

Surprise Valley Joint Unified School District

This notice of non-discrimination meets the minimum requirements of the regulations enforced by OCR:

The Surprise Valley Joint Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Civil Rights Coordinator/Complaint Coordinator

Janelle Anderson-Superintendent
470 Lincoln Street
PO Box 100
Cedarville, CA 96104
530 279-6141 #124 or 222

Title IX Coordinator

Rikki-Lee Carey, Teaching Principal
Surprise Valley High School
470 Lincoln Street
PO Box 100
Cedarville, CA 96104
530 279-6141 #123

Title IX of The Education Amendment of 1972 protects individuals from discrimination (including sexual harassment and sexual violence) based on sex in any educational program or activity. Title IX also prohibits retaliation for asserting or otherwise participating claims of sex discrimination.

Complaints pertaining to Title IX, Civil Rights, or any others issues (except Williams Act Complaints) may be filed by utilizing the Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP). Copies of the UCP are available from site principals, site secretaries, or from the business office.

Surprise Valley Joint Unified School District Title IX – Sex Based Nondiscrimination

Each student and employee has a right to learn and work in an environment that is free from unlawful discrimination. No District student or employee shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination on the basis of actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, gender, or gender identity or expression.

Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 is one of several federal and state anti-discrimination laws that ensure equality in education. Title IX prohibits discrimination, harassment, exclusion, denial, limitation or separation based on sex or gender. Title IX applies to both male and female students in any educational institution receiving federal funding.

California Education Code Sections 200 through 282 and Surprise Valley Joint Unified School District Board Policy prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation or gender. Title IX requires that every school district or institution have a Title IX Compliance Officer to whom concerns or complaints regarding sex discrimination can be made.

Complaint Process

- Students or parents/guardians should report their verbal or written Title IX complaint to the school administrator or Title IX Compliance Officer within six months from the date the incident occurred. Complainants have a right to a timely and informal resolution at the school site.
- The Uniform Complaint Procedures will be used to investigate and resolve Title IX complaints.
- An appeal of the district's findings may be made to the California Department of Education - Office of Equal Opportunity.

SURPRISE VALLEY JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SEXUAL & GENDER-BASED HARASSMENT POLICY NOTICE

All students have the right to be educated in a positive and safe environment that is free from harassment and discrimination. The District prohibits sexual and gender-based harassment of students by other students, employees or other persons, while on school grounds, while going to or coming from school, while at school activities on or off school grounds, while on district transportation, or while otherwise in a District program or activity. The District prohibits retaliatory behavior or action against any person(s) who files a complaint, testifies, or otherwise participates in District complaint procedures.

Sexual harassment is unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature. Examples of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment, if unwelcome, include: (1) suggestive or obscene letters, notes, invitations, graffiti, jokes, or comments; slurs; epithets; sexual gestures; and displays of sexually suggestive objects, pictures, or cartoons; (2) groping, sexual touching, leering, and impeding or blocking movement; (3) sexual conduct that would be considered criminal activity, including sexual assault and sexual exploitation; (4) continuing to express sexual interest after being informed that the interest is unwelcome (reciprocal attraction, among peers, is not considered sexual harassment); (5) threatening to withhold grades earned or deserved or suggesting a scholarship recommendation or college application will be denied, as a condition of receiving sexual favors; (6) engaging in sexual behavior to control, influence, or affect the educational opportunities, grades, and/or learning environment of a student; (7) offering favors or educational benefits, such as grades, assessments, assignments, and recommendations in exchange for sexual favors; (8) inappropriate sexual touching between students that, even if consensual, contributes to a sexually charged environment for other students who witness the behavior; (9) any sexual conduct or expression of sexual interest by an adult toward a student regardless of reciprocity.

Gender-based harassment includes acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility that are based on sex, although they are not necessarily sexual in nature. Examples of conduct that may constitute gender-based harassment include: (1) disparaging remarks made to a student or aggression toward a student because that student displays mannerisms or a style of dress perceived as indicative of the other sex; (2) hostility toward a student because that student participates in an athletic activity more typically favored by a student of the other sex; (3) intimidating a student to discourage that student from enrolling in a particular area of study because of his/her gender; (4) use of gender-specific slurs, whether written or spoken; (5) taunting a student who wishes to participate in an extracurricular activity because that activity is more typically favored by a student of the other sex

Any student who feels that they are being or have been harassed based on sex or gender is encouraged to immediately talk to a teacher, another school employee, and contact the District's Title IX Compliance Officer:

Rikki-Lee Carey
470 Lincoln Street
PO Box 100 Cedarville, CA 96104
530 279-6141 #123 – rcarey@svjUSD.org

Any employee who receives such a complaint, otherwise becomes aware, or personally observes possible sexual or gender-based harassment shall immediately report it to the District's Title IX Compliance Officer or the principal or vice principal of the relevant school site.

During the course of a sexual or gender-based harassment investigation, students may be interviewed by the Title IX Compliance Officer or designee without prior notification of parents/guardians. While every effort will be made to notify parents/guardians prior to interviews with students, the need to gather information and ensure the safety of our students may require that interviews are conducted prior to parent notification.

For information about the District's policies against discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, or for information about how to file a complaint, please contact the District's Title IX Compliance Officer. Complaints will be handled through the Uniform Complaint Procedures, UCP.

Uniform Complaint Procedure Discrimination/Harassment Complaint Reporting Form

In accordance with the District's Uniform Complaint Procedures (5 CCR 4620) each school district shall follow uniform complaint procedures when addressing complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation and bullying against any protected group. Protected groups are enumerated by Education Code §§ 200 and 220. Additionally, it is the policy of the State of California, pursuant to Section 200, that all individuals shall enjoy freedom from discrimination and/or harassment of any kind in the educational institutions of the state. This also includes sexual harassment, which is a form of sexual discrimination (EC § 231.5).

I. Contact Information:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Work or Cell Phone: _____

II. Complainant

You are filing this complaint on behalf of: _____
 yourself your child or a (student) another student a group

III. School Information

School Name: _____
Principal's Name: _____
Address: _____ City: _____

IV. Basis of Complaint:

Please check the following box(s), based on the type(s) of discrimination, harassment, intimidation and bullying you experienced, (Education Code §§ 200 and 220

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation | <input type="checkbox"/> Ancestry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gender * | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental or physical disability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ethnicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Age |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Race | <input type="checkbox"/> Association with any of these categories |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National origin | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Harassment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religion | <input type="checkbox"/> Sex (Title IX) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Color | |

V. Details of Complaint

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability. Attach additional sheets of paper if you need more space.

Please **describe** the type of incident(s) you experienced that led to this complaint, including the events or actions, in as much detail as possible:

List the **individuals** involved in the incident(s) complaint of:

List any **witnesses** to the incident(s):

Describe the **location where** the incident(s) occurred:

Please list **all the date(s) and times** when the incident(s) occurred or when the alleged acts first came to your attention:

What steps, if any, have you taken to resolve this issue before filing a complaint?

Signature of person filing complaint

Date

Received by:

Date Filed:

Title: _____

Please provide a duplicate copy to the complainant.