

“Building Community Through Education”

Oshkosh Area School District — Office of Special Education



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Dear OASD Families,

The Oshkosh Area School District is committed to doing what is best for students and fostering a safe, supportive and inclusive learning environment for all. We are also committed to partnering with families to support the unique needs of every student.

At this time we wanted to inform you of a change to Administrative Guideline 2260E: Nondiscrimination Guidelines Related to Students Who Are Transgender and Students Who Are Nonconforming to Gender Role Stereotypes

The District recently changed a section of administrative guideline 2260E that required parental consent in order for district staff to use a student's preferred name or gender pronouns if they differed from the student's biological sex assigned at birth. **District staff members are no longer required to seek parental consent prior to honoring student requests to be called by their preferred name and/or pronouns.**

- This change only impacts how a student who is transgender or gender nonconforming is referred to (name and/or pronouns) during school and school activities.
- District staff will continue to work directly with students who are transgender and gender nonconforming and their families to maintain ongoing communication.
- Documentation of a legal name change is still required in order to change a student's name in the school's information database.

While we understand that there are varying perspectives related to gender identity, we know that in order to put students first we must acknowledge and support each student's unique needs. In making this change our goal is to empower students to advocate for themselves, while ensuring that our classrooms and schools are places where all students are able to be their true selves. It is our hope that by providing students with the support they need at school they will be able to have those same conversations at home and with those around them if they haven't already.

As a District, we strive to communicate with families in a timely and comprehensive manner. However, we know that some media outlets have already reported on this administrative guideline change. Our hope is that this District update provides families and the public with the information and context needed to understand this change and the District's commitment to putting students first.

Our District's guiding principle of students first continues to move us forward and we are grateful for the partnership and support of our families as we strive to support all students.

Thank you,

Matthew Kaemmerer

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