## **Browning Public Schools**

2 Policy #3000

Policy Name: Equal Education and Nondiscrimination

Regulation: -----

Browning Public Schools, District #9 is committed to nondiscrimination in the provision of all educational services. As equal educational opportunity is a fundamental right under both the Montana and United States Constitutions, it is the policy of this District to provide a learning environment free of discrimination. All students shall have opportunities to participate in the general curriculum and co-curricular activities. This includes physical facility access; a climate of tolerance and respect for each individual and reasonable accommodation.

All students have the opportunity to participate in and receive benefits from all programs or activities including, but not limited to, course offerings, graduation requirements, athletics, counseling services, extracurricular and other school-related activities.

Discrimination in education because of sex, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, age, physical or mental handicap, political belief, marital or parental status, Sexual orientation, or gender identity and expression is prohibited unless based upon reasonable grounds as provided by law. The District is committed to taking the appropriate and feasible remedial action necessary to eliminate existing discrimination and its effects.

Inquiries regarding sexual harassment/intimidation should be directed to the Browning Public Schools Title IX Coordinator and in the case of discrimination based on a suspected or known disability, the Browning Public Schools 504 Coordinator should be contacted. In compliance with federal regulations, the District will notify annually all students, parents, staff, and community members of this policy and the designated coordinator(s) to receive inquiries. Notification should include the name and location of the coordinator and will be carried in all handbooks and published in community newspapers.

Inquiries regarding sexual harassment, sex discrimination, or sexual intimidation should be directed to the District Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the Department of Education, or both. The Board designates the following individual to serve as the District's Title IX Coordinator:

Title:

Office address:

Email:

Phone number:

Inquiries regarding discrimination on the basis of disability or requests for accommodation should be directed to the District Section 504 Coordinator. The Board designates the following individual to serve as the District's Section 504 Coordinator:

Title:

Office address:

Email:

Phone number:

Non-curricular groups of students not previously recognized as curricular student organization under Policy 3510 or 3550 may gather on school premises under the following guidelines without restriction on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the meeting. Students wishing to form curricular groups or organizations recognized by the school administration may do so in accordance with policy 3532.

The following guidelines must be met:

- *I.* The meeting is voluntary and student-initiated.
- 2. There is no sponsorship of the meeting by the school district, or its agents or employees.
- 3. The meeting must occur during non-instructional time on regular school days.
- 4. Employees or agents of the school district are present only in a capacity outside of their official duties.
- 5. The meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school.
- 6. Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities.

Although the school assumes no sponsorship of these kinds of meetings, all meetings held on school premises must be scheduled and approved by the principal.

This policy pertains to student meetings. The school has the authority, through its agent or employees, to maintain order and discipline on school premises and to protect the well-being of students and faculty.

Cross Reference: #3900 Student Appeal

#3205 Sexual Harassment/Intimidation #3532 Student Clubs and Activities

**Legal Reference:** 20 USC 1701 Congressional Declaration of Policy

20 USC 1681 Discrimination Based on Sex or Blindness

Article X, Sec 7, Montana Constitution - Non-Discrimination in Education

49-2-307, MCA Discrimination in Education 24.9.1001-1011 Sex Discrimination in Education

20 USC 1400, et. seg. Individuals with Disability Act of 1997

20 U.S.C. 4071 Equal Access Act

Board of Education v. Mergens, 110 S. Ct. 2356 (1990)

29 USC 701 Rehabilitation Act of 1973

42 USC 12101, et. seq. Americans with Disabilities Act

Policy History:
Adopted on: 11/25/97
Revised on: 4/13/00, 1/11/11