

*NORTH IOWA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
111 3rd Ave. NW
Buffalo Center, IOWA 50424*

Equal Employment Opportunity/ Affirmative Action Plan

EEO/AA

Affirmative Action Compliance Program

School Board Members:

Matt Duve, President
Rande Giesking, Vice President
Emily Angstman
John Helland
Jamie Price
Mark Ostermann
Rachel Wubben

Administrative Team:

Cory Myer, Superintendent
Keri Bergeson, 7 – 12 Principal
Jill Schutjer, K – 6 Principal

Equity & Title IX Coordinator:

Keri Bergeson, 7 – 12 Principal
641-562-2525
bergesonk@northiowa.org

Section 504 Coordinator

Compliance Officer

District Level 1 Investigator

Brad Huntington, Guidance Counselor

District Level 2 Investigator

Dave Peterson, Winnebago County Sheriff

NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 100 – School District

Code No. 102

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

It is the policy of the North Iowa 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 the district's Equity Coordinator: Keri Bergeson, 7 – 12 Principal, 111 3rd Ave NW, Buffalo Center, Iowa, 641-562-2525, bergesonk@northiowa.org.

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.

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

Cross Reference:

- 101 Educational Philosophy of the School District
- 401.1 Equal Employment Opportunity
- 500 Objectives for Equal Educational Opportunities for Students
- 506.1 Student Records

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The North Iowa Community School District offers career and technical programs in the following service areas:

- Agricultural Education
- Business Education
- Family and Consumer Sciences Education
- Industrial Education

It is the policy of the North Iowa 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 the district's Equity Coordinator: Keri Bergeson, 7 – 12 Principal, 111 3rd Ave NW, Buffalo Center, Iowa, 641-562-2525, bergesonk@northiowa.org.

Approved 12/09/2013

Reviewed 11-21-2016

Revised 11-21-2016

CONTINUOUS NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the *North Iowa 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 *the district's Equity Coordinator: Keri Bergeson, 7 – 12 Principal, 111 3rd Ave NW, Buffalo Center, Iowa, 641-562-2525, bergesonk@northiowa.org*.

Approved 12/09/2013

Reviewed 11-21-2016

Revised 11-21-2016

SECTION 504 STUDENT AND PARENTAL RIGHTS

The North Iowa 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;
- 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 North Iowa 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 the district's Equity Coordinator: Keri Bergeson, 7 – 12 Principal, 111 3rd Ave NW, Buffalo Center, Iowa, 641-562-2525, bergesonk@northiowa.org.

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):

Nature of discrimination, harassment, or bullying alleged (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Attribute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sex
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical/Mental Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual Orientation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Familial Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	Socio-economic Background
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender Identity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Party Preference	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other – Please Specify:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Race/Color	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Creed	<input type="checkbox"/>	

In the space below, please describe what happened and why you believe that you or someone else has been discriminated against, harassed, or bullied. Please be as specific as possible and attach additional pages if necessary.

I agree that all of the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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, harassment, or bullying alleged (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Attribute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sex
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical/Mental Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual Orientation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Familial Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	Socio-economic Background
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender Identity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Party Preference	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other – Please Specify:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Race/Color		
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Creed		

Description of incident witnessed: _____

Additional information: _____

I agree that all of the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINT FORM

Date: _____

Date of initial complaint: _____

Name of Complainant
(include whether the
Complainant is a student
or employee): _____Date and place of alleged
incident(s): _____

_____Name of Respondent
(include whether the
Respondent is a student
or employee): _____

Nature of discrimination, harassment, or bullying alleged (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Attribute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sex
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical/Mental Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual Orientation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Familial Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	Socio-economic Background
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender Identity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Party Preference	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other – Please Specify:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Race/Color		
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	<input type="checkbox"/>	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: _____ Date: _____

Approved 12/09/2013Reviewed 11-21-2016Revised 11-21-2016

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

It is the policy of the North Iowa 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 the district's Equity Coordinator: Keri Bergeson, 7 – 12 Principal, 111 3rd Ave NW, Buffalo Center, Iowa, 641-562-2525, bergesonk@northiowa.org.

Students, parents of students, employees, and applicants for employment in the school district have the right to file a formal complaint alleging discrimination. The district has policies and procedures in place to identify and investigate complaints alleging discrimination. If appropriate, the district will take steps to prevent the recurrence of discrimination and to correct its discriminatory effects on the Complainant and others.

A Complainant may attempt to resolve the problem informally by discussing the matter with a building principal or a direct supervisor. However, the Complainant has the right to end the informal process at any time and pursue the formal grievance procedures outlined below. Use of the informal or formal grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies. Please note that informal processes and procedures are not to be used in certain circumstances (e.g., sexual harassment and sexual assault).

Filing a Complaint

A Complainant who wishes to avail himself/herself of this grievance procedure may do so by filing a complaint with the Compliance Officer, Brad Huntington, North Iowa Community School Guidance Counselor, 111 3rd Ave NW, Buffalo Center, Iowa, 641-562-2525, Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. An alternate will be designated in the event it is claimed that the Compliance Officer or superintendent committed the alleged discrimination or some other conflict of interest exists. Complaints shall be filed within *180 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 Compliance Officer shall assist the Complainant as needed.

Investigation

Within *15* working days, the Compliance Officer will begin the investigation of the complaint or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation (hereinafter "compliance officer"). If the Complainant is under 18 years of age, the Compliance Officer 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 to provide a written statement;
- A request for witnesses identified during the course of the investigation to provide a written statement;
- Interviews of the Complainant, Respondent, or witnesses;
- An opportunity to present witnesses or other relevant information; and
- Review and collection of documentation or information deemed relevant to the investigation.

Within 60 working days, the Compliance Officer shall complete the investigation and issue a report with respect to the findings.

The Compliance Officer shall notify the Complainant and Respondent of the decision within 5 working days of completing the written report. Notification shall be by U.S. mail, first class.

Decision and Appeal

The complaint is closed after the Compliance Officer has issued the report, unless within 10 working days after receiving the decision, either party appeals the decision to the superintendent by making a written request detailing why he/she believes the decision should be reconsidered. The Compliance Officer shall promptly forward all materials relative to the complaint and appeal to the superintendent. Within 30 working days, the superintendent shall affirm, reverse, amend the decision, or direct the equity coordinator to gather additional information. The superintendent shall notify the Complainant, Respondent, and the Compliance Officer of the decision within 5 working days of the decision.

Notification shall be by U.S. mail, first class.

The decision of the superintendent shall be final.

The decision of the superintendent in no way prejudices a party from seeking redress through state or federal agencies as provided by in law.

This policy and procedures are to be used for complaints of discrimination, in lieu of any other general complaint policies or procedures that may be available.

If any of the stated timeframes cannot be met by the district, the district will notify the parties and pursue completion as promptly as possible.

Retaliation against any person, because the person has filed a complaint or assisted or participated in an investigation, is prohibited. Persons found to have engaged in retaliation shall be subject to discipline by appropriate measures.

NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 100 – School District

Code No. 104

ANTI-BULLYING/HARASSMENT POLICY

The *North Iowa 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:
 - (1) Places the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student’s person or property.
 - (2) Has a substantial detrimental effect on the student’s physical or mental health.
 - (3) Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student’s academic performance.
 - (4) Has the effect of substantially interfering with the student’s ability to participate in or 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 *180 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. The Investigator shall consider the totality of circumstances presented in determining whether conduct objectively constitutes bullying or harassment. The superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall also be responsible for developing procedures regarding this policy.

Decision

If, after an investigation, a student is found to be in violation of this 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 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.

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 References:

20 U.S.C. §§ 1221-1234j.

29 U.S.C. § 794.

42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d-2000d-7.

42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 2 et. seq.

Iowa Code §§ 216.9; 280.28, 280.3.

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

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

Cross References:

102 Equal Educational Opportunity

502 Student Rights and Responsibilities

503 Student Discipline

506 Student Records

ANTI-BULLYING/ANTI-HARASSMENT INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

The *North Iowa 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:
 - (5) Places the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student’s person or property.
 - (6) Has a substantial detrimental effect on the student’s physical or mental health.
 - (7) Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student’s academic performance.
 - (8) Has the effect of substantially interfering with the student’s ability to participate in or 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 *180 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. The Investigator shall consider the totality of circumstances presented in determining whether conduct objectively constitutes bullying or harassment. The superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall also be responsible for developing procedures regarding this policy.

Decision

If, after an investigation, a student is found to be in violation of this 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 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

Code No. 104.R1 - Continued

school volunteer found to have retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, exclusion from school grounds.

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): _____

Nature of discrimination, harassment, or bullying alleged (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Attribute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sex
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical/Mental Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual Orientation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Familial Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	Socio-economic Background
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender Identity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Party Preference	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other – Please Specify:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Race/Color		
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Creed		

In the space below, please describe what happened and why you believe that you or someone else has been discriminated against, harassed, or bullied. Please be as specific as possible and attach additional pages if necessary.

I agree that all of the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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, harassment, or bullying alleged (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Attribute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sex
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical/Mental Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual Orientation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Familial Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	Socio-economic Background
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender Identity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Party Preference	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other – Please Specify:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Race/Color		
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Creed		

Description of incident witnessed: _____

Additional information: _____

I agree that all of the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINT FORM

Date: _____

Date of initial complaint: _____

Name of Complainant
(include whether the
Complainant is a student
or employee): _____

Date and place of alleged
incident(s): _____

Name of Respondent
(include whether the
Respondent is a student
or employee): _____

Nature of discrimination, harassment, or bullying alleged (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Attribute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sex
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical/Mental Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual Orientation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Familial Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	Socio-economic Background
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender Identity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Party Preference	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other – Please Specify:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Race/Color	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Creed	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Summary of Investigation: _____

I agree that all of the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Approved 12/09/2013

Reviewed 11-21-2016

Revised 11-21-2016

NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 400 – Employees

Code No. 401.1

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The North Iowa Community School District will provide equal opportunity to employees and applicants for employment in accordance with applicable equal employment opportunity and affirmative action laws, directives and regulations of federal, state and local governing bodies. Opportunity to all employees and applicants for employment includes hiring, placement, promotion, transfer or demotion, recruitment, advertising or solicitation for employment, treatment during employment, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and layoff or termination. The school district will take affirmative action in major job categories where women, men, minorities and persons with disabilities are underrepresented. Employees will support and comply with the district's established equal employment opportunity and affirmative action policies. Employees will be given notice of this policy annually.

The board will appoint an affirmative action coordinator. The affirmative action coordinator will have the responsibility for drafting the affirmative action plan. The affirmative action plan will be reviewed by the board at least every two years.

Individuals who file an application with the school district will be given consideration for employment if they meet or exceed the qualifications set by the board, administration, and Iowa Department of Education for the position for which they apply. In employing individuals, the board will consider the qualifications, credentials, and records of the applicants without regard to race, color, creed, sex, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. In keeping with the law, the board will consider the veteran status of applicants.

Prior to a final offer of employment for any teaching position, the school district will perform the background checks required by law. The district may determine on a case-by-case basis that, based on the duties, other positions within the district will also require background checks. Based upon the results of the background checks, the school district will determine whether an offer will be extended. If the candidate is a teacher who has an initial license from the BOEE, then the requirement for a background check is waived.

Advertisements and notices for vacancies within the district will contain the following statement: "The North Iowa Community School District is an EEO/AA employer." The statement will also appear on application forms.

Approved 4/12/95 Reviewed 11/12/12 Revised 04/01/96

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - Continued

Inquiries by employees or applicants for employment regarding compliance with equal employment opportunity and affirmative action laws and policies, including but not limited to complaints of discrimination, will be directed to the Affirmative Action Coordinator by writing to the Affirmative Action Coordinator, North Iowa Community School District, Buffalo Center, Iowa; or by telephoning (515) 562-2525.

Inquiries by employees or applicants for employment regarding compliance with equal employment 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, 310 W. Wisconsin Ave., Ste. 800, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53203-2292, (414) 291-1111 or the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, 400 E. 14th Street, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319-1004, (515) 281-4121 or 1-800-457-4416. This inquiry or complaint to the federal office may be done instead of, or in addition to, an inquiry or complaint at the local level.

Further information and copies of the procedures for filing a complaint are available in the school district's central administrative office and the administrative office in each attendance center.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §§ 621-634 (2010).
42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e et seq. (2010).
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq. (Supp. 2010).
Iowa Code §§ 19B; 20; 35C; 73; 216; 279.8.
281 I.A.C. 12.4; 95.
281 I.A.C. 14.1 ; 2000.

Cross Reference: 102 Equal Educational Opportunity
104 Bullying/Harassment
405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment,
Selection
411.2 Classified Employee Qualifications, Recruitment,
Selection

NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 600 – Educational Program

Code No. 603.1

BASIC INSTRUCTION PROGRAM

The basic instruction program will include the courses required for each grade level by the State Department of Education. The instructional approach will be gender fair and multicultural.

The basic instruction program of students enrolled in kindergarten is designed to develop healthy emotional and social habits, language arts and communication skills, the capacity to complete individual tasks, character education and the ability to protect and increase physical well-being with attention given to experiences relating to the development of life skills and human growth and development.

The basic instruction program of students enrolled in grades one through six will include English-language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, health, human growth and development, physical education, traffic safety, music, and visual art.

The basic instruction program of students enrolled in grades seven and eight will include English-language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, health, human growth and development, family and consumer, career, technology education, physical education, music, and visual art.

The basic instruction program of students enrolled in grades nine through twelve will include, English-language arts (6 units), social studies (5 units), mathematics (6 units), science (5 units), health (1 unit), physical education (1 unit), fine arts (3 units), foreign language (4 units), and vocational education (12 units).

The board may, in its discretion, offer additional courses in the instruction program for any grade level.

Each instruction program is carefully planned for optimal benefit taking into consideration the financial condition of the school district and other factors deemed relevant by the board or superintendent. Each instruction program's plan should describe the program, its goals, the effective materials, the activities and the method for student evaluation.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations stating the required courses and optional courses for kindergarten, grades one through six, grades seven and eight, and grades nine through twelve.

Approved 5-10-95 Reviewed 06-09-14 Revised 04-16-96

Continued on Next Page

BASIC INSTRUCTION PROGRAM – Continued

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 1232h (2012).
34 C.F.R. Pt. 98 (2012).
Iowa Code §§ 216.9; 256.11; 279.8; 280.3-. 14 2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.5.

Cross Reference: 102 Equal Educational Opportunity
103 Long-Range Needs Assessment
505 Student Scholastic Achievement
602 Curriculum Development
603 Instructional Curriculum

NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 600 – Educational Program

Code No. 603.4

MULTICULTURAL / GENDER FAIR EDUCATION

Students will have an equal opportunity for a quality education without discrimination, regardless of their race, religion, creed, socioeconomic status, color, sex, marital status, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.

The education program is free of discrimination and provides equal opportunity for the students. The education program will foster knowledge of and respect and appreciation for the historical and contemporary contributions of diverse cultural groups, as well as men and women, to society. Special emphasis is placed on Asian Americans, African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, American Indians, European-Americans and persons with disabilities. It will also reflect the wide variety of roles open to both men and women and provide equal opportunity to both sexes.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 216.9; 256.11 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.5(8).

Cross Reference: 102 Equal Educational Opportunity
600 Goals and Objectives of the Education Program

Approved 5-10-95

Reviewed 06-09-14

Revised 01/07/2013

NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 600 – Educational Program

Code No. 603.8

TEACHING ABOUT RELIGION

The school district is required to keep the practice of religion out of the school curriculum. The board recognizes the key role religion has played in the history of the world and authorizes the study of religious history and traditions as part of the curriculum. Preferential or derogatory treatment of a single religion will not take place.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure the study of religion in the schools in keeping with the following guidelines:

- the proposed activity must have a secular purpose;
- the primary objective of the activity must not be one that advances or inhibits religion;
and
- the activity must not foster excessive governmental entanglement with religion.

Legal Reference: U.S. Const, amend. I.
Lee v. Weisman. 112 S.Ct. 2649 (1992).
Lemon v. Kurtzman. 403 U.S. 602 (1971).
Graham v. Central Community School District of Decatur County.
608 F.Supp. 531 (S.D. Iowa 1985).
Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.6 (2013).

Cross Reference: 603 Instructional Curriculum
604.5 Religious-Based Exclusion from a School Program
606.2 School Ceremonies and Observances

Approved 5-10-95 Reviewed 06-09-14 Revised 04-16-96

NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 600 – Educational Program

Code No. 603.8R1

TEACHING ABOUT RELIGION REGULATION - RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

The historical and contemporary significance of religious holidays may be included in the education program provided that the instruction is presented in an unbiased and objective manner. The selection of holidays to be studied will take into account major celebrations of several world religions, not just those of a single religion. Holiday-related activities is educationally sound and sensitive to religious differences and is selected carefully to avoid the excessive or unproductive use of school time. Teachers is especially careful in planning activities that are to take place immediately preceding or on a religious holiday.

Music, art, literature and drama having religious themes (including traditional carols, seasonal songs and classical music) will be permitted if presented in an objective manner without sectarian indoctrination. The emphasis on religious themes is only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study or presentation. Religious content included in student performances is selected on the basis of its independent educational merit and will seek to give exposure to a variety of religious customs, beliefs and forms of expression. Holiday programs, parties or performances will not become religious celebrations or be used as a forum for religious worship, such as the devotional reading of sacred writings or the recitations of prayers.

The use of religious symbols (e.g. a cross, menorah, crescent, Star of David, lotus blossom, nativity scene or other symbol that is part of a religious ceremony) are permitted as a teaching aid, but only when such symbols are used temporarily and objectively to give information about a heritage associated with a particular religion. The Christmas tree, Santa Claus, Easter eggs, Easter bunnies and Halloween decorations are secular, seasonal symbols and as such can be displayed in a seasonal context.

Expressions of belief or nonbelief initiated by individual students will not be permitted in composition, art forms, music, speech and debate. However, teachers may not require projects or activities which are indoctrinate or force students to contradict their personal religious beliefs or nonbeliefs.

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NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 600 – Educational Program

Code No. 603.9

ACADEMIC FREEDOM

The board believes students should have an opportunity to reach their own decisions and beliefs about conflicting points of view. Academic freedom is the opportunity of licensed employees and students to study, investigate, present, interpret, and discuss facts and ideas relevant to the subject matter of the classroom and appropriate to and in good taste with the maturity and intellectual and emotional capacities of the students.

It is the responsibility of the teacher to refrain from advocating partisan causes, sectarian religious views, or biased positions in the classroom or through teaching methods. Teachers are not discouraged from expressing personal opinions as long as students are aware it is a personal opinion and students are allowed to reach their own conclusions independently.

It is the responsibility of the principal to ensure academic freedom is allowed but not abused in the classroom.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.3, .6 (2013).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
603 Instructional Curriculum
903.5 Distribution of Materials

Approved 5-10-95 Reviewed 6-09-14 Revised 04-16-96

NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 600 – Educational Program

Code No. 603.9R1

TEACHING CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

A "controversial issue" is a topic of significant academic inquiry about which substantial groups of citizens of this community, this state or this nation hold sincere, conflicting points of view.

It is the belief of the board that controversial issues should be fairly presented in a spirit of honest academic freedom so that students may recognize the validity of other points of view but can also learn to formulate their own opinions based upon dispassionate, objective, unbiased study and discussion of the facts related to the controversy.

It is the responsibility of the instructor to present full and fair opportunity and means for students to study, consider and discuss all sides of controversial issues including, but not limited to, political philosophies.

It is the responsibility of the instructor to protect the right of the student to study pertinent controversial issues within the limits of good taste and to allow the student to express personal opinions without jeopardizing the student's relationship with the teacher.

It is the responsibility of the teacher to refrain from advocating partisan causes, sectarian religious views, or selfish propaganda of any kind through any classroom or school device; however, an instructor will not be prohibited from expressing a personal opinion as long as students are encouraged to reach their own decisions independently.

The board encourages full discussion of controversial issues in a spirit of academic freedom that shows students that they have the right to disagree with the opinions of others but that they also have the responsibility to base the disagreement on facts and to respect the right of others to hold conflicting opinions.

Approved 5-10-95 Reviewed 06-09-14 Revised 04-16-96

NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 600 – Educational Program

Code No. 603.10

GLOBAL EDUCATION

Because of our growing interdependence with other nations in the world, global education is incorporated into the education program for grades kindergarten through twelve so that students have the opportunity to acquire a perspective on world issues, problems, and prospects for an awareness of the relationship between an individual's self-interest and the concerns of people elsewhere in the world.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 256.11,. 11A (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.5(11).

Cross Reference: 602 Curriculum Development
603 Instructional Curriculum

Approved 5-10-95 Reviewed 06-09-14 Revised 04-16-96

NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 600 – Educational Program

Code No. 603.11

CITIZENSHIP

Being a citizen of the United States, of Iowa and of the school district community entitles students to special privileges and protections as well as requiring the students to assume civic, economic and social responsibilities and to participate in their country, state and school district community in a manner that entitles them to keep these rights and privileges.

As part of the education program, students will have an opportunity to learn about their rights, privileges, and responsibilities as citizens of this country, state and school district community. As part of this learning opportunity students are instructed in the elements of good citizenship and the role quality citizens play in their country, state and school district community.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 256.11, . 11A (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.5(3)(b).

Cross Reference: 101 Educational Philosophy of the School District
502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
503 Student Discipline

Approved 5-10-95 Reviewed 06-09-14 Revised 04-16-96

NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 600 – Educational Program

Code No. 604.5

RELIGIOUS-BASED EXCLUSION FROM A SCHOOL PROGRAM

Parents who wish to have their child excluded from a school program because of religious beliefs must inform the superintendent. The board authorizes the administration to allow the exclusion if it is not disruptive to the education program and it does not infringe on a compelling state or educational interest. Further, the exclusion must not interfere with other school district operations. Students who are allowed to be excluded from a program of activity which violates their religious beliefs are required to do an alternate supervised activity or study.

In notifying the superintendent, the parents will abide by the following:

- The notice is in writing;
- The objection is based on religious beliefs;
- The objection will state which activities or studies violate their religious beliefs;
- The objection will state why these activities or studies violate their religious beliefs; and
- The objection will state a proposed alternate activity or study.

The superintendent will have discretion to make this determination. The factors the superintendent will consider when a student requests to be excluded from a program or activity because of religious beliefs include, but are not limited to, staff available to supervise a student who wishes to be excluded, space to house the student while the student is excluded, available superintendent-approved alternative course of study or activity while the student is excluded, number of students who wish to be excluded, whether allowing the exclusion places the school in a position of supporting a particular religion, and whether the program or activity is required for promotion to the next grade level or for graduation.

Legal Reference: U.S. Const, amend. I.
Lee v. Weisman. 112 S.Ct. 2649 (1992).
Lemon v. Kutzman. 403 U.S. 602 (1971).
Graham v. Central Community School District of Decatur County.
608 F.Supp. 531 (S.D. Iowa 1985).
Iowa Code §§ 256.11(6); 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 603 Instructional Curriculum
606.2 School Ceremonies and Observances

Approved 5-10-95 Reviewed 11-10-14 Revised 04-16-96

NORTH IOWA SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Series 600 – Educational Program

Code No. 606.2

SCHOOL CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

The school district will continue school ceremonies and observances which have become a tradition and a custom of the education program. These include, but are not limited to, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and observance of holidays, such as Christmas, Halloween and Easter, by programs and performances. Such ceremonies or observances will have a secular purpose and will not advocate or sponsor a particular religion.

Students who do not wish to participate in these activities may be silent during the ceremony or observance or receive permission from the principal to be excused from the ceremony for religious reasons in compliance with board policy.

Legal Reference: U.S. Const, amend. I.
Lee v. Weisman. 112 S.Ct. 2649 (1992).
Lemon v. Kurtzman. 403 U.S. 602. (1971).
Graham v. Central Community School District of Decatur
County. 608 F.Supp. 531 (S.D. Iowa 1985).
Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 603 Instructional Curriculum
604.5 Religious-Based Exclusion From A School Program

Approved 5-10-95 Reviewed 12-08-14 Revised 04-16-96

I. ADMINISTRATIVE STATEMENT

The North Iowa Community School District has been, and will continue to be, an equal opportunity employer. This Affirmative Action Program has been adopted in an effort to increase the participation of women, minorities and persons with disabilities in positions in which those groups are underrepresented. To help assure full implementation of this policy, we will provide that:

1. Persons are recruited, hired and promoted for all jobs without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs). Placement decisions are based only on an individual's qualifications for the position being filled.
2. Other personnel actions such as compensation, benefits, transfers, layoffs, return from layoffs, and district sponsored programs and activities are administered without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs).

It is our policy to take affirmative action in the employment of qualified minorities, females/males, handicapped individuals and veterans as provided by Iowa Code Chapter 70. Reasonable accommodation will be provided whenever possible in our efforts to advance employment opportunities for handicapped individuals and disabled veterans.

The School Board and the administration are committed to equal opportunity and affirmative action. We expect all members of the staff to assist and support us in attaining these objectives of equal employment opportunity and affirmative action.

The superintendent will annually review the evaluation process, job descriptions and the evaluation instruments, review the plan for updates and set goals, and will give an annual progress report to the Board on AA/EEO goals.

II. LEGAL BASIS AND COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

State and federal laws prohibit discrimination in employment based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs). Those laws apply to all aspects of the employer-employee relationship. Those laws are directed toward conduct that regulates what may and may not be done.

Iowa law now requires each school district, area education agency and merged area school to “develop affirmative action standards.” This program has been developed to meet the requirement of Iowa Code Section 19B.11 (1989) and Department of Education rules in Iowa Administrative Code 281-Chapter 95.

“Affirmative Action” is defined as “action appropriate to overcome the effects of past or present practices, policies, or other barriers to equal employment opportunity” on the basis of race, national origin, race or disability. Thus, anti-discrimination law regulates what will not be done and affirmative action law specifies what will be done. The Iowa affirmative action law and rules apply to “recruitment, appointment, assignment, and advancement of personnel.”

The term “under-representation” means having fewer members of a racial/ethnic group, women, men or persons with disabilities in a particular job category than would be reasonably expected based on their availability in the relevant labor market.

For purposes of affirmative action, the terms “disabled” and “persons with a disability” mean “any person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such impairment or is regarded as having such an impairment.”

“Equal Employment Opportunity” refers to equal access to employment, training, advancement and employment benefits, on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socioeconomic status.

The required analysis by school district should identify under-representation in a job category, and the required objectives should attempt to eradicate the under-representation. The objectives are not to be treated or understood as rigid and inflexible quotas that must be met, but as reasonable aspirations toward correcting imbalance in the workforce. Change can occur only when vacancies in job groups where under-representation exists, race, sex or disability will serve as selection criteria but will not be the sole criteria. Such elements will serve as a “plus” factor for individuals from an underrepresented group who are equally qualified for the position to be filled.

III. LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

In an effort to achieve Equal Employment Opportunity for all, the North Iowa Community School District will be guided by the intent and mandate of relevant laws and regulations, including but not limited to the following:

- A. Civil Right Act of 1964 As Amended, 42 U.S.C. Section 2000e et.seq.
Title VII, Section 703a: It shall be unlawful employment practice for an employer
- a. to fail or refuse to hire or to discharge an individual, or otherwise discriminate against any individual with respect to compensation, because of such individual's race, color, religion, gender, nationality, or handicap; or
 - b. to limit, segregate, or classify his or her employees or applicants for employment opportunities or otherwise adversely affect status as an employee because of such individual's race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.
 - c. It shall be unlawful employment practice for an employment agency to fail or refuse for employment or otherwise discriminate against any individual because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin; or to classify or refer for employment any individual on the basis of race, color, gender, national origin, or handicap.

- B. Title IX Non-Discrimination in Federally Assisted Education Programs, 20 U.S.C. Section 1981.

Prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender against students in educational programs within educational agencies that receive federal funds.

- C. Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

Section 1 declares that all persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside and that no state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

- D. The Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. Section 794 et.seq.

Section 504. Prohibits discrimination based on handicap for both employment and the provision of services.

- E. Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, 29 U.S.C. Section 621 et, seq.

Seeks to prevent employment discrimination because of age against persons over the age of 40.

- F. The Equal Pay Act of 1963, 29 U.S.C. Section 206d

The Equal Pay Act was the first federal law specifically aimed at correcting discrimination in employment. Basically, it mandates "Equal pay for equal work"

regardless of gender. The law's three benchmark for a job are skill, effort, and responsibility.

G. Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978, 42 U.S.C. Section 2000e(k)

The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 requires employers to provide health and disability benefits to pregnant employees as would be provided to any other employee with a disability.

H. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Guidelines 29 CFR, paragraph 1608.1b (1985)

The EEOC has issued guidelines that encourage employers to voluntarily undertake programs which, "Improve Opportunities for minorities and women." The United States Supreme Court has generally deferred to EEOC interpretation of Title VII and the guidelines, which support that agency's position.

I. Iowa Code Chapter 601A (1989)

The Iowa Civil Rights Act was adopted in 1965. The Act, as amended, prescribes the powers and duties of the Civil Rights Commission and the definitions of unfair practices related to employment, accommodations or services, housing education and credit. The Chapter contains the procedures for processing complaints of discrimination. Pursuant to the Act, it is unfair practice to discriminate in employment against any applicant for employment or any employee because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, religion or disability of such applicant or employee, unless based upon the nature of the occupation.

J. Iowa Code, Section 1981.11 (1989)

This section of the Iowa Code requires equal employment opportunity and affirmative action in school districts, area education agencies, and community colleges. The State Board of Education adopted rules to implement Section 19B.11, codified as Iowa Administrative Code 281-95 through 281-95.7. The rules require specific steps to accomplish the goals of affirmative action in the recruitment, appointment, assignment, and advancement of personnel.

K. Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

This Act, as it relates to employment, became effective July 26, 1992. It provides that no employer shall discriminate against individual with a disability because of the disability of such individual with regard to job application procedures, hiring advancement, or discharge of employees, employee compensation, job training, and other terms, conditions, and privileges of employment.

IV. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

The North Iowa Community School District has an established policy of Equal Employment Opportunity with respect to race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for

employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs). The district has an established policy of taking affirmative action in recruitment, appointment, assignment and advancement of women, minorities and persons with disabilities. In order to effectively communicate and interpret the district's policies to all levels of the administration and all other employees, community and educational agencies, and the public in general, the following will be undertaken:

- A. Dissemination of Policy: Employees will be reminded annually of the districts written statement of policy through the student handbook, teacher handbook school calendar, and all employment applications.
- B. Employment advertisements will contain assurance of equal employment opportunity.
- C. All employment and recruiting sources where jobs are listed by the district will be reminder of our policy, both orally and in writing.
- D. All employees, including women, minority groups and employees with disabilities will receive compensation in accordance with the same standards. Opportunities for performing overtime work or otherwise earning increased compensation will be afforded to all qualified employees without discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs).
- E. Annual review of employment by Board of Education
- F. Directors and Principals will carefully consider Affirmative Action goals when employing new personnel.
- G. District office will review all employment recommendations to insure the Affirmative Action was implemented.
- H. The District will send Equity Coordinator/s to equity training.

Inquiries by employees or applicants for employment regarding compliance with equal employment opportunity and affirmative action shall be directed to Cory Myer, Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Coordinator, North Iowa Community School District, 111 3rd Ave NW, Buffalo Center, Iowa 50424, (641) 562-2524.

Inquires may also be directed, in writing, to the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, 211 E. Maple, Des Moines, IA 50309, Phone: (515) 281-4121, or to the Director, E.E.O.C., 310 West Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 800, Milwaukee, WI 53203-2292, Phone: (414) 297-1111. Such inquiry or complaint to the state or federal office may be done instead of, or in addition to, an inquiry or complaint at the local level.

V. WORK FORCE ANALYSIS

STAFF

W=White/Caucasian
B=Black
H= Hispanic
A/PI= Asian/ Pacific Islander
AI/AN= American Indian/ Alaska Native
D=Disability

Positions	Total	Male					D	Female					D
		W	B	H	A/PI	AI/AN		W	B	H	A/PI	AI/AN	
1. District Office Administrators	2	1						1					
2. Principals and Associate Principals	2							2					
3. ES Teachers	18	2						16					
4. MS Teachers	8	1						7					
5. HS Teachers	17	10						7					
6. Counselors	2	1						1					
7. Librarian/s	1							1					
8. Associates/ Para Educators	22	1						19		2			
9. Clerical/ Secretary	4							4					
10. At-Risk Coordinator	1							1					
11. Technology Coordinator/s	1							1					
12. Custodial	6	5						1					
13. Transportation	6	4						2					
14. Food Service	5							5					

VI. QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS of AREAS of UNDER-REPRESENTATION

Areas of under-representation were determined by the percentages of men, women and minorities in the North Iowa Community School District compared to percentage of men, women and minority staff members. Information collected from employee files was used as a basis for this analysis.

Areas of Under-representation

	Men	Women	Minorities	Disability
1. District Office Administrators			X	X
2. Principal and Associate Principals			X	X
3. ES Teachers	X		X	X
4. MS Teachers	X		X	X
5. HS Teachers			X	X
6. Counselors			X	X
7. Librarian/s			X	X
8. Associates/ Para Educators	X		X	X
9. Clerical/ Secretary	X		X	X
10. At-Risk Coordinator			X	X
11. Technology Coordinator/s			X	X
12. Custodial		X	X	X
13. Transportation			X	X
14. Food Service	X		X	X

VII. QUALITATIVE ANALYSES , GOALS FOR UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS AND OTHER GOALS

	Person(s) Responsible	Target Date
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Review evaluation process, job descriptions and evaluation instruments	Superintendent	On-going Annually—June/July
Review the plan for updates and set goals	Superintendent Committee	On-going Annually—May/June
Annual Progress Report to the Board on AA/EEO goals	Superintendent	Annually—August/September
GOAL: Monitor / Self-evaluation of employment, personnel policies and practices for fairness on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability	Superintendent Committee	On-going Annually—May/June
GOAL: Record keeping and internal monitoring of plan	Superintendent	On-going Annually—June/July
GOAL: Administration to recruit minority employees and persons with disabilities in all employment areas	Board of Education Administrative Team	On-going Annually—June/August
GOAL: Target female teachers for employment at high school and male teachers in the Elementary and Middle School	Administrative Team	On-going Annually—June/August
GOAL: Target male personnel for employment in food service and para educators.	Administrative Team	On-going Annually—June/August
GOAL: Target female personnel for custodial employment	Administrative Team	On-going Annually—June/August

VIII. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

A Complainant may attempt to resolve the problem informally by discussing the matter with a building principal or a direct supervisor. However, the Complainant has the right to end the informal process at any time and pursue the formal grievance procedures outlined below. Use of the informal or formal grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies. Please note that informal processes and procedures are not to be used in certain circumstances (e.g., sexual harassment and sexual assault).

Filing a Complaint

A Complainant who wishes to avail himself/herself of this grievance procedure may do so by filing a complaint with the Compliance Officer, Brad Huntington, North Iowa Community School Guidance Counselor, 111 3rd Ave NW, Buffalo Center, Iowa, 641-562-2525, Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. An alternate will be designated in the event it is claimed that the Compliance Officer or superintendent committed the alleged discrimination or some other conflict of interest exists. Complaints shall be filed within 180 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 Compliance Officer shall assist the Complainant as needed.

Investigation

Within 15 working days, the Compliance Officer will begin the investigation of the complaint or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation (hereinafter “compliance officer”). If the Complainant is under 18 years of age, the Compliance Officer 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 to provide a written statement;
- A request for witnesses identified during the course of the investigation to provide a written statement;
- Interviews of the Complainant, Respondent, or witnesses;
- An opportunity to present witnesses or other relevant information; and
- Review and collection of documentation or information deemed relevant to the investigation.

Within 60 working days, the Compliance Officer shall complete the investigation and issue a report with respect to the findings.

The Compliance Officer shall notify the Complainant and Respondent of the decision within 5 working days of completing the written report. Notification shall be by U.S. mail, first class.

Decision and Appeal

The complaint is closed after the Compliance Officer has issued the report, unless within 10 working days after receiving the decision, either party appeals the decision to the superintendent by making a written request detailing why he/she believes the decision should be reconsidered.

The Compliance Officer shall promptly forward all materials relative to the complaint and appeal to the superintendent. Within 30 working days, the superintendent shall affirm, reverse, amend the decision, or direct the equity coordinator to gather additional information. The superintendent shall notify the Complainant, Respondent, and the Compliance Officer of the decision within 5 working days of the decision.

Notification shall be by U.S. mail, first class.

The decision of the superintendent shall be final.

The decision of the superintendent in no way prejudices a party from seeking redress through state or federal agencies as provided by in law.

This policy and procedures are to be used for complaints of discrimination, in lieu of any other general complaint policies or procedures that may be available.

If any of the stated timeframes cannot be met by the district, the district will notify the parties and pursue completion as promptly as possible.

Retaliation against any person, because the person has filed a complaint or assisted or participated in an investigation, is prohibited. Persons found to have engaged in retaliation shall be subject to discipline by appropriate measures.

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): _____

Nature of discrimination, harassment, or bullying alleged (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Attribute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sex
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical/Mental Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual Orientation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Familial Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	Socio-economic Background
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender Identity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Party Preference	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other – Please Specify:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Race/Color		
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Creed		

In the space below, please describe what happened and why you believe that you or someone else has been discriminated against, harassed, or bullied. Please be as specific as possible and attach additional pages if necessary.

I agree that all of the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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, harassment, or bullying alleged (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Attribute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sex
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical/Mental Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual Orientation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Familial Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	Socio-economic Background
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender Identity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Party Preference	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other – Please Specify:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Race/Color	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Creed	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Description of incident witnessed: _____

Additional information: _____

I agree that all of the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINT FORM

Date: _____

Date of initial complaint: _____

Name of Complainant
(include whether the
Complainant is a student or
employee): _____

Date and place of alleged
incident(s): _____

Name of Respondent
(include whether the
Respondent is a student or
employee): _____

Nature of discrimination, harassment, or bullying alleged (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Attribute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sex
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical/Mental Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual Orientation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Familial Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	Socio-economic Background
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender Identity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political Party Preference	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other – Please Specify:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Race/Color	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Origin/Ethnic Background/Ancestry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Creed	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Summary of Investigation: _____

I agree that all of the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

IX. RECRUITING CENTERS used to recruit certified staff

Teach Iowa Website

www.teachiowa.gov

Career Planning & Placement Office

Drake University
25th & University Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50311

Career Services

University of Northern Iowa
102 Gilchrist
Cedar Falls, IA 50614

Educational Placement Office

University of Iowa
302 Lindquist Center North
Iowa City, IA 52242-1529

ISU Education Career Services

Iowa State University
E 105 Lagomarcino
Ames, IA 50011-3190

Waldorf College

106 South 6th Street
North Iowa, IA 50436

Central College

Career Center Office
812 University
Pella, IA 50219

Simpson College

Counseling and Career Services
701 North C. Street
Indianola, IA 50125

North Iowa Area Community College

500 College Drive
Mason City, IA 50401

X. SOURCES USED TO ADVERTISE STAFF POSITIONS

Teach Iowa Website

www.teachiowa.gov

North Iowa Community School District Web Page

www.northiowa.org

Buffalo Center Tribune

24 N. Main Street

Buffalo Center, IA 50424

The Globe Gazette

300 North Washington Avenue

P.O. Box 271

Mason City, IA 50401