

**Dignity for All Students Act: Statewide Implementation Survey**

The purpose of this survey is to gather information on compliance and implementation of the Dignity for All Students Act (“DASA”) in school districts statewide. The survey and responses are intended for informational purposes only and will be used by the OAG and SED to develop plans to provide relevant technical assistance, guidance, and training that will meet school districts’ needs and enhance statewide compliance with DASA.

Please answer the following questions in sufficient detail to provide a complete and accurate picture of steps taken by the District to implement both DASA and the Commissioner’s implementing regulations.

Please note: for each question for which the district answers “No,” please provide an explanation of why such action(s) have not been taken and describe the resources (*e.g.*, technical assistance, guidance, additional training) that would enable the District and/or its schools to fully implement such action(s).

**NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**A. Code of Conduct**

[*Commissioners Regulations Part 100, 8 NYCRR § 100.2(l)(2)*]

1. Does the District currently have a written Code of Conduct in place that governs the conduct of students, teachers, other school personnel, and visitors?

Yes       No

If not, please describe the steps the District is taking to develop a Code of Conduct, the issues it has encountered in addressing this requirement, and its expected timetable for compliance:

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If so, please answer the following questions in this Section A:

2. Does the Code of Conduct prohibit harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination against students, by employees or students on school property, at school functions, or off of

school property (pursuant to 8 NYCRR §100.2[1][2][ii][b][3][ii]) based on ***each and every one*** of the following bases (whether actual or perceived): race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practices, disability, sexual orientation, gender, and sex?

Yes       No

If not, please list each of the prohibited bases set forth in Question 2 that are ***not*** currently included in the Code of Conduct's prohibition against harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination, and the reasons why these bases are not currently included:

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3. Has the District posted the Code of Conduct to the Internet website for the District or District schools?

Yes       No       N/A (No District or school website)

If not, please describe the issues the District has encountered in addressing this requirement, and its proposed timetable for compliance:

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4. Has the District provided copies of a summary of the Code of Conduct to all students, in an age-appropriate version, written in plain language, at a school assembly at the beginning of each school year commencing with the 2013-2014 school year?

Yes       No

If so, please describe how many age-appropriate versions of the summary the District currently maintains (*e.g.*, an elementary school version for grades K-6, and a junior/senior high school version for grades 7-12). If not, please explain the issues you

have encountered in addressing this requirement, and your proposed timetable for compliance:

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5. Has the District mailed a summary of the Code of Conduct to all persons in parental relation to students before the beginning of each school year?

Yes       No

If yes, please note whether the Code is mailed with other District materials (and what other kinds of materials) before the beginning of the school year. If not, please describe the issues the District has encountered in addressing this requirement; its proposed timetable for compliance; and what other ways, if any, the District uses to provide the summary to persons in parental relation:

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6. Has the District provided each teacher in a District school with a copy of the complete Code of Conduct?

Yes       No

If yes, please describe when the District provides the copy. If not, please describe the issues the District has encountered in addressing this requirement, and its proposed timetable for compliance:

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7. Does the District provide each newly-hired teacher with a copy of the complete Code of Conduct upon commencement of employment?

Yes       No

If not, please describe the issues the District has encountered in addressing this requirement, and its proposed timetable for compliance:

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8. Does the District make copies of the complete Code of Conduct available for review by students, parents or persons in parental relation, other school staff and other community members?

Yes       No

If so, please describe how and where the District makes such copies available. If not, please describe the issues the District has encountered in addressing this requirement, and its proposed timetable for compliance:

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9. Does the District make translated copies of the complete Code of Conduct available for review by students, parents or persons in parental relation, other school staff, and other community members?

Yes       No

If so, please describe how, where, and in which languages the District makes such translated copies available:

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10. Does the District make translated copies of the summary Code of Conduct available to be mailed to persons in parental relation at the beginning of the school year?

Yes       No

If so, please describe in which languages the District makes such translated copies of the summary Code of Conduct available:

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**B. Dignity Act School Employee Training**

*[Commissioners Regulations Part 100, 8 NYCRR § 100.2(jj)(1)-(3)]*

11. Has the District established guidelines for its schools to conduct training on (i) awareness of potential incidents of harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination directed at students and the effects of such conduct on students, and (ii) employee prevention of, and response to, such incidents?

Yes       No

*If so, please include a copy of such guidelines with the District's completed survey.*

If not, please describe the issues the District has encountered in addressing this requirement, and its proposed timetable for compliance:

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12. For schools within the District, please provide (i) the frequency of such trainings (e.g., on an annual or bi-annual basis), (ii) whether the trainings are conducted in coordination with training/professional development on other topics, (iii) the topics covered, and (iv) any persons receiving compensation from the District whom the District has not required to attend such trainings in the 2012-13 or 2013-14 academic years.

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**C. Dignity Act Coordinators**

[Commissioners Regulations Part 100, 8 NYCRR § 100.2(jj)(4)]

13. Has each school in the District designated at least one employee as a Dignity Act Coordinator?

Yes       No

If not, please describe the issues the District has encountered in addressing this requirement, and its proposed timetable for compliance:

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14. If the school maintains a website, or the District maintains a website with school-specific information, is the name and contact information for each school's Dignity Act Coordinator listed on such website(s)?

Yes       No       N/A (No District or school website)

If not, please describe the issues the District has encountered in addressing this requirement, and its proposed timetable for compliance:

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15. Is the name and contact information for each school's Dignity Act Coordinator listed in that school's Code of Conduct?

Yes       No

If not, please describe the issues the District has encountered in addressing this requirement, and its proposed timetable for compliance:

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16. Is the name and contact information for each school's Dignity Act Coordinator included in the plain-language summary Code of Conduct mailed to persons in parental relation (*i.e.*, the summary referred to in Questions 5 and 10 above)?

Yes       No

If not, please describe the issues the District has encountered in addressing this requirement, and its proposed timetable for compliance:

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17. Is the name and contact information for each school’s Dignity Act Coordinator posted in highly-visible areas of each school building?

Yes       No

If yes, please generally describe where such postings are made at District schools. If not, please describe the issues the District has encountered in addressing this requirement, and its proposed timetable for compliance:

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18. In addition to the methods described above, please describe any additional ways the District and/or its schools share the name and contact information of Dignity Act Coordinators with school personnel, students, and persons in parental relation:

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19. In addition to the Dignity Act training provided to all school employees (*see* Section B., above), has the District or District schools provided any additional training to Dignity Act Coordinators on how to handle human relations in the areas of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, and sex?

Yes       No

If so, please describe (i) such additional training provided to Dignity Act Coordinators, and, (ii) whether the District or individual schools were responsible for providing such additional training:

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20. For the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 academic years, did any Dignity Act Coordinators vacate their positions in any district schools?

Yes       No

If so, how many such vacancies occurred in those academic years? For each such vacancy, how much time elapsed between the Coordinator leaving his/her position and the school's designation of an interim and/or successor Coordinator?

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**D. Student Instruction on Anti-Discrimination/Harassment Principles**

[Commissioners Regulations Part 100, 8 NYCRR § 100.2(c)]

21. As part of an instructional component on civility, citizenship, and character education in grades K-12, are District schools providing instruction with an emphasis on discouraging acts of harassment, bullying and discrimination and includes instruction on safe, responsible use of the internet and electronic communications?

Yes       No

If so, please describe the nature and content of the instruction District schools are providing on these topics, including whether such instruction raises awareness of discrimination or harassment based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight,

national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, and sex. If not, please describe the issues the District has encountered in addressing this requirement, and its proposed timetable for compliance:

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22. In addition to the answers provided above, please provide any additional information concerning the District's efforts to implement provisions of DASA. Feel free to describe any challenges the District has encountered; information or questions on best practices; feedback received from students, parents, or school employees; or any other information the District considers relevant to its implementation efforts.

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