Re: Docket ID ED-2017-OS-0074-0001

Dear Secretary DeVos:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. This vital law affects all areas of education, including: recruitment, admissions and housing; pregnant and parenting students; science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); sexual harassment and assault; and athletics. It requires recipients of federal education funding to evaluate their current policies and practices, adopt and publish a policy against sex discrimination, and implement grievance procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee discrimination complaints.

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Leslee Anderson 5815 Carter St Merriam, KS 66203

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Marcia Bannister 1202 W. 26th Hays, KS 67601

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Max Barlow 8359 Somerset Drive Prairie Village, KS 66207

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Abigail Barton 14710 W Selma Wichita, KS 67227

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Cynthia Brooks-Fetty 501 S 6th St Leoti, KS 67861

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Lynn Bruner 3100 W 154th St 3100 W. 154th Street Overland Park, KS 66224

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Carolyn Chambers 1430 W Nottingham Cir Wichita, KS 67204

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Gwendolyn Claassen 2913 Bluestem Ct North Newton, KS 67117

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Avis Deck 147 Joseph Ln Andover, KS 67002

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Thank you,

William Fast 10808 Dickinson Rd Ozawkie, KS 66070

Re: Docket ID ED-2017-OS-0074-0001

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Jennifer Gieschen 7250 State Avenue Kansas City, KS 66112

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Mary K. Gratton 1209 E Piatt Ln Olathe, KS 66061

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Darla Green 12345 College Blvd. Overland Park, KS 66210

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Resa Gross 1544 SW 23rd Park Topeka, KS 66611

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Marjean Harris 921 S Ash St Newton, KS 67114

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Marcia Hawk 331 Chamberlin Ct Lawrence, KS 66049

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Sarah Herster 11013 W. 125th Street Overland Park, KS 66213

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Patsy Kile 2041N. 33rd Terrace Kansas City, KS 66104

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Kara Lewis 46TH ST. Shawnee, KS 66226

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Mike Lundgren 5841 Fontana Dr Fairway, KS 66205

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Debra McClelland 1320 NE Madison St Topeka, KS 66608

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Janice McIntyre 8620 Cleveland Ave Kansas City, KS 66109

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Sally Stokes Merryfield 14001 W 92nd St Lenexa, KS 66215

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Christina Meyer 106 N Oakdale Ave Salina, KS 67401

Re: Docket ID ED-2017-OS-0074-0001

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Kathryn Moore 2720 brittany terr. manhattan, KS 66502

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Dodie Murphy 9921 W 52nd St Shawnee Mission, KS 66203

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Carol Neill 14722 Conser St Overland Park, KS 66223

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Mary Nielsen 6409 E 11th St N Wichita, KS 67206

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Jennifer Pearson 1043 N Woodrow Ave Wichita, KS 67203

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Hannah Perkins 140 N Clifton Ave Wichita, KS 67208

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Elizabeth Pomeroy 8 Indian Ln Newton, KS 67114

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Martha Riedl 2685 SE 60th St Leon, KS 67074

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Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. This vital law affects all areas of education, including: recruitment, admissions and housing; pregnant and parenting students; science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); sexual harassment and assault; and athletics. It requires recipients of federal education funding to evaluate their current policies and practices, adopt and publish a policy against sex discrimination, and implement grievance procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee discrimination complaints.

I join with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in urging the Department of Education to protect Title IX, preserve all of its current regulations and guidance, and fully enforce the law.

Unfortunately, many students still do not have access to an equitable education free from sex discrimination. AAUW research found that 56 percent of girls and 40 percent of boys in grades 7-12 face sexual harassment. Of that number, 87 percent said it had a negative effect on them. In addition, girls have 1.2 million fewer chances to play sports in high school than boys. Less than two-thirds of African American and Hispanic girls play sports, while more than three-quarters of Caucasian girls do. Pregnant and parenting students are often steered toward separate, less rigorous schools. Just 12 percent of engineers are women, and the number of women in computing has fallen from 35 percent in 1990 to just 26 percent today.

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Education has a long history of ensuring technical assistance and fair enforcement of federal civil rights laws, including Title IX. For decades, students and advocates have called on OCR to enforce Title IX, and its long-standing regulations and guidance.

As Secretary of Education, you have the power to address this critical civil rights issue and help make schools safer and more equitable for all students. I join with AAUW in urging the Department of Education to keep in place current Title IX guidance and regulations and fully enforce the law.

Thank you,

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