

First Reading Draft 12/6/18

Second Reading 12/20/18

## EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

In recognition of the diversified characteristics and needs of our students and with the desire to be responsive to them, the School Committee will make every effort to protect the dignity of the students as individuals. It also will offer careful consideration and sympathetic understanding of their personal feelings, particularly with reference to their race, color, sex, gender identity religion, national origin, **pregnancy or pregnancy related condition**, disability, sexual orientation or homelessness.

To accomplish this, the Committee and its staff will make every effort to comply with the Massachusetts equal educational opportunities law (known as Chapter 622 of the Acts of 1971), which prohibits discrimination in public school admissions and programs. The law reads as follows:

No child shall be excluded from or discriminated against in admission to a public school of any town, or in obtaining the advantages, privileges and course of study of such public school on account of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, **pregnancy or pregnancy related condition**, disability, sexual orientation or homelessness.

This will mean that every student will be given equal opportunity in school admission, admission to courses, guidance, and extracurricular and athletic activities.

All implementing provisions issued by the Board of Education in compliance with this law will be followed.

LEGAL REFS.:      Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964  
                         Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Employment  
                         Opportunity Act of 1972  
                         Executive Order 11246, as amended by E.O. 11375  
                         Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972  
                         M.G.L. 76:5; 76:16 (Chapter 622 of the Acts of 1971)  
                         **DESE regulations 603 CMR 26:00**  
                         **DESE regulations 603 CMR 28:00**  
                         **Pregnancy Workers Fairness Act Issued 1/23/18**

CROSS REF.:      AC, Nondiscrimination

*SC Approved 4/27/17*