

NOTICE OF DISCRIMINATION

Applicants for admission or employment, students, parents of elementary and secondary school students, employees, sources of referral and applicants for employment, and all professional organizations that have entered into agreements with the Mexico Public Schools are hereby notified that the District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. In addition, the District provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.

Any person having inquiries concerning the District's compliance with the laws and regulations implementing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), the Age Discrimination Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) or the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, is directed to the Compliance Coordinator listed below, who oversees the District's efforts to comply with the laws and regulations implementing the laws and regulations cited above.

The District has established grievance procedures for persons unable to resolve problems arising under the statutes above. The District's Compliance Coordinator will provide information regarding those procedures upon request.

Any person who is unable to resolve a problem or grievance arising under any of the laws and regulations cited above may contact the Office for Civil Rights, Region VII, 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, Missouri 64114; telephone (816) 268-0550.

The District's Compliance Coordinator is:

Emily Schmidt, Director of Special Services
1020 Old Highway 36 West
Chillicothe, MO 64601
(660) 646-4566

In an effort to inform and educate the public regarding parents' rights in the special education process, the Office of Special Education has developed a 30 minute webinar titled "Parents' Rights Under IDEA." This webinar can be found on the DESE website at <https://dese.mo.gov/special-education/compliance/parent-information>.

In addition, "The Parent's Guide to Special Education in Missouri" has been updated to clarify the special education process. Topics included in the Parent's Guide are

Effective and Informed Parents
How Special Education Works in Missouri
The Evaluation Process
Individualize Education Program (IEP)
Parent and Child Rights
Resolving Disputes
Resources

This updated guidance can also be found on the DESE website at <https://dese.mo.gov/special-education/compliance/parent-information>.

These two resources were developed to assist parents and professionals to become more informed and effective in the special education process to benefit students with disabilities in Missouri. If you have questions or concerns about the webinar and/or the guidance document, please call the Compliance Section at 573-751-0699.