

RESOLUTION
AFFIRMATION OF COMMITMENT TO NONDISCRIMINATION AND
ANTI-HARASSMENT OF LGBTQ+ YOUTH AND ADULTS IN THE VBCPS EDUCATIONAL
ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS, the School Board and Virginia Beach City Public Schools (hereinafter “VBCPS) believe that every student is entitled to an education that is responsive to the student's unique needs to work toward reaching their full potential and that all individuals have the right to a safe physical, emotional, and social environment where responsibility and respect are demonstrated daily and where students are engaged in learning and are active participants in the educational environment because they feel accepted and valued; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ youth and adults are valued members of the VBCPS community; and

WHEREAS, VBCPS acknowledges that LGBTQ+ youth and adults encounter many challenges both in and out of the educational environment and that those challenges can often interfere with their access to educational services and programs; and

WHEREAS, VBCPS further acknowledges that federal and state law, regulation and guidance regarding nondiscrimination and antiharassment based on sex, sexual orientation and gender identity are rapidly changing and at times inconsistent; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 the School Board amended School Board Policies 4-4 and 5-7 to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 the Virginia General Assembly amended the Virginia Human Rights Act §2.2-3900 to prohibit discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation and gender identity; and

WHEREAS, the School Board amended its policies and regulations regarding sexual harassment and discrimination in violation of Title IX of the Education Acts of and adopted enhanced Title IX procedures as required by federal law and regulation; and

WHEREAS, existing state and federal statutory and case law affirms the rights of both parents/guardians and students on issues of privacy and the right to freedom from discrimination under Title IX, Title VII and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board affirms, supports, and values each of our students and staff and will continue to further our efforts to create a welcoming, safe, and inclusive learning environment providing protections for all students and staff regardless of sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or on any other characteristic protected by state or federal law; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: VBCPS is committed to eliminating all forms of unlawful discrimination and harassment in the educational environment. Accordingly, no student shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to unlawful discrimination under any VBCPS education program or non-athletic activity based on sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or on any other characteristic protected by state or federal law regarding non-discrimination and anti-harassment; and be it

FUTHER RESOLVED: That School Board will not adopt, amend, suspend or repeal its bylaws or policies and the School Administration will not adopt, amend, suspend or repeal its regulations to violate the Virginia Human Rights Act § 2.2-3900, as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 with regard to discrimination and harassment based on sex, sexual orientation or gender identity; and be it

FUTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution be spread across the official minutes of this Board.

Adopted by the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach this _____ Day of _____ 2023