



Oregon School Activities Association

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TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors
FROM: Cindy Simmons, Assistant Executive Director
SUBJECT: Title IX Reminders

Hello everyone. As a new school year begins, it is a good time to remind all school personnel to take a moment and review their policies and procedures regarding Title IX issues in their school.

DOES THE POLICY AND PRACTICE OF SCHOOL-UTILIZED FACILITIES PROVIDE COMPARABLE AMENITIES AND ACCESS FOR PRACTICE AND COMPETITION?

Is there equal, prime time access to the gym(s), training room, weight room(s)? Are the team rooms for the boys and girls comparable? Are the practice and game facilities for the boys' and the girls' teams equal and comparable? (If the baseball field has brick dugouts, does the softball have comparable dugouts?) Do the boys have facilities on campus, but the girls have to travel to their facilities?

Title IX merely states that we need to treat all of our teams the same, regardless of gender, when it comes to the use of school facilities. This also applies to schools that use "off-campus" facilities.

HAS YOUR SCHOOL/DISTRICT PARTICIPATED IN A SPORTS-BASED INTEREST SURVEY WITHIN THE PAST TWO YEARS?

Was the survey gender-specific, specifying who was being measured and where an interest lies? What action has the school/district taken to respond to the results of the survey?

The survey is a proactive way for your school to plan and document that you are meeting the athletic needs of your students. Without a survey, schools and districts will find it very difficult to show to an OCR investigator how you determined that you are meeting the needs of your under represented students (in most cases the female student). The vast majority of schools have found, after completing a survey, that they ARE meeting the needs of their students with their present offerings in athletics.

For more information on these two questions and many others, please visit the OSAA Website, Administrators page, Educational Resources, <http://osaa.org/administrators.asp>.