



## **CFSD STATEMENT REGARDING OUR COMMITMENT TO EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITY**

Equity, diversity and inclusion are values that have been reflected in CFSD's mission statement, core values and strategic plan for many years. While these words have taken on a different meaning of late, it is important to recognize how those values are expressed throughout our policies and our curriculum.

For example, the district is committed to a policy of non-discrimination based on race, national origin, ethnicity, religion, creed, sex (which includes a prohibition against sexual harassment), sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age or disability.

Throughout our curriculum, from early childhood through high school graduation, themes of diversity, multiculturalism, and the characteristics of good citizens are explored in a variety of modalities, in age-appropriate, fact-based ways. The entire CFSD curriculum is available for public consumption on our website. Additionally, during the 2021-2022 school year the Board will review proposed revisions to the K-12 social studies curriculum at our general meetings, which are open to the public and where public comment is welcome - on any topic.

We support each CFSD school's effort to create a culture in which every student feels safe, welcome, supported, included, connected and, in turn, embraces the world and their communities in much the same way. We believe it is essential that our students are exposed to views and cultures other than their own and to have their opinions and assumptions challenged. This kind of engagement fosters critical thinking, enables understanding across differences, and discourages complacency. This work supports the study of a variety of cultures and helps inspire fresh angles of inquiry, new discoveries and the search for innovative solutions to today's challenges.

Similarly, board members respect the diversity of perspectives and cultural backgrounds on the board and in the community. We strive to serve with tolerance and without prejudice, to bring a broad base of knowledge and experience to the job, and to make decisions thoughtfully. Our commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion stems from a devotion to achieving our overarching goal as board members: to create a learning environment that provides each CFSD student with the foundation, tools and resources necessary to achieve intellectual and personal excellence, and to be well-prepared for college and career pathways.

Sincerely,

CFSD Governing Board