THIMC,

The new Title IX regulations are good in the respect of providing support to claimants and providing them with a voice to report and find a resolution to any and all Title IX violations. Providing informal or formal procedures/resolutions empowers Claimants in the process. The down side to the regulations is numerous for small school districts. The process and mandates with regards to the investigation is too cumbersome for small districts who do not have a full time Title IX coordinator, investigator, decision maker, or appellate. In our district, principals must be taken from their buildings to fulfill the duties required by the new regulations for days at a time. In the process, multiple principals are out of their buildings whether they are doing intakes, investigating, deliberating, or reviewing an appeal.

The regulations make assumptions that principals are trained in the art of investigation, interview questioning, and legal proceedings. The implications set by the regulations puts all principals in a position to be questioned about every aspect of the process by trained lawyers who know the legal proceedings. These regulations are written for and imply the proceedings are being completed by professional law enforcement investigators, being reviewed by county prosecutors, decisions based on evidence as a judge would. This process seems to be written for the legal system, not an educational system.

The cost of this regulation is also a concern for every district facing a budget shortfall. If a district needs to source out their investigation, the amount of money needed to pay an independent investigator, decision maker, or ruling on an appeal.

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