

RECOGNITION OF HUMAN DIVERSITY

The Governing Board recognizes that the diversity of this nation is one of its greatest strengths. The school district must set an example for the youth of this community by recognizing this rich diversity and teaching students to live harmoniously with all people. It should be every citizen's duty to accept a portion of the responsibility for creating that harmony. The school district must strive to respond to the needs of a pluralistic society for common decency and human dignity.

No one, regardless of his/her personal beliefs, has the right to discriminate against, harass, abuse, or inflict harm upon any other human being. California Education Code Section 260 specifies that a school district's governing board has primary responsibility for ensuring that school programs and activities are free from discrimination.

Capistrano Unified School District is committed to preventing intolerance through working with other community leaders, agencies, civic leaders, houses of worship, and families to help sensitize young people to the richness of diversity and thereby increasing their respect for the differences in people. The actions of employees and students in Capistrano Unified School District must support a climate of intolerance of bigotry, cruelty, and injustice in any form. Acts of intolerance by or upon employees and students related to differences among people will not be condoned or tolerated by the school district.

Parents of students in Capistrano Unified School District are encouraged to support the school district's commitment to recognizing and respecting human diversity. Together, the home and school can and must succeed in helping students and adults to practice responsible citizenship through respect for others.