

Notices to the Public

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving federal financial assistance. In order to fulfill obligations under Section 504, the Cardinal Community School District (CCSD) has the responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and students. No discrimination against any person with a disability should knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and practices of the school system. The CCSD has the responsibilities under Section 504, which include the obligations to identify, evaluate and, if the student is determined to be eligible under Section 504, to afford access to appropriate educational services. If the parent or guardian disagrees with the determination made by the professional staff of the school district, he/she has a right to a hearing with an impartial hearing officer.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) also specifies rights related to educational records. This Act gives the parent or guardian the right to: 1) inspect and review his/her child's educational records; 2) make copies of these records; 3) receive a list of the individuals having access to those records; 4) ask for an explanation of any item in the records; 5) ask for an amendment to any report on the grounds that it is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the child's rights; and 6) a hearing on the issue if the school refuses to make the amendment. If there are questions, please contact the building administrator or Michelle Edwards, Section 504 Contact Person for the Cardinal Community School District at 641-652-7531.

Harassment

Harassment of students and/or employees of the Cardinal School District will not be tolerated. The Cardinal School District includes school district facilities, premises, and non-school property if the employee or student is at any school-sponsored, school-approved, or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the control of the school district or where the employee is engaged in school business.

Harassment includes, but is not limited to racial, religious, national origin, age, disability, and sexual harassment. Harassment by board members, administrators, employees, parents, students, vendors, and others doing business with the school district is prohibited. Employees and/or students who believe they have suffered harassment shall report such matters to the building principal or counselor who will refer the complaint(s) to the district's investigative officer (Michelle Edwards, 652-7531) or alternate investigative officer (Aimee Sivak, 652-7531).

Alleged Abuse of Students by School Employees

It is the policy of CCSD that employees not commit acts of physical or sexual abuse, including inappropriate and intentional sexual behavior toward students. Any school employee who commits such acts is subject to disciplinary sanctions. Allegations of abuse of students by school employees should be brought to the attention of Anne Morgan, Level 1 Investigators for the district or to Mark Miller, Wapello County Sheriff Department.

Notice of Accessibility

The Cardinal Community School District will take steps as are necessary to ensure that no qualified handicapped person is denied the benefits of, excluded from participation in, or otherwise subjected to discrimination because of inaccessibility of educational programs and activities operated by the Cardinal Community School District. To obtain information as to the existence and location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible to handicapped persons, interested persons should contact Joel Pedersen, Superintendent; Cardinal Comm. School District, 4045 Ashland Rd., Eldon, IA 52554, (641) 652-7531.

Directory Information

In compliance with the "Family Rights and Privacy Act of 1974" parents and students should be aware that the following information may be released in regard to any individual student of the Cardinal Community School District as necessary or desirability arises: Name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, date of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous school or institution attended by the student. Any student, parent, or guardian not wanting this information released to the public, must make objection in writing to the principal in charge of the school that the student is attending at the time of registration.

Identification and Education of Homeless Children and Youths

Definition of Homeless Child or Youth:

1. A child or youth who is sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; is living in a motel, hotel, trailer park, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; is living in an emergency or transitional shelter; is abandoned in a hospital; or is awaiting foster care placement;
2. A child or youth who has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
3. A child or youth who is living in a car, park, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station, or similar setting; or
4. A migratory child or youth who qualifies as homeless because the child or youth is living in circumstances described in paragraphs "1" through "3" above.

Aimee Sivak, Cardinal Elementary At-Risk Coordinator, is the district's liaison for homeless children and youth. She can be reached at (641) 652-7531.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Cardinal School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age (for employment), socioeconomic status (for programs), religion, creed, national origin, marital status (for programs), sex, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity in its educational programs and employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for

processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's equity coordinator, Cindy Green.

Any person having inquiries concerning the school district's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), or Iowa Code 280.3 is directed to contact:

Cindy Green- cindy.green@cardinalcomet.com
MS Principal, Curriculum Director, Equity Coordinator
Cardinal CSD
4045 Ashland Rd.
Eldon, IA 52554
(641) 652-7531

Or contact the director of the Region VII Office of Civil Rights, Department of Education, Kansas City, Missouri.

The Cardinal Community School District offers career and technical programs in the following areas of study:

- Applied Science, Technology, Engineering, & Manufacturing
- Business, Finance, Marketing, & Management
- Health Science
- Agriculture, food, and natural resources

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Cindy Green- cindy.green@cardinalcomet.com
Middle School Principal/Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Equity Coordinator
4045 Ashland Rd.
Eldon, Iowa 52554
641-652-7531

No Child Left Behind Requirement

Parents'/Guardians' Rights Notification

Parents/Guardians in the Cardinal Community School District have the right to learn about the following qualifications of their child's teacher: state licensure requirements for the grade level and content areas taught, the current licensing status of your child's teacher, and baccalaureate/graduate certification/degree. You may also request the qualifications of an instructional paraprofessional who serves your student in a Title I program or if your school operates a school-wide Title I program.

Parents/Guardians may request this information from the Office of the Superintendent by calling 641-652-7531 or sending a letter of request to Office of the Superintendent, Joel Pedersen, Eldon, IA 52554. The Cardinal Community School District ensures that parents will be notified in writing if their child has been assigned, or has been taught by, a teacher for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not considered highly qualified.