



**POLICY 235 -- STUDENT RIGHTS/RESPONSIBILITIES**

**1. Purpose**

This policy sets forth guidelines by which student rights are to be determined consistent with law.

**2. Authority**

The Board has the authority and responsibility to establish reasonable rules and regulations for the conduct and deportment of students of the district. At the same time, no student will be deprived of equal treatment and equal access to the educational program, due process, a presumption of innocence, and free expression and association in accordance with these guidelines.

**3. Guidelines**

**Student Rights**

Students do have rights. Having legal rights as persons and citizens, students may not be deprived of what the law gives them. These rights include the right to an education, the right to express their opinions, and the right to be free from invidious discrimination. They also have human rights as persons and participants in the educational community. These rights include the right to be treated with dignity by other participants and the right to contribute to the educational process.

**Student Responsibilities**

Student responsibilities include regular school attendance, conscientious effort in classroom work, and conformance to school rules and regulations. Most of all, students share with the administration and the faculty a responsibility to develop a climate within the school that is conducive to wholesome learning and living.

Minors are compelled by law to attend school until they are 17 years of age. They cannot be compelled to want to attend or to like to attend, but all school personnel and parents should encourage students to attend at all times.

No student has the right to interfere with the education of his/her fellow student. It is the responsibility of each student to respect the rights of all who are involved in the educational process.

Students should express their ideas and opinions in a respectful manner so as not to offend or slander others.

The students' responsibilities will be to:

1. be aware of all rules and regulations for student behavior and conduct themselves in accordance with them.

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2. be willing to volunteer information in disciplinary cases and cooperate with school staff should they have knowledge of importance in relation to such cases.
3. dress and groom themselves so as to meet fair standards of safety, health, and common standards of decency.
4. assume that until a rule is waived, altered, or repealed, it is in full effect.
5. assist the school staff in running a safe school for all students enrolled.
6. be aware of and comply with state and local laws.
7. protect and take care of the school's property.
8. attend school daily except when excused, and be on time at all classes and other school functions.
9. make all necessary arrangements for making up work when absent from school.
10. pursue and attempt to complete the courses of study prescribed by the state and local school authorities.
11. avoid inaccuracies in student newspapers or publications, and avoid indecent or obscene language.
12. refrain from using disrespectful, indecent, or obscene gestures or language in direct contact with other persons.