BULLETIN NO. 048-20 LEGAL AFFAIRS

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
   School District Superintendents
   Charter School Directors
   School District Business Managers
   School District Civil Rights Compliance Coordinators

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Equity Assurance Report Required of All School Districts and Public Charter Schools

CONTACT: Sarah Albertson, Managing Attorney of Equity and Civil Rights
         360-725-6162, equity@k12.wa.us

PURPOSE
The Equity and Civil Rights Office at the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) works to ensure each student has equal access to public education without discrimination by providing technical assistance and monitoring school districts’ and public charter schools’ compliance with state and federal nondiscrimination laws.

This bulletin provides information for school districts and charter schools to complete the annual Equity Assurance Report through iGrants Form Package 447.

REQUIRED ACTION
Each school district and charter school must submit an annual Equity Assurance Report. This report is due October 1, via iGrants Form Package 447.
The Equity Assurance Report is used for school districts and charter schools to annually report that they are complying with the requirements of Chapters 28A.640 and 28A.642 RCW and 392-190 WAC regarding discrimination in schools on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. It also assures the district or charter school is complying with federal civil rights requirements, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act.

OSPI encourages school districts and charter schools to use this list to annually self-assess compliance with various civil rights requirements. This list is aligned with the Civil Rights Consolidated Program Review Checklist, which can also be a helpful tool to regularly self-evaluate and document compliance, even outside of the Consolidated Program Review process.

The Equity Assurance Report can be accessed from OSPI’s website.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact the Equity and Civil Rights Office at 360-725-6162 or email equity@k12.wa.us. OSPI’s TTY line is 360-664-3631.

This bulletin is also available on the Bulletins page of the OSPI website.

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OSPI provides equal access to all programs and services without discrimination based on sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to the Equity and Civil Rights Director at (360) 725-6162 or P.O. Box 47200 Olympia, WA 98504-7200.