

ARROWHEAD UNION
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committee to consider procedure document on pronoun, name changes

Policy was approved in September

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TOWN OF MERTON — A policy requiring parent or guardian consent in altered student pronoun use in the classroom was approved by the Arrowhead Union High School District in September. On Thursday the Arrowhead High School Union School Board of Education will consider the possible procedure for this policy. The Policy Committee meets at 6:45 a.m. on Thursday in the District Office board room. The approved document outlines procedures within Arrowhead for handling student name changes and pronoun usage.

The policy procedure said the student's record will reflect the legal name, pronouns provided at the time the student was registered and enrolled. Requests to change the official record need to be submitted to the appropriate principal and include supporting documents.

Nicknames, name changes and pronoun requests that don't involve changing the official record are different from the district approving a student's, parent's or legal guardian's request to regularly use an alternate name, nickname or pronoun in certain school settings, while leaving the legal name that the district has on file unmodified.

"Parents have the right to determine the names and pronouns that staff use to refer to their children while at school unless the name and pronoun change is advanced by an adult student and/or a change in the student's legal name has been changed. Staff shall not refer to or address minor students by a different name or pronouns that differ from their biological sex during school hours, without written authorization from a parent. (This policy does not require parental consent for shortened versions of the legal first name of a student or for the student's use of the student's legal middle name.)" according to procedure

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documents.

A written/electronic authorization of the change of name and/or pronoun for a minor student needs to be filled out by the parent/guardian at the time of student registration and may be modified by the parent/guardian at any time.

"If a request for a student to regularly use an alternate name, nickname or pronoun in certain settings is otherwise appropriate as defined above, staff members will refer to the student in the manner in which the student will refer to themselves when turning in assignments, but it does not mean changing or deleting a legal name that is documented in the district's official records for school purposes," according to the procedure documents.

For more information visit <https://www.arrowheadschoools.org/>.



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