

## **EQUITY**

The Governor Wentworth Regional School District is a community of learners committed to equity and the success of each student. This commitment means that student success will not be predicted nor predetermined by race, ethnicity, family economics, mobility, language, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, initial proficiencies, or religion.

Equity fosters an inclusive and barrier-free environment in which everyone will fully benefit. The District will apply this principle of equity to all policies, programs, operations, practices, and resource allocations. All students will have access to and the opportunity to participate in a high quality education.

All schools within the District are committed to the following foundational beliefs:

1. Each student can learn with adequate support at the highest levels when all staff provide equitable access and opportunity for learning, and hold each student to high expectations;
2. Maximizing the academic achievement of every child requires allocating resources equitably, not necessarily equally;
3. Everyone in the District will act to eliminate disparities to prepare all students for college and career and;
4. An inclusive and welcoming environment plays a critical role in supporting a child's educational goals.

All schools within the District will:

1. Systematically use district-wide and individual school level data, disaggregated by race, ethnicity, language, special education, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic background, and mobility to inform District decision-making;
2. Provide students with equitable access to high quality curriculum, programs, teachers and administrators, extracurricular activities, and support services, even when this means differentiating resource allocation;
3. Affirm the identity of each student, acknowledge and celebrate commonalities and differences to create a sense of belonging for each student;
4. Incorporate the voice, culture, and perspectives of students, staff, families, and communities that reflect student demographics to support and enhance student success;
5. Identify and counteract biased practices that perpetuate achievement disparities and lead to disproportionate levels of student success;
6. Provide multiple and varied opportunities in order to meet the needs of the diverse student body;
7. Actively recruit, hire, and retain staff who reflect diverse demographics at all organizational levels and support employees to engage in culturally responsive practices and delivery of quality instruction and service; and
8. Ensure that the Governor Wentworth Regional School District Strategic Plan embraces the principle of equity as a key feature and presents measurable outcomes to prepare all students for college, career, and life.

Adopted: **01/08/2024**