

Dignity Honored: Policies

The Solanco School District's commitment to Dignity and Belonging is supported by its policies. Below are Board-approved policies that support a welcoming community where dignity is honored for all students. This list is not intended to be an exhaustive list of policies that may apply to specific situations. Further, this list does not serve as official guidance.

Policy 103 Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices

The Board declares it to be the policy of this District to provide an equal opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential through the programs offered in the schools without discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability.

Policy 103.1 Nondiscrimination – Qualified Students with Disabilities

The Board declares it to be the policy of this District to ensure that all District programs and practices are free from discrimination against all qualified students with disabilities. The Board recognizes its responsibility to provide academic and nonacademic services and programs equally to students with and without disabilities.

Policy 104 Nondiscrimination/Discriminatory Harassment – Employment Practices

The Board declares it to be the policy of this District to provide to all persons equal access to all categories of employment in this District, regardless of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, pregnancy or handicap/disability. The District shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and mental impairments that constitute disabilities, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations.

113 Special Education

The District shall offer each student with a disability education programs and services that appropriately meet the student's needs for educational, instructional, transitional and related services. A student who requires special education shall receive programs and services according to an individualized education program (IEP). The IEP shall provide access to the District's general curriculum and participation in state and local assessments, including supplemental aids and services that permit the student to be educated, to the maximum extent appropriate, with nondisabled peers. The District shall provide a continuum of placement options to appropriately meet the needs of students with disabilities.

113.1 Discipline of Students With Disabilities

The District shall develop and implement positive Behavior Support Plans and programs for students with disabilities who require specific interventions to address behaviors that interfere with learning.

Students with disabilities who violate the Code of Student Conduct, or engage in inappropriate behavior, disruptive or prohibited activities and/or actions injurious to themselves or others, which would typically result in corrective action or discipline of students without disabilities, shall be disciplined in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations and Board policy and, if applicable, their Individualized Education Program (IEP) and Behavior Support Plan.

113.2 Behavior Support

Students with disabilities shall be educated in the least restrictive environment and shall only be placed in settings other than the regular education class when the nature or severity of the student's disability is such that education in the regular education class with the use of appropriate supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. The IEP team for a student with disabilities shall develop a positive behavior support plan if the student requires specific intervention to address behavior that interferes with learning. The identification, evaluation, and plan or program shall be conducted and implemented in accordance with state and federal law and regulations.

114 Gifted Education

In accordance with the Board's philosophy to develop the special abilities of each student, the District shall provide gifted education programs designed to meet the individual educational needs of each student.

117 Homebound Instruction

The Board shall provide, pursuant to law and regulations, individual instruction to students confined to home or hospital for physical disability, illness, injury, or when such confinement is recommended for psychological or psychiatric reasons.

123 Interschool Athletics

The Board recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school experience for all District students and as a conduit for community involvement.

138 Language Instruction Educational Program for English Learners

In accordance with the Board's philosophy to provide a quality educational program to all District students, and to increase the English language proficiency of students who are English Learners (EL), the District shall provide an effective Language Instruction Educational Program (LIEP) that meets the needs of English Learners. The goal of the LIEP shall be to demonstrate success in increasing English language proficiency and student academic achievement so that EL students can attain the academic standards adopted by the Board and achieve academic success. EL students shall be identified, assessed and provided appropriate instruction in accordance with the LIEP, and shall be provided an equitable opportunity to achieve their maximum potential in educational programs and extracurricular activities, consistent with federal and state laws and regulations.

142 Migrant Students

The Board establishes a program to address the needs and provide appropriate services to migrant students attending District schools.

201 Admission of Students

The Board shall establish age requirements for the admission of beginning students which are consistent with statute and sound educational practice and ensure the equitable treatment of all eligible children.

203.1 HIV Infection

The Board is committed to providing a safe, healthy environment for its students and employees. The purpose of this policy shall be to safeguard the health and well-being of students and staff while protecting the rights of the individual.

206 Assignment Within District

The Board directs that the assignment of students to classes and schools within the District shall be consistent with the educational needs and abilities of students and the best use of District resources.

209.2 Diabetes Management

The Board recognizes that an effective program of diabetes management in school is crucial to:

- The immediate safety of students with diabetes.
- The long-term health of students with diabetes.
- Ensure that students with diabetes are ready to learn and participate fully in school activities.
- Minimize the possibility that diabetes-related emergencies will disrupt classroom activities.

220 Student Expression/Distribution and Posting of Materials

The right of public school students to freedom of speech is guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and the constitution of the Commonwealth. The Board respects the right of students to express themselves in word or symbol and to distribute and post materials in areas designated for posting as a part of that expression. The Board also recognizes that exercise of that right must be limited by the district's responsibility to maintain an orderly school environment and to protect the rights of all members of the school community.

221 Dress and Grooming

The Board recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference.

234 Pregnant Students

No student, whether married or unmarried, who is eligible to attend District schools shall be denied an educational program solely because of pregnancy, childbirth, pregnancy-related disabilities, or actual or potential parenthood; nor shall a pregnant student under the age of

seventeen (17) be excused from the requirements of compulsory attendance solely for reasons of pregnancy or maternity.

235 Student Rights/Surveys

This policy sets forth guidelines by which student rights and responsibilities are determined, consistent with law and regulations.

247 Hazing

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the District and are prohibited at all times.

251 Homeless Students

The Board recognizes its obligation to ensure that homeless students have access to the same educational programs and services provided to other District students. The Board shall make reasonable efforts to identify homeless children within the District, encourage their enrollment, and eliminate existing barriers to their attendance and education, in compliance with federal and state law and regulations.

252 Bullying and Cyberbullying

The Board strives to provide a safe, positive learning climate for students in the schools. Therefore, it shall be the policy of the District to maintain an educational environment in which bullying and cyberbullying in any form are not tolerated.