

## **DISTRICT PHILOSOPHY**

## **Policy 106**

### **Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity**

The Richmond Board of Education values the diversity present within the Richmond School District. The District is responsible for ensuring that school cultures are safe, welcoming, inclusive and affirming for all students and members of the district community. The role of educators in the district is critical in creating positive societal change to address difficulties the LGBTQ+ community often faces in schools.

Our District Code of Conduct sets out the expectations by which we all learn and work together. However, we recognize the unique set of challenges experienced by our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, transgender, two spirit, queer and questioning (LGBTQ+) community. The Board believes that it is our collective responsibility to ensure that every individual is treated with fairness, respect and dignity, and is included fully in the life of the community. The purpose of this Policy is to encourage a climate of welcome, respect, and support for those who identify as LGBTQ+ and the challenges they often encounter in being accepted and fully included in the life of the school community.

The Richmond School District understands and demonstrates that our district culture is strengthened by the rich contributions made by each member. We believe that learning and working environments that are inclusive of diversity and equitable in relation to that diversity are essential in supporting the highest level of personal and collective growth and achievement.