CASB BRIEF - July 15 Vol. 40



Harassment and Discrimination Training

Colorado law requires public schools to provide training to all employees about discrimination and harassment, based on the standards in SB23-296 or <u>C.R.S. 22-1-143</u>. This requirement starts in the 2025-2026 school year. Training requirements cover any employee that works at a school or regularly works with students in schools.

CDE has released training materials that districts are free to use (links below or available here). While CDE's training provides a general overview that aligns with Colorado law, districts may wish to supplement it with district-specific information, specifically regarding internal reporting procedures, which vary from district to district. All training materials must meet the statutory requirements in C.R.S. 22-1-143, and districts are not required to adopt CDE's training materials. For more information on the training requirements and SB23-296 more broadly, please review our Discrimination and Harassment Policy Guide and/or our Sample Policies AC, AC-R-1, and AC-R-2.

- CDE Training Materials:
 - Training Presentation
 - PowerPoint Module 1: Identifying Discrimination and Harassment in Schools
 - Module 1 PDF: Identifying Discrimination and Harassment in Schools
 - PowerPoint Module 2: Responding to Discrimination and Harassment
 - PDF Module 2: Responding to Discrimination and Harassment
 - Training Facilitation Guide Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying Training Materials

2025 Legislative Summary

CASB recently released our Legislative Summary, for the 2025 legislative session. Further analysis and guidance on specific bills are forthcoming.

Read the Full Summary Here!





Litigation Update

Several significant education cases that CASB has been tracking were recently decided by the Supreme Court of the United States.

- Mahmoud v. Taylor In this case, the Court ruled that parents have the right to opt their child out of lessons involving a set of books featuring LGBTQ+ characters and themes if the materials do not align with the families' religious beliefs. The school districts' policy had prevented opt-out for LBGTQ+ inclusive storybooks, and the court ruled that this policy interfered with the parent's right to "direct the religious upbringing of their children." CASB's policies and guidance will be reviewed to determine if any changes must be made based on this decision.
- FCC v. Consumers' Research The Court preserved the E-rate program, which provides internet discounts for schools and libraries. Schools and libraries rely on this program and its removal would have been very harmful.