

## EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Rice Lake Area School District is committed to equal educational opportunities for all students in the District.

It is the policy of the Rice Lake Area School District, pursuant to s. 118.13 of Wisconsin Statutes, and PI 9, that no person on the basis of religion, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, physical appearance, marital status, handicap, disability, genetic information, arrest or conviction record (not substantially related to a person's job or activity in school), political beliefs, sexual orientation, citizenship, pregnancy, or military service may be denied admission to any school in this District or be denied participation in, denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational, or other program.

This policy also prohibits discrimination under related federal statutes, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (race, color, and national origin), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex), section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (handicap) and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (disability).

Children of homeless individuals and unaccompanied homeless youth (youth not in the physical custody of a parent/guardian) residing in the District shall have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including comparable services, as provided to other children and youth who reside in the District. Homeless children and youth shall not be required to attend a separate school or program for homeless children and shall not be stigmatized by school personnel.

Students who have been identified as having a handicap or disability, under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, shall be provided with reasonable accommodations in educational services or programs. Students may be considered handicapped or disabled under this policy even if they are not covered under the District's special education policies and procedures.

It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools to examine existing policies and develop new policies where needed to ensure that the Rice Lake Area School District does not discriminate pursuant to federal and state law. The Superintendent shall ensure that an employee is designated annually to receive complaints filed under s. 118.13, Wis. Stats., PI 9, Wis. Administrative Code, Title IX of the Education Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act, 1990. That employee shall assure adoption of a complaint procedure to resolve complaints alleging violation of these laws, assure that an evaluation of the District's compliance with s. 118.13, Wis. Statutes is completed every five years under PI 9, Wis. Administrative Code and submit Form PI-1197 to the Department of Public Instruction annually.

## DISABILITY NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Rice Lake Area School District is committed to equal opportunities for all students. No qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from the participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of the school district, or be subject to discrimination by the District. Individuals with disabilities will be provided the opportunity to participate in or benefit from the District's activities. Reasonable modification and differences will be made to accommodate a person with disability to assure that the individual's participation is equal to that given to non-disabled persons.

It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent to examine policies and develop new policies where needed to ensure the Rice Lake Area School District does not discriminate pursuant to state and federal law. The Superintendent shall ensure that an employee, identified as the Disability Coordinator, is designated annually to receive complaints filed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, 1990. That employee shall assure implementation of a complaint procedure to resolve complaints alleging violation of these laws. A non-discrimination notice will be published and available to all parents, students, employees, and the public.

Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures found in Administrative Rule 813. In addition, individuals may file a complaint under this section directly with the U.S. Dept. of Education, Office of Civil Rights, at the following address.

Legal Ref: 118.13 WSS; Title IX Education Amendments of 1972; Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973; American with Disabilities Act of 1990; PI 9 WAC, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; Civil Rights Act of 1991; McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Cross Ref: 411 Rule Student Discrimination Complaint Procedures; 411 Exhibits (1) Notice of Student Non-discrimination Policy; (2) Discrimination Complaint Form; (3) Notice to Complainant of Right to Appeal; 411.2 Accommodation of Student's Religious Beliefs; 813 Rule Discrimination Complaint Procedures; 830 Use of School Facilities

Adopted: 09/28/87

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04/08/96

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