



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Dr. Dianna Wentzell, Commissioner of Education *DRW*

DATE: September 8, 2017

SUBJECT: Guidance on Civil Rights Protections and Supports for Transgender Students

Attached please find Guidance on Civil Rights Protections and Supports for Transgender Students, and accompanying Frequently Asked Questions (“FAQ”). These documents are designed to assist school districts in implementing civil rights protections for transgender students under state and federal laws and fostering an educational environment that is safe and inclusive.

The guidance and FAQs can also be accessed on the CSDE website at:
<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2681&q=322602>.

Individual links to each document can be found at:
http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/equity/title_ix/transgender_guidance_faq.pdf and
http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/equity/title_ix/transgender_guidance.pdf.

CSDE’s guidance provides clarity on the legal obligations of Connecticut school districts for ensuring equal treatment of transgender students and shows how non-discrimination principles apply in various situations that affect the rights and well-being of transgender students on a daily basis. The FAQs serve as a plain language resource to the main guidance document.

We hope these documents serve as valuable resources to help schools ensure that all students, regardless of gender identity, are safe and learning at school. If you have any questions regarding the guidance, please contact the following CSDE staff for assistance:

- Student data/records issues: Kendra Shakir, Education Consultant, at 860-713-6896 or kendra.shakir@ct.gov
- Civil rights compliance/discrimination concerns: Dr. Adrian R. Wood, CSDE Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator, at (860) 713-6795 or adrian.wood@ct.gov
- Student supports: Scott Newgass, Education Consultant, at 860-807-2044 or scott.newgass@ct.gov
- Legal questions: Robin Colombo Cecere, Staff Attorney, at 860-713-6520 or robin.cecere@ct.gov

DRW:rcc
Attachments