## Green Mountain School District #103, Confidentiality (FERPA) Annual Notification:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

- Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school.
   Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies.
- Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.
- Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions (34 CFR § 99.31):
  - o School officials with legitimate educational interest;
  - Other schools to which a student is transferring;
  - Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
  - Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
  - Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
  - Accrediting organizations;
  - To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
  - O Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
  - O State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.

Schools may disclose, without consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. However, schools must tell parents and eligible students about directory information and allow parents and eligible students a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA. The actual means of notification (special letter, inclusion in a PTA bulletin, student handbook, or newspaper article) is left to the discretion of each school.

A copy of this policy is available by request at the Green Mountain School District Administration Office located at 13105 NE Grinnell Rd. Woodland, WA 98674. This notice is intended to comply with the applicable requirements in 34 CFR Part 300, 34 CR Part 99 and WAC 392-172-404.

# Green Mountain School District Title IX, Section 504 (Non-Discrimination) Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE: The Green Mountain School District, 13105 NE Grinnell Rd, Woodland, WA 98674, is an Equal Opportunity district in education programs, activities, services, and employment. The Green Mountain School District does not discriminate on the basis of race; creed; color; religion; sex; national origin; marital status; sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity; age; families with children; honorably discharged veteran or military status; the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability; or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. We provide equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. We also comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act of 1974; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; the Civil Rights Act of 1964; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act; Older Worker Protection Act; and all other state, federal and local equal opportunity laws. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the district's Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator/Title IX/RCW 28A.640 officer, Superintendent Dave Holmes, <a href="mailto:dave.holmes@greenmountainschool.us">dave.holmes@greenmountainschool.us</a>, 360-225-7366, and Section 504/ADA coordinator, Principal Jacqui Vansoest@greenmountainschool.us, 360-225-7366.

# Green Mountain School District #103 Military Recruiters Notification

Federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories - names, addresses and telephone listings - unless parents have advised LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent. These laws are: Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7908), as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-110), the education bill, and 10 U.S.C. 503, as amended by Section 544, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (P.L. 107-107), the legislation that provides funding for the nation's armed forces.

If you do not want Green Mountain School District to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior consent, you must notify the District in writing by October 1, 2024.

#### Green Mountain School District #103 Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying

As required by the provisions of Senate Bill 5689 (2019) and implemented in Board Policy 3207, the Green Mountain School District strives to provide students with optimal conditions for learning by maintaining a school environment where everyone is treated with respect, and no one is physically or emotionally harmed. In order to ensure respect and prevent harm, it is a violation of district policy for a student to be harassed, intimidated, or bullied by others in the school community, at school sponsored events, or when such actions create a substantial disruption to the educational process. The school community includes all students, school employees, school board members, contractors, unpaid volunteers, families, patrons, and other visitors. Student(s) will not be harassed because of their race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, mental or physical disability, or other distinguishing characteristics. Any school staff who observes, overhears, or otherwise witnesses harassment, intimidation, or bullying or to whom such actions have been reported must take prompt and appropriate action to stop the harassment, intimidation, or bullying, and to prevent its reoccurrence. Anyone who observes or is a victim of HIB is encouraged to report the act to the GMSD HIB compliance officer, Jacqui Vansoest at (360) 225-7366 or by email, jacqui.vansoest@greenmountainschool.us</u>. All parties are also encouraged to complete the HIB reporting form found on our "For Students" webpage and linked here!

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## Green Mountain School District #103 Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services

To the extent practical and as required by law, the district will work with homeless students and their families to provide them with equal access to the same free, appropriate public education (including public preschool education) provided to other students. Special attention will be given to the identification, enrollment, and attendance of homeless students not currently attending school, as well as mitigating educational barriers to their academic success. Additionally, the district will take reasonable steps to ensure that homeless students are not stigmatized or segregated in a separate school or in a separate program within a school on the basis of their homeless status. Homeless students will be provided district services for which they are eligible, including Head Start and comparable preschool programs, Title I, similar state programs, special education, bilingual education, vocational and technical education programs, gifted and talented programs and school nutrition programs. Questions concerning qualifications, enrollment or support should be directed to Jacqui Vansoest at (360) 225-7366 or jacqui.vansoest@greenmountainschool.us

#### Green Mountain School District #103 Asbestos Hazard (AHERA) Notification

Uncontrolled asbestos contamination in buildings can be a significant environmental and public health problem. Both the public and private sectors have been dealing with the asbestos issue for many years. In 1986, Congress enacted the Asbestos Emergency Response Act primarily to require school districts to identify asbestos containing materials (ACM) in their school buildings and take appropriate actions to control the release of asbestos fibers.

In 1987, the U.S. Environmental Protection Act (EPA) finalized a regulatory program which enforces the AHERA. In compliance with the AHERA regulations, Green Mountain District takes samples of building materials suspected of containing asbestos when any of those materials would be disturbed or involved in any construction, maintenance or remodel activities. We have had no positive results from those tests. Scott Johnson is our designated asbestos coordinator and all inquiries regarding asbestos on the GMSD campus should be directed to him at (360) 225-7366.

# Green Mountain School District #103 Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Notice

All pesticide application (includes insecticides, herbicides, rodenticides, and fungicides) made to Green Mountain School District sites will be under the direction of a Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) licensed pest control applicator or operator (PCO) or a licensed public agency operator. Unauthorized faculty and staff are not permitted to use their own pesticide products at any school site or facility. No applications will be made at times that buildings are occupied. Applications will only be made on weekends or vacation periods when schools are unoccupied.

Each site has a registration system to notify parents, staff and students who express an interest of proposed pesticide applications. Notice will be given to registered individuals; either 48 hours in advance of application, or on the day preceding application during a weekend or vacation period. No notices will be sent when tamper-resistant insect or rodent bait stations crack or crevice treatments are used. Pre-notification requirements do not apply to any emergency application for control of any pest that poses an immediate human health or safety threat, such as an application to control stinging insects.

When an emergency application is made, notification shall occur as soon as possible after the application. If you have any questions concerning pest management on the GMSD campus, Scott Johnson is the designated district IPM coordinator, and all inquiries should be directed to him at (360) 225-7366.

Green Mountain School District #103 Gender-Inclusive Schools State mandated procedure. The principal or building administrator—or an appropriate, designated school employee—is encouraged to request a meeting with a transgender or gender-expansive student upon the student's enrollment in the district or in response to a currently enrolled student's change of gender expression or identity. Before contacting a student's parents, the school will consult with the student about the student's preferences regarding family involvement and consider whether safety concerns are present for the student.

The goals of the meeting are to:

develop understanding of that student's individual needs with respect to their gender expression or identity, including any
accommodations that the student is requesting or that the district will provide according to Policy 3211 and this procedure
and under state and federal law; and

• develop a shared understanding of the student's day-to-day routine within the school so as to foster a relationship and help alleviate any apprehensions the student may have with regard to their attendance at school.

The school may not require the student to attend a meeting as a condition of providing them with the protection to which they are entitled under Policy 3211, this procedure, and state and federal law regarding gender expression or identity.

## **Key Definitions/Terms**

- Assigned sex at birth: The sex a person was given at birth, usually based on anatomy or chromosomes (e.g., male, female, intersex, etc.).
- **Cisgender**: A term used to describe people whose assigned sex matches their gender identity and/or gender expression (e.g., someone who was assigned female at birth and whose gender identity and/or gender expression is also female.
- Gender Expansive: A wider, more flexible range of gender identities or expressions than those typically associated with the binary gender system.
- **Gender Expression:** The external ways in which a person expresses their gender to the world, such as through their behavior, emotions, mannerisms, dress, grooming habits, interests, and activities.
- Gender Identity: A person's internal and deeply-felt sense of being female, male, both, non-binary, gender-expansive, or other—regardless of the gender assigned at birth.
- Transgender: A term often used to describe a person whose gender identity or expression, or both, are different from those traditionally associated with their sex assigned at birth.
- **Transitioning:** The process in which a person goes from living and identifying as one gender to living and identifying as another.

#### **Communication and Use of Names and Pronouns**

An appropriate school employee will privately ask known transgender or gender-expansive students how they would like to be addressed in class, in correspondence to the home, and at conferences with the student's parent/guardian. That information will be included in the electronic student record system along with the student's legal name in order to inform teachers and staff of the name and pronoun by which to address the student. However, the student's legal name should be accessible by only necessary staff members—it should not be visible to teachers or other staff who have access to the electronic records system.

When appropriate or necessary, this information will be communicated directly with staff to facilitate the use of proper names and pronouns. A student is not required to change their official records or obtain a court-ordered name and/or gender change as a prerequisite to being addressed by the name and pronoun that corresponds to their gender identity.

When communicating with transgender or gender expansive students regarding particular issues such as conduct, discipline, grades, attendance or health, school employees will focus on the conduct or particular issues rather than making assumptions regarding the student's actual or perceived gender identity or gender expression. Before communicating with parents of transgender or gender expansive students, it's important to ask the student how school employees should refer to the student when talking with their parents and guardians. For families who are supportive, using the student's name and pronoun could be affirming for the student. For parents who are not supportive, or who are not aware of the student's transition at school, referring to their name and pronoun could be very dangerous. The district will not condone the intentional or persistent refusal to respect a student's gender identity or gender expression, or inappropriate release of information regarding a student's transgender or gender-expansive status.

#### Official Records

The standardized high school transcript is the only official record that requires a student's legal name. School staff should adopt practices to avoid the inadvertent disclosure of the student's transgender or gender-expansive status. The District will change a student's official records to reflect a change in legal name upon receipt of:

- 1. Documentation that the student's legal name or gender has been changed pursuant to a court order or through amendment of state or federally-issued identification; or
- 2. A written, signed statement explaining that the student has exercised a common-law name change and has changed their name for all intents and purposes and that the change has not been made for fraudulent reasons.

Schools may change a student's official gender designation upon parent or student request pursuant to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's (OSPI's) process found at: <a href="https://www.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/public/cedars/pubdocs/2018-19cedarsreportingguidance.pdf">https://www.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/public/cedars/pubdocs/2018-19cedarsreportingguidance.pdf</a>. The process should not be overly cumbersome, and the district may not require verification from a physician.

The school must use the name and gender by which the student identifies on all other records, including but not limited to school identification cards, classroom seating charts, athletic rosters, yearbook entries, diplomas, directory information.

#### **Confidential Health or Educational Information**

Information about a student's gender identity, legal name, or assigned sex at birth may constitute confidential medical or educational information. Disclosing this information to other students, their parents, or other third parties may violate privacy laws, such as the federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. §1232; 34 C.F.R. Part 99). Parents have the right under FERPA to request their student's records and if requested, the District will provide the student's educational records to the parent according to 3231/3231P - Student Records, to ensure the safety and well-being of the student, school employees should not disclose a student's transgender or gender-expansive status to others, including other school personnel, other students, or the parents of other students, unless the school is (1) legally required to do so or (2) the student has authorized such disclosure.

## **Restroom Accessibility**

Students will be allowed to use the restroom that corresponds to the gender identity they assert at school. No student will be required to use a restroom that conflicts with their gender identity. Any student—regardless of gender identity—who requests greater privacy should be given access to an alternative restroom. However, schools may not require a student to use an alternative restroom because of their transgender or gender-expansive status.

#### **Physical Education Classes**

The District will provide all students, including transgender and gender-expansive students, the opportunity to participate in physical education programs/opportunities in a manner that is consistent with their gender identity.

## **Dress Codes**

The District will allow students to dress in a manner that is consistent with their gender identity and/or gender expression within the constraints of the dress codes adopted at their school site and within the constraints of the District guidelines for dress as they relate to health and safety issues (e.g., prohibitions on wearing gang-related apparel). School dress codes will be gender-neutral and will not restrict a student's clothing choices on the basis of gender. The district will take an approach that conforms with OSPI 's guidelines.

#### **Other School Activities**

In any school activity or other circumstance involving separation by gender (i.e., class discussions, field trips, and overnight trips), students will be permitted to participate in accordance with the gender identity they assert at school. Teachers and other school employees will make every effort to separate students based on factors other than gender where practicable.

## **Training and Professional Development**

The district will designate one person to be the primary contact regarding this policy and procedure relating to transgender or gender expansive students. The primary contact must participate in at least one mandatory training opportunity offered by OSPI. When possible, the District will conduct staff training and ongoing professional development in an effort to build the skills of all staff members to prevent, identify and respond to harassment and discrimination. The content of such professional development should include, but not be limited to:

- Terms and concepts related to gender identity, gender expression, and gender diversity in children and adolescents;
- Appropriate strategies for communicating with students and parents about issues related to gender identity and gender expression, while protecting student privacy;
- Strategies for preventing and intervening in incidents of harassment and discrimination, including bullying and cyberbullying;
- District and staff responsibilities under applicable laws and district policies regarding harassment, discrimination, gender identity, gender expression issues.

#### **Discrimination and Harassment Complaints**

Discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex, gender identity, or gender expression are prohibited within the district. It is the responsibility of each school, the District, and all staff to ensure that all students, including transgender and gender-expansive students, have a safe school environment. The scope of this responsibility includes ensuring that any incident of discrimination or harassment is given immediate attention and/or reported to the person designated as the primary contact relating to transgender or gender expansive students. The primary contact will communicate with the district's Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator.

Complaints alleging discrimination or harassment based on a person's actual or perceived gender identity or expression are to be taken seriously and handled in the same manner as other discrimination and harassment complaints. This includes investigating the incident and taking age and developmentally-appropriate corrective action. Anyone may file a complaint alleging a violation of this policy using the complaint process outlined in the district's Nondiscrimination Procedure 3210P.

The district will share this policy and procedure with students, parents/quardians, employees, and volunteers.

#### Green Mountain School District #103 – Solicitation of Vendors for Small Public Works Roster

Green Mountain School District #103 solicits contractors who are responsible and properly licensed and/or registered to perform work in Washington and interested in being placed on a small public works roster. We anticipate the potential need to engage one or more vendors to provide services for non-specific small public works projects on an on-call basis. Small works projects may include acquisition of materials, supplies, equipment, consulting services, and/or construction services.

To obtain a form for placement on the small works roster for projects, please contact the business office at (360) 225-7366. All contractors must submit with their written request the completed district form, a certificate of insurance, and a copy of their current valid contractor license. This notice is published pursuant to RCW 39.04.

### Green Mountain School District #103 Highly Capable Program

In accordance with the philosophy to develop the special abilities of each student, the district offers appropriate instructional programs to meet the needs of exceptionally gifted and talented students of school age. Objectives for these programs encompass but are not limited to: Expanding academic attainments and intellectual skills; Stimulating intellectual curiosity, independence and responsibility; developing a positive attitude toward self and others; and Developing originality and creativity. The superintendent establishes procedures (Policy No. 2190) consistent with state guidelines for nominating, assessing and selecting children of demonstrated achievement or potential in terms of general intellectual ability, academic aptitude and creative or productive thinking. For additional information contact Jacqui Vansoest (360) 225-7366 or jacqui.vansoest@greenmountainschool.us

#### **Food Service**

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <a href="https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf">https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf</a>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

2. fax:

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

3. email:

Program.Intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.