

RESOLUTION

On the USBE draft “Gender Identity Guidance for Public Education”

AUTHORED AND PROPOSED BY: Iron County School Board Member, David H. Staheli

The Iron County School Board recognizes that some individuals experience gender incongruity and may face complex challenges. These individuals, their family, and friends, are deserving of respect and friendship, and should be treated with kindness, and compassion in the same way as any other person should be treated. We also recognize that violations of the personal privacy of ANY individual can cause long term trauma and serious emotional distress. We are committed to develop policy aligned with State and Federal law which will cultivate respect for ALL people and discourage division into “group cultures”, and which will protect the privacy necessary for ALL individuals to avoid emotional trauma or abuse of any kind. In this spirit, we submit this RESOLUTION for consideration by the Utah State Board of Education, the Utah School Boards Association, and all Local, County, State, and Federal government officials who are elected to represent us.

WHEREAS, The Utah State Board of Education has drafted a new “Gender Identity Guidance for Public Education” document hereinafter referred to as “GIG” and has asked for public input regarding the GIG.

WHEREAS, The GIG suggests practices that may place individuals of either biological sex or any gender identity, in unsafe environments through the common use of various traditional female and male specific facilities and overnight travel accommodations.

WHEREAS, The GIG suggests the elimination of gender specific dress and grooming policies which traditionally address the anatomical differences between female and male individuals.

WHEREAS, The GIG guidelines place the burden of finding desired privacy accommodations, on any individual who feels “uncomfortable” with what they consider to be a violation of their personal privacy, including (1), individuals who are experiencing gender incongruity, and (2), individuals who adhere to their natural female or male sexuality.

WHEREAS, The GIG promotes policy provisions which will allow boys who identify themselves as transgender girls, to compete against girls in all female sports if the athletic league or association allows this to occur.

WHEREAS, The GIG principles may cultivate a risk of litigation from ANY individual who is subjected to trauma, discrimination, harassment, abuse, loss of traditional societal privacy, etc., with regards to the male or female sexuality of human beings.

WHEREAS, Some suggested GIG provisions being implemented in a school district policy would require school districts and district employees to bear a substantial burden of compliance to the complexities of such GIG provisions, and risks of unintended non-compliance.

THEREFORE, The Iron County School Board respectfully requests that the Utah State Board of Education withdraw the "Gender Identity Guidance for Public Schools" document from consideration in favor of local policy development by the duly elected representative School Boards of each LEA. Further, the Iron County School Board, intends to engage legal counsel, to create an effective policy aligned with State and Federal law, that will promote a safe, respectful learning environment, and equal opportunity for a high-quality education for ALL students, while sustaining the values and standards of Iron County.

Iron County School Board:

Michelle Lambert, President Dale

Brinkerhoff, Vice President Ben

Johnson

Jeff Corry David

Staheli

Date of Adoption: February 23, 2022

Those voting in favor:

Dale Brinkerhoff, Vice President

Ben Johnson

Jeff Corry

Dave Staheli

Voting Nay:

Michelle Lambert, President

Upon Passage: The Iron County School Board directs timely delivery of this RESOLUTION to ALL members of the Utah State Board of Education, Utah Office of Education leadership, Governor Spencer J. Cox, Utah State Senator Evan Vickers, Utah State Representative Rex Shipp, US Senator Mike Lee, US Senator Mitt Romney, US Representative Chris Stewart, Utah School Boards Association leadership, all members of the Iron County Commission, Mayors and City/Town Councils of Cedar City, Enoch City, Parowan City, Paragonah, Brianhead City, and Kanarraville.