# KNOW YOUR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS

## **EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION**

All teachers have the right to work in a workplace free of discrimination on the basis of any of the following *protected grounds* – race, color, religion, disability, national origin, age, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth), sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, family care leave, gender identity or marital status.

Teachers also have the right to work in a workplace free of harassment on the basis of any **protected ground**, including sexual harassment.

### RIGHT NOT TO BE RETALIATED AGAINST

The right to a discrimination-free workplace includes the right not to be retaliated against for filing any discrimination charges, making allegations of discrimination, or cooperating in a charge of discrimination filed by another person.

#### **GENERAL RULE**

A district violates the anti-discrimination laws if a teacher is subjected to an adverse employment action on the basis of a protected ground.

## ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT ACTIONS

Adverse employment actions include any adverse changes in the terms or condition of employment. The following is a list of a few types of adverse employment actions:

HIRE \* TRAINING \* DISCHARGE \* PROMOTION \* COMPENSATION \* BENEFITS \* INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS \* JOB ASSIGNMENTS

#### **COMMON EMPLOYER DEFENSES**

- Bona Fide Occupational Qualification
- Business Necessity
- > Employee Performance
- ➤ Lack of Employer Knowledge

## TIPS FOR TEACHERS FACING DISCRIMINATION OR HARASSMENT

- Document harassment or discriminatory conduct
- Keep a paper trail (emails, classroom visits, document phone-calls, take notes of face-to-face interactions)
- Contact your CTA/CCA representative
- Send a demand letter or file a complaint with the District or the Department of Fair Employment and Housing