



## MEDIA ADVISORY

### Statement from Kearney School District

**Kearney, Mo., June 2, 2021:** Kearney School District is committed to ensuring that every child attends school in a safe and nurturing environment. Our priority is to provide each student with the individualized and differentiated instruction and support they need to achieve their goals and dreams. We do not condone nor tolerate any discrimination and/or harassment.

KSD abides strictly to Board of Education Policy AC (PROHIBITION AGAINST ILLEGAL DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND RETALIATION):

The Kearney R-I School District Board of Education is committed to maintaining a workplace and educational environment that is free from discrimination and harassment in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs, services, activities and facilities. In accordance with law, the district strictly prohibits discrimination and harassment against employees, students or others on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, genetic information or any other characteristic protected by law.

Board Policy AC also prohibits any retaliation against students or staff who complain about or report discrimination or harassment. KSD investigates thoroughly all allegations of discrimination, harassment and retaliation. Appropriate action is taken based on Board policy and state and federal laws and regulations.

As part of our ongoing work to meet the needs of individual students, KSD established the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) initiative. District leaders, staff, students, parents/caregivers and community members are collaborating to identify and enact tangible steps our schools will take to ensure they are free from discrimination and/or harassment. This initiative will impact professional development, policies and procedures, student culture, community relations and curriculum.

KSD is prohibited from commenting on or sharing information about any allegations of discrimination, harassment and retaliation. The district does not respond publicly to situations that involve potential or actual litigation. Responses in those cases will be done through the court system.

*All news media inquiries should be directed to Kearney School District Director of Communications and Community Relations Ray Weikal at [weikalr@ksdr1.net](mailto:weikalr@ksdr1.net) or (816) 589-1496.*

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