



Adventurous Thinkers • Collaborative Learners • Kind Hearted Leaders

**Governing Board Resolution: (LGBTQ)
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning/Queer Inclusivity**

WHEREAS, throughout the Creighton School District, we work to shape and prepare our students for high school and adulthood.

WHEREAS, all children and youth should be able to attend school in a safe and inclusive environment free from discrimination, and that history has shown that civil rights laws are effective in contributing to such environments; and

WHEREAS, explicit federal statutory protections currently address discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, but not sexual orientation or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, the lack of awareness and understanding of issues facing LGBTQ children and youth has contributed to a higher rate of isolation, depression, and suicidal ideations or attempts; and education regarding LGBTQ issues increases understanding and cultivates acceptance of and respect for LGBTQ children and youth; and

WHEREAS, harassment and bullying policies that specifically mention sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression are associated with students feeling more safe, lower levels of bullying, decreased incidents of harassment related to sexual orientation, increased teacher/staff intervention, and a greater reporting of incidents; and

WHEREAS, Creighton School District regrets that what it enacts today, while it is a significant step forward, is not truly inclusive health and sex education policy because of Arizona State law (ARS 15-716C) that forbids instruction which “promotes a homosexual lifestyle” or “portrays homosexuality as a positive alternative lifestyle” etc. This provision is offensive, shaming, and we believe, has no place in Arizona educational policy. Creighton School District will comply with the strict requirements of the law while we work for inclusive change.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Creighton School District continues its pledge to:

-TEACH IN WAYS THAT INCLUDE EVERY CHILD. We will practice conscious regard for diversity among students in terms of genders and gender identities, sexual orientations, developmental stage, physical characteristics and body types, races and ethnicities, languages and countries of origin, religious beliefs and faith communities, family structure and status, abilities and disabilities, sexual experiences and histories of victimization, pregnancy, abortion and parenting experiences. In short, we will continue to honor and respect all our students, staff, and families and celebrate our diverse student body as our greatest strength.

Adopted this 9th day of April 2019 by the Creighton School District Governing Board of Maricopa County.

Jeanne Casteen, Board President
Angel Campos, Board Clerk
Amy McSheffrey, Board Member
Carla Rivera Cruz, Board Member
Annette Sexton-Ruiz, Board Member