

# ATIXA Policy Platform

#### **Executive Summary**

The Association of Title IX Administrators (ATIXA) is a professional organization of over 7,200 school and college Title IX coordinators, investigators, and administrators who are interested in serving their districts and campuses more effectively. It is ATIXA's mission to address gender equity by bringing Title IX professionals together in collaboration to explore best practices, understand industry standards, share resources, and enhance the profession.

The purpose of this ATIXA policy platform is to identify the core issues and policies that ATIXA values as an organization. It creates a funnel through which ATIXA can determine what advocacy actions to take and what legislation and regulatory initiatives to initiate or support.

The ATIXA policy platform centers on advancing the goal of gender equity in education and, to that end, supports policies and actions in areas including:

- Title IX
- Civil rights for underserved communities in educational institutions
- Educational equity and school climate

While these are broad areas, our level of engagement on specific issues will vary. ATIXA will also annually establish a smaller set of legislative priorities within these areas that will be the primary focus of ATIXA's policy work.

#### Title IX

Support clear and fair application of Title IX

To this end, ATIXA supports:

- Protecting all students and employees, of any gender, from discrimination on the basis of sex
- Designating a school-based Title IX administrator to oversee Title IX compliance
- Institutions providing training and resources to support Title IX coordinators' advancement of gender equity in education
- Ensuring equitable access in academic and other areas, including STEM courses, school-related extracurricular activities, scholarships, and research opportunities
- Protecting the rights of pregnant and parenting students to stay in school and have equitable educational opportunities
- Ensuring students have equal opportunities to participate in athletics and related activities



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- Ensuring students and employees have adequate protection against sex-based harassment and
  assault, including requiring schools take immediate and appropriate action in cases of sexual violence
  and harassment that creates a hostile environment
- Determining when single-sex education and programs/activities are permissible and when it is discriminatory and based on gender stereotypes
- Ensuring **transgender students** have the right to equal access to educational opportunities, including access to activities and facilities consistent with their gender identity

### **Civil Rights**

Support laws, policies, and activities that promote nondiscrimination based on protected classes such as race, sex, disability, and gender identity in education

To this end, ATIXA supports **intersectional approaches** to the resolution of complaints of discrimination by schools and prohibiting discrimination:

- On the basis of race, color, or national origin in any educational program or activity
- Based on **sex** in educational programs and activities
- Against transgender and gender-diverse students
- Based on disability in education

#### **Other Educational Initiatives**

Support equitable, healthy, and safe school environments

To this end, ATIXA supports:

- Providing targeted mental health services, particularly those that support students who have been impacted by discrimination or abuse
- Advancing policies that promote positive school climates that are inclusive and free from discrimination
- Requiring educational institutions to establish a comprehensive approach to student mental health,
   which can include behavioral intervention teams to support student well-being and safety
- Increasing resources for professional development and training for school staff who provide student support services and enforce civil rights compliance
- Offering comprehensive, age-appropriate prevention education and training for students and employees