

POLICY 313 SAFE SCHOOLS

The Board of Education is committed to providing safe, caring and inclusive environments in which all learners and employees are treated with respect and can achieve personal growth and responsible citizenship.

In accordance with the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom*, the *British Columbia Human Rights Code* and the district's collective agreements, the Board of Education expects members of the school community to conduct themselves in a respectful manner in order to promote a safe and inclusive school environment.

The Board promotes clearly defined expectations that represent the highest standards of respectful and responsible citizenship and lead to a culture of safety among all persons in all schools and at all school-authorized events and activities.

This responsibility is shared among all partners including the district, schools, students, parents/guardians/caregivers, community groups, social agencies and the RCMP. The Board promotes understanding and acceptance of the interactive roles required to achieve safe, caring and inclusive schools.

The Board expects that persons will:

- Comply with all applicable federal, provincial and municipal laws, and with district policy and regulations.
- Value and encourage learning and working environments that are inclusive and respectful of the diverse individual, collective, social and cultural needs of our community.
- Treat one another with dignity and respect.
- Refrain from engaging in or encouraging acts of violence of any form.
- Show care and regard for school property.
- Take appropriate measures to help those in need.
- Comply with reasonable requests from those in positions of authority.

The Board expects that all persons will not engage in behavior that constitutes discrimination based on grounds as set out in the *Human Rights Code*, including:

- Race
- Colour
- Physical or mental ability
- Socio Economic status
- Ancestry
- Place of origin
- Political belief
- Religion
- Marital or Family Status
- Gender Identity or Expression

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 33 (CHILLIWACK) Policy Manual



- Sexual Orientation
- Age

The Board of Education is strongly committed to Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination by creating safe, caring and inclusive environments for all students and staff. The District is responsible for ensuring that all students and staff members are treated with dignity and respect.

The District also recognizes that some school members face a unique set of challenges within schools and communities. The School District will not permit or tolerate any homophobic and/or transphobic behaviour, such as harassment, intimidation, discrimination or bullying, whether by commission or by failing to act to end such behaviour. Staff will respond to all incidents and provide support and assistance to those who are the intended or unintended targets of such behavior.

The creation of safe, caring and inclusive environments for students and staff, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, is addressed in detail in Administrative Procedure 356: Safe and Caring Schools: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity or Expression.