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Some Virginia school districts rejecting governor's policy on transgender bathrooms, preferred pronouns

Under the new guidelines, students must receive parental permission to be referred to by a different name or gender



By **Landon Mion** | Fox News



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[Several school districts in Virginia](#) said they would be rejecting Republican Gov. Glenn Youngkin's model policies requiring students to use bathrooms and pronouns that match their biological

sex.

The updated Virginia Department Of Education's 2023 Model Policies include "clear and useful" suggestions to school districts for preferred pronoun usage, maintaining student records, the identification of students and enforcing sex-based dress codes.

Under the new guidelines, students must use bathrooms and other private facilities that correspond with their biological sex instead of gender identity unless required by federal law. Students are also required to receive parental permission to be referred to by a different name or gender.

Alexandria City Public School's Superintendent Melanie Kay-Wyatt and School Board Chair Michelle Rief released a joint statement on Monday saying they were "dismayed" when [Youngkin introduced the policies](#) on transgender students, ALXnow reported. This is the second straight year that the district has rejected the policies, which are updated annually.

CALIFORNIA STATE SUPERINTENDENT CALLED OUT FOR 'DANGEROUS AND EXTREME' GENDER POLICY: 'PERVERSION OF CHILDREN'



Several school districts in Virginia said they would be rejecting Republican Gov. Glenn Youngkin's model policies requiring students to use bathrooms and pronouns that match their biological sex. (Al Drago/Bloomberg via Getty Images)

"[W]e want to reaffirm our commitment to all students, staff and families, including our LGBTQIA+ community, that ACPS will continue to both implement and develop gender affirming policies for all ACPS students," the statement reads. "School Board Policy JB: Nondiscrimination in Education protects students from discrimination due to gender expression, gender identity, sexual harassment and transgender status."

ACPS said they are still reviewing the new policies to ensure they are following state and federal law, but remain committed to upholding the [school's nondiscrimination policy](#) that was adopted back in 1996 – a policy that has identified gender identity as a protected class since 2013.

Loudoun County Public Schools and Prince William County Public Schools are also reviewing the updated policies, according to [FOX 5 DC](#). Stafford, Fairfax and Arlington County school districts already have policies in place that do not comply with the state's new guidelines.

"We have reviewed the model policies and determined that our current policies and policy implementation procedures that protect the rights of our transgender students will stay as is," Arlington Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Francisco Durán wrote in a statement last week.

He continued: "Moreover, they are in alignment with decisions from the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1973, and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. I oppose any policy that infringes upon the rights of our students and threatens the safety and well-being of our LGBTQIA+ students."

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Under the new guidelines, students must use bathrooms and other private facilities that correspond with their biological sex instead of gender identity unless required by federal law. (Getty)

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The Virginia Department of Education first introduced Youngkin's model policies in 2022, which reversed those implemented under former Democrat Gov. Ralph Northam.

[The Youngkin administration](#) argues that the model policies provide parents with more rights when it comes to their child's education.

"The law states that the Virginia Department of Education shall provide model policies and school boards shall adopt," a spokesperson for the governor said in a statement to Fox 5 DC. "The Virginia Department of Education has fulfilled its responsibility to develop the model policies, school boards are expected to follow the law."

It is unclear what penalty, if any, school districts would face for failing to follow the state's new policies.

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Their commitment supports only a small fraction of their students. It denies the privacy rights of the majority. It violates the first amendment rights of all by compelling speech. As evidenced by documented sexual and physical assaults against biological females by biological males in female bathr...**See more**

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Let each school district do what they may, with one caveat; a very liberal school voucher program that allows parents to send their children to private schools or schools in a more realistic district. This would eventually put woke districts out of business or get the woke schools boards booted out ...

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How about the safety & wellbeing of ALL students? Allowing intact bio males who identify as girls into bathrooms, locker rooms & showers violates bodily privacy rights of actual female students & for male students.

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oc4truth

17 hours ago



Figures, Northern Virginia progressive districts would oppose these. I am sick of these areas basically running the Commonwealth. Yes, they are part of the state, but they are geographically a tiny portion and do not reflect the values of Virginia as a whole. Youngkin is dead right on this, and san...

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A



It's sad that the district's nondiscrimination policy discriminates against biological females. They deny those girls' rights in order to appease radicals instead of helping the radicals get the treatment they need.

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I



"[W]e want to reaffirm our commitment to all students, staff and families, including our LGBTQIA+ community, that ACPS will continue to both implement and develop gender affirming policies for all ACPS students,". What this means is we are willing to sacrifice the mental health of our normal studen...

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applying logic 4 decades

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M



Just remove state funding from school districts that refuse to obey the law. Problem solved.

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J



Tell me, how does it "threaten" someone to ensure the safety of all? It protects everyone to use the bathroom of their biological sex. We have evidence of negative outcomes with people using whatever bathroom they want, most of them from schools. The paper Tiger argument is strong with these Social... **See more**

16 hours ago
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LGBTQIA+, now that's mouthful. I wonder if anyone can define, by describing a typical person, for each of the letters. They'll soon have to resort to using the Greek alphabet. **missingneuron**

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S



Take your kids out of these schools, with no one to teach, the policies will change.

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