AEA Equity in Education

The Bexley City Schools Board of Education is committed to the success of each student. Student success is founded in equitable access to a high-quality educational experience for each student, regardless of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, ancestry, citizenship status, religion, sex, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, ability and disability, sexual orientation, or other personal or familial characteristics. We recognize the contemporary and historical impact of bias, prejudice and discrimination in our communities and in our nation and seek to shape and cultivate an educational environment that ensures each student experiences a barrier-free learning environment in which they feel that they belong and are valued and supported.

For purposes of this policy, the Board uses the following definitions. "Equity" means assuring that through policy, programs, and practices, each student is provided specifically-targeted resources, attention, and support required to meet differentiated social, emotional, and educational goals regardless of students' identities, while working to identify and address the effects of any historical and current barriers. "Resources" may include funding; programs and curricula; staff time, expertise, and skills; facilities and materials; and services, such as technology, food service, and transportation.

Accordingly, the Board commits to the achievement of educational equity for each student and establishes the following course of action for the District:

- Actively support multiple learning pathways that widen access to educational opportunities and career success in order to meet the needs of each student.
- Provide each student with equitable access to instruction, curricula, support, and other social, emotional, and educational resources that are high quality and culturally relevant for each student.
- Review and determine appropriate revisions to its policies and procedures, instructional practices, and professional development (including, but not limited to those relating to behavior and discipline, hiring, retention, and curricula) in support of being a district that is safe, supportive, anti-racist, equitable, and inclusive.
- Ensure equitable opportunities for all students to have access to co-curricular and extracurricular activities and enrichment opportunities.
- Allocate resources in an equitable manner, reflective of the purposes and goals of this policy.

• Engage its students, teachers, staff, administrators, families, and other stakeholders in this ongoing work, recognizing that their active involvement provides vital input and support.

The Board holds itself, teachers, staff, and administrators accountable for supporting a Districtwide culture of equity. The Board recognizes that achieving educational equity will require dedicated resources and ongoing effort and accountability. To these ends, the Board directs the Superintendent to develop an equity plan to make measurable progress towards meeting these goals with clear, asset-based standards, solutions, metrics, and procedures that can be reported and assessed. The Superintendent will report annually to the Board and the community on the equity plan and progress towards these goals and will submit an updated equity plan to the Board for its consideration on an annual basis.