



*"The Tri-Creek School Corporation and Community ...
Engaged to Learn ... Equipped to Achieve ... Empowered to Succeed"*

January 27, 2021

Tri-Creek School Corporation regards the safety and security of its students and staff as its overriding priority. To that end, numerous policies and procedures are in place to provide for that protection. Among these is a robust Title IX policy available on the district website and updated in 2020 to protect students and staff against sexual harassment and sexual misconduct. All allegations in this regard are taken seriously and investigated diligently.

Recently, the school corporation received an anonymous complaint via email alleging inappropriate behavior by its superintendent, Dr. Rod Gardin. Per policy, the school corporation swiftly undertook a thorough and complete investigation of the allegations. The complainant was given every opportunity to provide a statement. That opportunity was declined.

That investigation is now complete. The results of that investigation have concluded that the allegations are false. No inappropriate behavior has occurred as alleged in the anonymous complaint.

Again, this school district earnestly addresses and investigates allegations of this nature and encourages reporting through the appropriate channels. Additional information on Tri-Creek School Corporation's Title IX investigation process can be found in the Board of School Trustees Policy Manual Policy 3020.

It is also imperative that Tri-Creek staff remember it is our legal responsibility to protect the privacy of students and staff. Corporation email is considered public record and identifying students risks violating their FERPA rights.

Signed,

Douglas Ward
Tri-Creek School Corporation School Board President