



## AMITE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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To: All Principals, Directors and Staff Members

From: Scotty H. Whittington

Date: February 23, 2018

Re: Updated Notice of ACSD Non-Discrimination Statement:

Be advised that the Amite County School District's, Notice of Non-Discrimination statement has been updated. It has been posted in our new 2018-2019 Student and Faculty Handbooks and will be posted on the school district's website today. This notice needs to be distributed to all **STAFF MEMBERS** and to **EACH CHILD** attending your school **TODAY**.

Thank you,

  
Scotty H. Whittington

**Operation of the Amite County School District on a Non-Discriminatory Basis**

The Amite County School District offers educational/vocational learning opportunities and employment opportunities on a non-discriminatory basis in compliance with the requirements of federal civil rights legislation. This legislation includes, but is not limited to, Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, the Vocational Amendments of 1976 and 1979, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and IDEA. Further, the Amite County School District offers equal educational and employment opportunities to all persons without regard to sex, race, religion, color, national origin, age, genetic information, military status, or disability. Upon request, a copy of any Amite County School District policies regarding compliance with these federal legislative mandates may be obtained from the Office of the Superintendent or any other school district administrative office. The District is in the process of providing online access to all its policies through its website, as well. Policies and procedures regarding Title IX issues are already posted on the District website.

1) Section 504/ADA and Rehabilitation Act of 1973

The Amite County School District will not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or employment in its programs and activities or in treatment of the individual to the extent provided by law.

Mrs. Rebecca Roberts, District Special Education Supervisor, has been designated as the Section 504/Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator and will handle inquiries regarding the Amite County School District's nondiscrimination policies, the filing of complaints, and the requests for copies of complaint procedures covering discrimination on the basis of disability. She may be reached at (601) 657-9174.

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving federal financial assistance. No discrimination against any person with a disability will knowingly be permitted in any of the programs or practices of the District. To ensure the District's compliance with Section 504 as it applies to students with disabilities, the district has adopted specific policies regarding procedures in the event an individual should wish to file a complaint or grievance. This established procedure is available to the public upon request, is posted in all administrative offices, and available directly from Ms. Roberts.

2) Title VI

The Amite County School District is in compliance with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which addresses non-discrimination with regard to race, color, and national origin. Questions may be directed to Mary Russ. Complaint procedures are on file in the Superintendent's office and in Ms. Russ's office and a copy may be obtained from both locations.

3) Title IX

Title IX is a federal statute that mandates that no person in the Amite County School District, shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. In compliance with the directives in Title IX, The Amite County School District does

not discriminate on the basis of sex in any of these educational programs and activities provided to students. Further, the requirement not to discriminate on the basis of sex with regard to educational programs and activities extends to employment.

The Amite County School District has a Title IX Compliance Officer designated to handle questions or complaints regarding Title IX issues. Questions or complaints regarding Title IX may also be referred to the Office of Civil Rights (OCR). Further information about OCR may be found at [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov). With regard to the District question/complaint process, the Title IX Compliance Officer is Ms. Mary Russ. Her address is P. O. Box 378, Liberty, Mississippi 39645. Her office is located at 533 Maggie Street, Liberty, Mississippi. She can be reached by telephone at (601) 657-4361, ext. 305. Her email address is [mruss@amite.k12.ms.us](mailto:mruss@amite.k12.ms.us). Please contact Ms. Russ immediately if you have a complaint regarding discrimination based on sex with respect to the following: any District educational program, any District activity, or in an employment context. Title IX further prohibits sexual harassment of students. Complaints concerning discrimination based on sex and complaints of sexual harassment may be lodged against employees, other students or third parties. District Policy JB-P (Students: Title IX Complaint Procedures), available on the District website, outlines the procedures governing student complaints or complaints involving students under Title IX.

Complaint procedures regarding employment complaints under Title IX are addressed in the District Staff Handbooks and in District personnel policies in District Policy GBR-P (Employees: Harassment and Discrimination Complaint Procedures.).