504 Student and Parental Rights** 

Original Adopted Date: 11/11/15 Review Date: 4/23/2025 Revised: 4/23/2025

The Essex Community School District does not discriminate in its educational programs and activities on the basis of a student's disability. It has been determined that your child has a qualifying disability for which accommodations may need to be made to meet his or her individual needs as adequately as the needs of other students. As a parent, you have the right to the following:

- Participation of your child in school district programs and activities, including extracurricular programs and activities, to the maximum extent appropriate, free of discrimination based upon the student's disability and at the same level as students without disabilities;
- Receipt of free educational services to the extent they are provided students without disabilities:
- Receipt of information about your child and your child's educational programs and activities in your native language;
- Notice of identification of your child as having a qualifying disability for which
  accommodations may need to be made and notice prior to evaluation and placement of
  your child and right to periodically request a re-evaluation of your child;
- Inspect and review your child's educational records including a right to copy those records for a reasonable fee; you also have a right to ask the school district to amend your child's educational records if you feel the information in the records is misleading or inaccurate; should the school district refuse to amend the records, you have a right to a hearing and to place an explanatory letter in your child's file explaining why you feel the records are misleading or inaccurate; and
- Hearing before an impartial hearing officer if you disagree with your child's evaluation or placement; you have a right to counsel at the hearing and have the decision of the impartial hearing officer reviewed.

It is the policy of the Essex Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact Superintendent of Schools, 111 Forbes Street, Essex, lowa 51638.

I.C. Iowa Code Iowa Code § 216.6	<b>Description</b> <u>Unfair Employment Practices</u>
Iowa Code § 216.9	Unfair/Discriminatory Practices
Iowa Code § 256.11	DE - Educational Standards
Iowa Code § 280.3	Education Program - Attendance Center Requirements

I.A.C. Iowa Administrative Code 281 I.A.C. 12	<b>Description</b> General Accreditation Standards
U.S.C - United States Code 20 U.S.C. §§ 1221	<b>Description</b> <u>Education - FERPA - General Provisions</u>
20 U.S.C. §§ 1681	<u>Education - Sex</u>
20 U.S.C. §§ 1701	Education - EEO
29 U.S.C. § 206	<u> Labor - Minimum Wage</u>
29 U.S.C. §§ 794	<u>Labor - Vocation Rehab Rights</u>
42 U.S.C. § 12101	<u>Public Health - Equal Opportunity - Disabilities</u>
42 U.S.C. § 2000d	Public Health - Civil Rights - Federally Programs
42 U.S.C. § 2000e	Public Health - EEO Civil Rights - Definitions
<b>C.F.R Code of Federal Regulations</b> 34 C.F.R. Pt. 100	<b>Description</b> Education - Nondiscrimination for Programs
34 C.F.R. Pt. 104	Education - Nondiscrimination on Basis of Handicap

#### **Cross References**

<b>Code</b> 101	<b>Description</b> <u>Educational Philosophy of the School District</u>
104	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy
104-R(1)	<u>Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Investigation Procedures</u>
104-E(1)	Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Complaint Form
104-E(2)	<u>Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Witness Disclosure Form</u>
104-E(3)	<u>Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy - Disposition of Complaint Form</u>
401.01	Equal Employment Opportunity
502.03	Student Expression and Student Publications Code
502.03-R(1)	<u>Student Expression and Student Publications Code -</u> <u>Regulation</u>
506.01	Education Records Access
506.01-R(1)	Education Records Access - Regulation
506.01-E(1)	Education Records Access - Request of Nonparent for Examination or Copies of Education Records

506.01-E(2)	Education Records Access - Authorization for Release of Education Records
506.01-E(3)	Education Records Access - Request for Hearing on Correction of Education Records
506.01-E(4)	Education Records Access - Request for Examination of Education Records
506.01-E(5)	<u>Education Records Access - Notification of Transfer of</u> <u>Education Records</u>
506.01-E(6)	Education Records Access - Letter to Parent Regarding Receipt of a Subpoena
506.01-E(7)	Education Records Access - Juvenile Justice Agency Information Sharing Agreement
506.01-E(8)	Education Records Access - Annual Notice
603.01	Basic Instruction Program
603.04	Multicultural/Gender Fair Education
802.05	Buildings & Sites Adaptation for Persons with Disabilities

## DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT FORM

Date of complaint:		
Name of Complainant:		
Are you filling out this form for yourself or someone else (pleas identify the individual if you are submitting on behalf of someonelse):	e e	
Who or what entity do you believe discriminated against, harassed, or bullied you (or someone else)?		
Date and place of alleged incident(s):		
Names of any witnesses (if any	ssment, or bullying alleged (check all the	nat apply):
	Physical Attribute	Sex
Age	Physical/Mental Ability	Sexual Orientation
Disability Familial Status	Political Belief	Socio-economic Background
	Political Party Preference	Other – Please Specify:
Gender Identity	Race/Color	Onter Trease specify.
Marital Status National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	Religion/Creed	
In the space below, please desi	cribe what happened and why you belic rassed, or bullied. Please be as specific	eve that you or someone else has as possible and attach additional
I agree that all of the informat	ion on this form is accurate and true to	the best of my knowledge.
Signature: Date:		te:

## WITNESS DISCLOSURE FORM

Name of Witness:		
Date of interview:		
Date of initial complaint:		
Name of Complainant (include whether the Complainant is a student or employee):		
Date and place of alleged incident(s):		
	nent, or bullying alleged (check all the	
Age	Physical Attribute	Sex Sexual Orientation
Disability	Physical/Mental Ability Political Belief	Socio-economic Background
Familial Status		
Gender Identity	Political Party Preference	Other – Please Specify:
Marital Status	Race/Color	
National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	Religion/Creed	
Description of incident witnessed	1:	
Additional information:		
I agree that all of the information	n on this form is accurate and true to	the best of my knowledge.
Signature:	Dar	te;

#### DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINT FORM

S. C. Chaldel - and later		
Date of initial complaint:		
Name of Complainant (include whether the Complainant is a student or employee):		
Date and place of alleged ncident(s):		
Name of Respondent (include whether the Respondent is a student or employee):	ant on hullwing alleged (check all th	nat annly):
	ent, or bullying alleged (check all the	Sex
Age	Physical Attribute Physical/Mental Ability	Sexual Orientation
Disability Familial Status	Political Belief	Socio-economic Background
		Other – Please Specify:
Gender Identity	Political Party Preference Race/Color	Offici – Frease Specify.
Marital Status National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	Race/Color  Religion/Creed	
Summary of Investigation:		
I agree that all of the information	on this form is accurate and true to	the best of my knowledge.
Signature:	Dat	te:

**Status: ADOPTED** 

Policy 103: Long-Range Needs Assessment

Original Adopted Date: 11/11/15 Review Date: 4/23/2025 Revised: 4/23/2025

Long-range needs assessment enables the school district to analyze assessment data, get feedback from the community about its expectation of students and determine how well students are meeting student learning goals. The board will conduct ongoing and in-depth needs assessment, soliciting information from business, labor, industry, higher education and community members, regarding their expectations for adequate student preparation.

In conjunction with the in-depth needs assessment of the school district, the board will authorize the appointment of a committee, representing administrators, employees, parents, students and community members, to make recommendations and assist the board in determining the priorities of the school district in addition to the basic skills areas of the education program.

The Essex Community School District will provide an opportunity for local feedback at each monthly meeting which will occur on the third Wednesday each month at 5:00 p.m.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure the school district community is informed of students' progress on state and locally determined indicators. The superintendent will report annually to the board about the means used to keep the community informed.

As a result of the board and committee's work, the board will determine major educational needs and rank them in priority order; develop long-range goals and plans to meet the educational needs; establish and implement short-range and intermediate-range plans to meet the goals and to attain the desired levels of student performance; evaluate progress toward meeting the goals and maintain a record of progress under the plan that includes reports of student performance and results of school improvement projects; and annually report the school district's progress made under the plan to the committee, community and Iowa Department of Education.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 21; 256.7; 280.12.

281 I.A.C. 12.8(1)(b).

I.C. Iowa Code Iowa Code § 21	Description Open Meetings
Iowa Code § 256.7	DE - Duties of State Board
Iowa Code § 280.12	<u>Uniform School Requirements - School Improvement</u> <u>Advisory Committee</u>

I.A.C. Iowa Administrative Code

281 I.A.C. 12.8

Description

General Accreditation Standards - Student Achievement

# **Cross References**

<b>Code</b> 101	<b>Description</b> <u>Educational Philosophy of the School District</u>
200.03	Responsibilities of the Board of Directors
208	Ad Hoc Committees
208-E(1)	Ad Hoc Committees - Exhibit
602.01	Curriculum Development
602.02	Curriculum Implementation
602.03	Curriculum Evaluation
603.01	Basic Instruction Program
606.06	Insufficient Classroom Space
801.01	Buildings & Sites Long Range Planning
801.02	Buildings & Sites Surveys

Status: ADOPTED

#### Policy 104: Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy

Original Adopted Date: 11/11/15 Review Date: 4/23/2025 Revised: 4/23/2025

The Essex Community School District is committed to providing all students, employees, and volunteers with a safe and civil school environment in which all members of the school community are treated with dignity and respect. Bullying and/or harassing behavior can seriously disrupt the ability of school employees to maintain a safe and civil environment, and the ability of students to learn and succeed.

Bullying and/or harassment of or by students, employees, and volunteers is against federal, state, and local policy and is not tolerated by the board.

Accordingly, school employees, volunteers, and students shall not engage in bullying or harassing behavior while on school property, while on school-owned or school-operated vehicles, while attending or participating in school-sponsored or sanctioned activities, and while away from school grounds if the conduct materially interferes with the orderly operation of the educational environment or is likely to do so.

Complaints may be filed with the superintendent or superintendent's designee pursuant to the regulation accompanying this policy. Complaints will be investigated within a reasonable time frame.

A school employee, volunteer, or student, or a student's parent or guardian who promptly, reasonably, and in good faith reports an incident of bullying or harassment, in compliance with the procedures in the regulation, to the appropriate school official designated by the school district, shall be immune from civil or criminal liability relating to such report and to participation in any administrative or judicial proceeding resulting from or relating to the report.

#### **Retaliation Prohibited**

Individuals who knowingly file false bullying or harassment complaints and any person who gives false statements in an investigation may be subject to discipline by appropriate measures.

Any student found to have violated or retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, suspension and expulsion. Any school employee found to have violated or retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, termination of employment. Any school volunteer found to have violated or retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, removal from service and exclusion from school grounds.

#### **Definitions**

For the purposes of this policy, the defined words shall have the following meaning:

• "Electronic" means any communication involving the transmission of information by wire, radio, optic cable, electromagnetic, or other similar means. "Electronic" includes but is not

- limited to communication via electronic mail, internet-based communications, pager service, cell phones, and electronic text messaging.
- "Harassment" and "bullying" mean any repeated or potentially repeated electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or other ongoing conduct toward an individual based on any trait or characteristic of the individual which creates an objectively hostile school environment that meets one or more of the following conditions:
  - 1. Places the individual in reasonable fear of harm to the individual's person or property.
  - 2. Has a substantial detrimental effect on the individual's physical or mental health.
  - 3. Has the effect of substantially interfering with the individual's academic or career performance. Has the effect of substantially interfering with the individual's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.
- "Trait or characteristic of the individual" includes but is not limited to age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, or familial status.
- "Volunteer" means an individual who has regular, significant contact with students.

# **Publication of Policy**

The board will annually publish this policy. The policy may be publicized by the following means:

- Inclusion in the student handbook,
- Inclusion in the employee handbook
- Inclusion in the registration materials
- Inclusion on the school or school district's web site,

Legal Reference:

20 U.S.C. §§ 1221-1234i.

29 U.S.C. § 794.

42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d-2000d-7. 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 2et. seq.

Iowa Code §§ 216.9; 280.28; 280.3.

281 I.A.C. 12.3(6).

Morse v. Frederick, 551 U.S. 393 (2007)

I.C. Iowa Code

Iowa Code § 216.9

**Unfair/Discriminatory Practices** 

Iowa Code § 280.28

Harassment and Bullying Prohibited

Iowa Code § 280.3

Education Program - Attendance Center Requirements

I.A.C. Iowa Administrative Code

Description

Description

281 I.A.C. 12.3	Administration
U.S.C - United States Code 20 U.S.C. §§ 1221	<b>Description</b> <u>Education - FERPA - General Provisions</u>
29 U.S.C. §§ 794	<u> Labor - Vocation Rehab Rights</u>
42 U.S.C. § 12101	Public Health - Equal Opportunity - Disabilities
42 U.S.C. § 2000d	Public Health - Civil Rights - Federally Programs
<b>U.S. Supreme Court</b> 551 U.S. 393	<b>Description</b> Morse v Frederick (2007)

#### **Cross References**

<b>Code</b> 102	Description  Equal Educational Opportunity
102-R(1)	Equal Educational Opportunity - Grievance Procedure
102-EH(1)	<u>Equal Educational Opportunity - Annual Notice of</u> <u>Nondiscrimination</u>
102-EH(2)	<u>Equal Educational Opportunity - Continuous Notice of Nondiscrimination</u>
102-EH(3)	Equal Educational Opportunity - Notice of Section 504 Student and Parental Rights
102-E(4)	Equal Educational Opportunity - Discrimination Complaint Form
102-E(5)	Equal Educational Opportunity - Witness Disclosure Form
102-E(6)	Equal Educational Opportunity - Disposition of Complaint Form
401.01	Equal Employment Opportunity
401.13	Staff Technology Use/Social Networking
401.13-R(1)	Staff Technology Use/Social Networking - Regulation
402.03	Abuse of Students by School District Employees
404	Employee Conduct and Appearance
404-R(1)	Employee Conduct and Appearance - Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics Regulation
404-R(2)	Employee Conduct and Appearance - Code of Rights and Responsibilities Regulation
604.11	Appropriate Use of Online Learning Platforms

605.06 Internet - Appropriate Use
605.06-R(1) Internet - Appropriate Use - Regulation
605.06-E(1) Internet - Appropriate Use - Internet Access Permission
Letter to Parents
605.06-E(2) Internet - Appropriate Use - Violation Notice

# COMPLAINT FORM (Discrimination, Anti-Bullying, and Anti-Harassment)

Date of complaint:		
Name of Complainant:		
Are you filling out this form for yourself or someone else (please identify the individual if you are submitting on behalf of someone else):		
Who or what entity do you believe discriminated against, harassed, or bullied you (or someone else)?		
Date and place of alleged incident(s):		
Names of any witnesses (if any):	nent, or bullying alleged (check all the	nat annly):
	Physical Attribute	Sex
Age	Physical/Mental Ability	Sexual Orientation
Disability Familial Status	Political Belief	Socio-economic Background
		Other – Please Specify:
Gender Identity	Political Party Preference Race/Color	Other Trease openity.
Marital Status National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	Religion/Creed	
In the space below, please describeen discriminated against, haras pages if necessary.	be what happened and why you belic sed, or bullied. Please be as specific	eve that you or someone else has as possible and attach additional
I agree that all of the information	on this form is accurate and true to	the best of my knowledge.
Signature:	Da	te:

## WITNESS DISCLOSURE FORM

Name of Witness:		
Date of interview:		
Date of initial complaint:		
Name of Complainant (include whether the Complainant is a student or employee):		
Date and place of alleged incident(s):		
Nature of discrimination, harassm	ent, or bullying alleged (check all the	nat apply):
Age	Physical Attribute	Sex
Disability	Physical/Mental Ability	Sexual Orientation
Familial Status	Political Belief	Socio-economic Background
Gender Identity	Political Party Preference	Other – Please Specify:
Marital Status	Race/Color	
National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	Religion/Creed	
Description of incident witnessed		
Additional information:		
I agree that all of the information	on this form is accurate and true to	
Signature:	Da	te:

## DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINT FORM

Date:			
Date	of initial complaint:		
wheth	of Complainant (include ner the Complainant is a nt or employee):		·
	and place of alleged ent(s):		
whet stude	e of Respondent (include her the Respondent is a ant or employee):	and an hullwing alloged (abook all th	pat apply):
Natu		ent, or bullying alleged (check all the	Sex
	Age	Physical Attribute	Sexual Orientation
	Disability	Physical/Mental Ability Political Belief	Socio-economic Background
	Familial Status		Other – Please Specify:
	Gender Identity	Political Party Preference	Other – Please Specify.
	Marital Status	Race/Color	
	National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	Religion/Creed	
Sum	mary of Investigation:		
I ag	ree that all of the information	on this form is accurate and true to	the best of my knowledge.
Sign	nature:	Dat	te:

# ANTI-BULLYING/ANTI-HARASSMENT INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

The Essex Community School District is committed to providing all students with a safe and civil school environment in which all members of the school community are treated with dignity and respect. Bullying and/or harassment of or by students, staff, and volunteers is against federal, state, and local policy and is not tolerated by the board. Bullying and/or harassing behavior can seriously disrupt the ability of school employees to maintain a safe and civil environment, and the ability of students to learn and succeed. Therefore, it is the policy of the state and the school district that school employees, volunteers, and students shall not engage in bullying or harassing behavior in school, on school property, or at any school function or school-sponsored activity.

#### **Definitions**

For the purposes of this policy, the defined words shall have the following meaning:

"Electronic" means any communication involving the transmission of information by wire, radio, optic cable, electromagnetic, or other similar means. "Electronic" includes but is not limited to communication via electronic mail, internet-based communications, pager service, cell phones, and electronic text messaging.

- "Harassment" and "bullying" shall mean any electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or conduct toward a student based on the individual's actual or perceived age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, or familial status, and which creates an objectively hostile school environment that meets one or more of the following conditions:
  - Places the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property. (1)
  - Has a substantial detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health. (2)
  - Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's academic performance. (3)
  - Has the effect of substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or (4) benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.
- "Trait or characteristic of the student" includes but is not limited to age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, or familial status.
- "Volunteer" means an individual who has regular, significant contact with students.

Filing a Complaint

A Complainant who wishes to avail himself/herself of this procedure may do so by filing a complaint with the superintendent or superintendent's designee. An alternate will be designated in the event it is claimed that the superintendent or superintendent's designee committed the alleged discrimination or some other conflict of interest exists. Complaints shall be filed within thirty (30) days of the event giving rise to the complaint or from the date the Complainant could reasonably become aware of such occurrence. The Complainant will state the nature of the complaint and the remedy requested. The Complainant shall receive assistance as needed.

School employees, volunteers, and students shall not engage in reprisal, retaliation, or false accusation against a victim, witness, or an individual who has reliable information about an act of bullying or harassment.

Investigation

The school district will promptly and reasonably investigate allegations of bullying or harassment. The Building Principal (hereinafter "Investigator") will be responsible for handling all complaints alleging bullying or harassment.

If the Complainant is under 18 years of age, the Investigator shall notify his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) that they may attend investigatory meetings in which the Complainant is involved. The complaint and identity of the Complainant, Respondent, or witnesses will only be disclosed as reasonably necessary in connection with the investigation or as required by law or policy. The investigation may include, but is not limited to the following:

- A request for the Complainant to provide a written statement regarding the nature of the complaint;
- A request for the individual named in the complaint (hereinafter "Respondent") to provide a written statement;
- A request for witnesses identified during the course of the investigation to provide a written statement; and
- Review and collection of documentation or information deemed relevant to the investigation.

The Investigator shall consider the totality of circumstances presented in determining whether conduct objectively constitutes bullying or harassment. Upon completion of the investigation, the Investigator shall issue a report with respect to the findings.

#### Decision

If, after an investigation, a student is found to be in violation of the policy, the student shall be disciplined by appropriate measures, which may include suspension and expulsion. If after an investigation a school employee is found to be in violation of this policy, the employee shall be disciplined by appropriate measures, which may include termination. If after an investigation a school volunteer is found to be in violation of this policy, the volunteer shall be subject to appropriate measures, which may include exclusion from school grounds.

A school employee, volunteer, or student, or a student's parent or guardian who promptly, reasonably, and in good faith reports an incident of bullying or harassment, in compliance with the procedures in the policy adopted pursuant to this section, to the appropriate school official designated by the school district, shall be immune from civil or criminal liability relating to such report and to participation in any administrative or judicial proceeding resulting from or relating to the report.

Individuals who knowingly file false bullying and/or harassment complaints and any person who gives false statements in an investigation may be subject to discipline by appropriate measures, as shall any person who is found to have retaliated against another in violation of this policy. Any student found to have retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, suspension and expulsion. Any school employee found to have retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, termination of employment. Any school volunteer found to have retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, exclusion from school grounds.

New Policy - 1st Reading

**Essex Community School District** 

**Status:** ADOPTED

**Policy 105: Assistance Animals** 

Original Adopted Date: 5/20/25

It is the policy of Essex Community School District to foster an equal education environment for all students, employees and community members within the district. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to the district on the proper use of assistance animals while on district property. The district shall allow the use of qualified service to accompany individuals with disabilities in all areas of district buildings where the public is normally allowed to go. This can include classrooms, cafeteria and school buses. Individuals with disabilities are people who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Service animals are dogs and in some instances miniature horses trained to do work or perform tasks for individuals with disabilities.

Service animals must be current on all required vaccinations. Service animals also must be under control while on district grounds. The animal may be under control by either the individual with a disability, or a handler of the service. Under control means harnessed, leashed or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the animal's work, in which case under voice or other directive control.

## **Establishing the Need for a Service Animal**

When no prior notice is given to the district of the use of a service animal, the Superintendent and/or school administrators are permitted to ask the following questions:

"Do you need/require this animal because of a disability?"

If the animal's trained tasks are not readily apparent, the administrator may ask:

"What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?"

#### Service Animals in training

Assuming the handler and animal are otherwise allowed, individuals who train service animals will also be allowed access with their service animal in training to public areas of district buildings and property. The service animal in training is expected to abide by the same requirements as a service or assistive animal.

#### **Exclusion of Service Animals**

In certain limited circumstances, it may be reasonable to exclude the use of a service animal from district property. The Superintendent is permitted to exclude service animals from district buildings and property in the following circumstances: The presence of the animal poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others; the owner or handler is unable to control the animal; the animal is not house broken; the presence of the animal significantly disrupts or interferes with the educational process; or the presence of the animal would require a fundamental alteration to the program. If a service animal is properly excluded from district property, the district shall provide the student served by the animal the opportunity to participate in the program, service or activity without having the service animal on district property.

Legal Reference:

29 U.S.C. §794

42 U.S.C. §12132

28 C.F.R. 35

Iowa Code §216C

I.C. Iowa Code

Iowa Code § 216C

**U.S.C** - United States Code

29 U.S.C. §§ 794

42 U.S.C. §12132

C.F.R. - Code of Federal Regulations

28 C.F.R. 35

Description

**Disability Rights** 

Description

<u> Labor - Vocation Rehab Rights</u>

Public Health - Equal Opportunity/Disabilities - Prohibition

<u>Against</u>

Description

Judicial - Disability - Nondiscrimination

**Cross References** 

Code

606.03

Description

Animals in the Classroom

Policy 106: Title IX - Discrimination and Harassment Based on Sex Status: ADOPTED

**Prohibited** 

Original Adopted Date: 11/11/15 Review Date: 4/23/2025 Revised: 4/23/2025

In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, the Community School District prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual harassment as defined by the regulations implementing Title IX (34 C.F.R. § 106.30), against any individual participating in any education program or activity of the District. This prohibition on discrimination applies to students, employees, and applicants for employment.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to adopt procedures for any individual to report sexual harassment to the District's Title IX Coordinator, for the provision of supportive measures to anyone who has been subjected to sexual harassment whether or not they proceed with a formal complaint under those procedures, and for the investigation and resolution of such complaints, as required by Title IX. This Title IX grievance process shall be used to respond to all complaints of sexual harassment that fall within the scope of Title IX. For complaints of sexual harassment that do not fall within the scope of Title IX, the District may still offer supportive measures to the subject of such conduct and shall apply any other policy or procedure applicable to the alleged conduct.

Any individual with questions about the District's Title IX policy and procedures, or who would like to make a report or file a formal complaint of sex discrimination or sexual harassment may contact the District's designated Title Coordinator, Principal, 111 Forbes Street, Essex, Iowa 51638. Retaliation against a person who made a report or complaint of sexual harassment, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation or resolution of a sexual harassment report or complaint is strictly prohibited. Retaliation includes threats, coercion, discrimination, intimidation, reprisals, and/or adverse actions related to employment or education. Any individual who believed they have been retaliated against in violation of this Policy should immediately contact the District's Title IX Coordinator.

Legal Reference:

20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

34 C.F.R. § 106 et seq.

**U.S.C - United States Code** 

Description

20 U.S.C. §§ 1681

**Education - Sex** 

C.F.R. - Code of Federal Regulations

Description

34 C.F.R. 106

<u>Education - Nondiscrimination Based on Sex</u>