

## **Title IX**

It is the policy of Caruthers High School not to discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, age, or handicap in its educational programs, activities, or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Equal Rights Acts. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX may be directed to Barry Watts, Caruthers High School, PO Box 545. Phone 495-6415 or to the Office of Civil Rights, Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D. C.

## **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

Section 504 was created to prevent intentional or unintentional discrimination against persons with disabilities. This law protects all students with a disability who

1. have a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities;
2. have a record of such an impairment; or
3. are regarded as having such an impairment.

The Vice Principal will meet with all students that have a 504 Plan. The meeting will consist of the student, Vice Principal, counselor, parents, and teachers of the student. Acceptable accommodations for the student will be discussed and decided upon so that the student is able to reach his/her full capacity for learning.

Inquiries regarding compliance with 504 should be directed to Vice Principal, c/o Caruthers High School, P. O. Box 545, Caruthers, CA 93609, or to the Office of Civil Rights.

## **Student Grievance Procedures By A Student Or Adult On Behalf Of A Student**

A "grievance" shall mean a complaint, which has been filed by a student or by a student's parent, on his/her behalf, dealing specifically with Title IX. This procedure is applicable to Title IX only.

The primary purpose of this procedure is to secure, at the lowest level possible, equitable solution to a complaint.

- 1) School Level (Step I)
  - a) Student will present a complaint orally and informally to the teacher.
  - b) If complaint is not resolved, student will then present a formal claim in writing, stating section of regulations being violated, with supporting evidence to the principal.
  - c) The principal will respond in writing within five (5) days, stating his decision.
- 2) School Level (Step II)
  - a) Within five (5) school days after the level I decision, a student may appeal the decision to the Title IX coordinator in writing. The Coordinator will then investigate the complaint and render a decision within ten (10) days after receiving the appeal.
- 3) District Level (Step III)
  - a) If the student feels it is necessary to appeal the complaint beyond the decision at Level II, an appeal may be filed with all supportive evidence to the Superintendent within ten (10) school days after Level II.

- b) The Superintendent will evaluate the evidence and render a decision within ten (10) days after receiving the appeal.
- 4) Board of Education (Step IV)
  - a) If the student feels it is necessary to carry the complaint beyond the decision reached at Level III, an appeal may be made within ten (10) days of the Level III decision to the Board of Education.
  - b) Upon receipt of the complaint, the Board may place the item on the agenda for the next Board meeting for consideration and a decision will be rendered within twenty (20) days of the Board meeting.

Students may appear with a representative, if desired, at all levels except Step I.

In the event the grievant fails to exhaust all remedies under the grievance procedure provided herewith, or to abide by the time limits with respect to each step, the grievance shall be presumed to be abandoned and the matter shall be considered settled in accordance with the school district's last answer thereto. In the event the school district fails to give its answer at any step within the time limits prescribed, the grievant shall have the right to proceed immediately to the next step. Any time limits may be extended by written mutual agreement of the grievant and the school district.

#### **Effect of Settlement**

Any settlement of a grievance shall be applicable to the grievance only, and shall not be sending authority for the disposition of any other grievance. Any grievance initiated under this procedure shall be brought by and for the student alleging action in violation of Title IX and the implementing regulations of the school district, affecting the student initiating the grievance.