

Transgender Policy and Procedures

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To:BOVSecretary <BOVSecretary@vmi.edu>

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Board,

Not too sure if this is an appropriate time or place for the below questions. But there are concerns and as Quartermaster, I feel that it is my duty to address some of the concerns that our staff may have, and I want any student to feel comfortable and at home in our Military Store and/or QMD.

Will uniform fitting be included on the procedure and policy for transgender students?

If so, what uniform will be used? Sounds like a stupid question, but our uniforms are made for male and female bodies. Someone who is transitioning or who has transitioned to their new form may not fit the bill for any gender specific uniform item. Will we as fitters from the Military Store have some liberty to fit each individual for their particular body at our discretion? We do that now with the Corps. For instance, some males have female shoes, some females have male uniforms due to sizing issues and the adjustments go on.

What happens if one of our staff comes to me and asks not to fit a transgendered student or any student for that matter? Do they have the right to say pass? Should we ask the individual to choose who they are comfortable with fitting them?

There is a plethora of questions that have floated here in the store among our group of fitters. I want to make sure that the student is protected and not questioned inappropriately or made to feel uncomfortable in a place where we want them to feel welcome and get that bit of reset for however long they are in our care. But I also don't want to dismiss the concerns of my staff.

We ask that our department in particular be thought out carefully so that we can welcome any student that walks through that door. We are here to serve.

Sincerely,
Blaine Noel

Mrs. Blaine Noel

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