

IDENTIFICATION, EVALUATION AND EDUCATION OF STUDENTS WHO ARE QUALIFIED DISABLED PERSONS WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

Equal Opportunities for All Students

The district is committed to providing equal opportunities for students in all educational programs and activities without discrimination based upon sex, race, age, color, religion, origin, ethnic group, marital or parental status, and physical or mental disability.

The Governing Board shall ensure equal opportunities for all students in admission and access to academic courses, guidance and counseling programs, athletic programs, testing procedures, vocational education, and other activities.

Separate arrangements may be made for students according to sex in order to protect modesty in shower rooms and sex instruction, to adjust grading standards in physical education, and athletic competition, or to accommodate the special needs of choral groups, drill teams, cheerleaders, and the like.

School staff and volunteers must be especially careful to guard against unconscious discrimination and stereotyping in instruction, guidance, and supervision.

It is the responsibility of the district to identify and evaluate students who, within the intent of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, require regular education or special education and related aides and services in order that such students may receive the required free appropriate education.

For this policy, a student who may need special services or programs within the intent of Section 504 is one who:

1. Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, including learning; or
2. Has a record of such impairment; or
3. Is regarded as having such impairment.

Students may be eligible for services under the provisions of Section 504 even though they do not require services pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Act (formerly Education of the Handicapped Act, P.L. 94-142). Students who are identified as individuals with exceptional needs, according to the IDEA criteria, are not addressed under this policy. The needs of such students are provided for under Board Policy 6164.4(a) and its procedures under California Education Code Section 565000 et. seq.