Unity School District - Board of Education Board Policy 346

Testing Programs Student Assessments

Last Revised 10/11/2022

In order to best serve students' educational needs, information regarding students' social, emotional, and academic growth is essential in planning programming, lessons, and interventions.

The Unity School District shall establish and maintain a standardized assessment program which can be used, communicated and interpreted by school district employees, parents, Board of Education and members of the Unity School District.

The program will lend itself to:

- 1. A qualitative assessment of the educational program of the District for purposes of reporting the overall status of the District and charting the growth of its students, grades, schools and areas from year to year.
- 2. Appropriate reports to the Board.
- 3. Interpretation and use by the teacher, counselor and administrator so that the test findings will influence the guidance and counseling of individual children, and the development of a high quality curriculum.
- 4. Incorporation into the District's Response to Intervention (Rtl) Program.

The Unity School District shall not discriminate in the methods, practices and materials used for testing, evaluating and counseling students on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures.

| Legal Ref: | Section 118.13 WI Stat. |
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| | Section I120.12(2) WI Stat |
| | Section 121.02(1)(o), (r) & (s), WI Stat |
| | PI 9.03 (1) (f) of WI Administrative Code |

Cross Ref: Discrimination Complaint Procedures

Ongoing assessment is essential to the District's mission of providing an education appropriate to each student. Systematic collection, interpretation, and application of assessment data are necessary to determine student learning and progress, to allow for accountability in teaching and learning, and to facilitate appropriate program review.

In addition to standardized achievement tests, District assessment plans and procedures may involve the use of a variety of formal and informal assessment techniques. Examples of such techniques include the following: teacher-designed assessments, direct observations of student performance, instruments supplied by companies that create instructional materials, diagnostic assessments, tests of learning aptitude, career awareness and career aptitude/attitude assessments, portfolios, and any assessments required by state and

federal laws.

The District expects student assessments to arise from established instructional goals and achievement expectations, to serve an instructionally-relevant purpose, to utilize a reasonable and appropriate methodology, and to reasonably control for sources of bias and distortion that can lead to inaccurate assessment.

Decisions regarding the assessment of students with disabilities and English Learners shall be made on an individualized basis to the extent required by law and in accordance with established District policies and procedures.

Summary District assessment data will be available to administrators and the School Board. Appropriate summary assessment reports, as well as information about the assessments administered to students, will also be provided to the public as required by law. Summary data will be used for curriculum development and evaluation, program development and evaluation, establishing District goals, making budgetary decisions, and developing remediation plans at the classroom, building, and District level when needed. Summary data will also be used to monitor the effectiveness of curriculum, materials, and instruction, to identify relevant trends with respect to groups of students, to provide accountability to parents and guardians, and to determine areas for staff development and study.

When maintained by the District, scores, grades, and other assessment data that are personally identifiable to an individual student are legally-protected student records that will not be disclosed except as otherwise permitted or required by applicable law and by the District's student records policies.

In connection with any of the methods, practices, or materials used for testing and evaluating students, the District shall not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, any physical, mental, emotional or learning disability, or any other legally-protected status or classification. This does not, however, prohibit the use of special testing or counseling materials or techniques to meet the individualized needs of students. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures.