



## Correcting Misinformation

1 message

Superintendent Vivian Ekchian via Q Communication <donotreply@parentsquare.com>

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Glendale Unified School District

Superintendent Vivian Ekchian posted in Glendale Unified School District

### Correcting Misinformation



Dear Glendale Unified Students, Staff, and Families,

The last several weeks, we have seen an escalation in the rhetoric surrounding our district's curriculum and policies, specifically those related to students' gender and gender identity.

Most recently, a video has been circulating on social media of one of our students participating in public communication at Tuesday night's Glendale City Council meeting. We take concerns from our students, employees, and families seriously and thoroughly investigate any allegations of misconduct. At this time, we have not found evidence to support any of the allegations made at the Glendale City Council meeting.

We are committed to being completely transparent with families about our policies and curriculum being taught in our schools. If you ever have concerns about your student's experience in GUSD schools, please contact your school administrator or reach out to our district office directly.

I want to clarify some misinformation currently being shared online:

- **Locker rooms** - Male teachers and coaches do not ever enter the girls locker room or vice versa. No student is ever forced to disrobe or change clothes in front of any adult at school. In addition, private changing facilities are available for any student who wishes to use them for any reason.

- **Sex education** - In GUSD, instruction related to students' maturation and sexual health education is taught in grades 5, 7 and 9. Instruction in grade 5 focuses on body changes that occur during puberty. Curriculum in grades 7 and 9 is focused on sex education and HIV prevention and follows the standards outlined in the California Healthy Youth Act. Parents may view the materials prior to instruction and have an opportunity to opt their child out of this curriculum. More information is available on the GUSD website at [gusd.net/chya](http://gusd.net/chya).
- **Punishment for incorrect use of pronouns** - California law and GUSD Nondiscrimination Policy state that every individual on our campuses has a right to be referred to by their preferred pronouns. Should there be an instance where a student or employee uses an individual's improper pronoun, we would have a conversation to address the issue. The nature of the conversation would take into account the specific situation and any underlying circumstances, including a student's IEP or English Learner status.

Our administrators, teachers, and staff continue to work together with our families to ensure our schools are safe spaces where every child can learn and thrive. Thank you for trusting us with your child's education and please do not hesitate to reach out to us directly if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Vlvian Ekchian, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

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