

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Each student has the right and responsibility to use education as a means for self-improvement and growth. He/she is expected to behave in such a way as to allow other students the opportunity to learn. It is the responsibility of District employees to prescribe and control, consistent with fundamental and constitutional safeguards, student behavior.

Following Board policies, procedures and regulations, the following four (4) areas shall serve as student guidelines:

- (a) Freedom of Expression - A student may freely express his/her point(s) of view, provided the person does not seek to coerce others to join the student's mode of expression and does not otherwise intrude upon the rights of others during school hours, including school-related activities.
- (b) Personal Appearance – (Reference the Dress Code Policy 500.14 Student Appearance) Student dress and appearance will be governed by the policy and procedures contained in Policy 500.14 “Student Appearance” and Policy 502.1 “Student Government”. Additional written rules for participation in school activities shall be followed regarding grooming and dress.
- (c) The Right to Petition - A student is permitted to present a petition to the Administration at any time. The collection of signatures on a petition is limited to before and after school hours. No student shall receive disciplinary action for signing a petition addressed to Administration, assuming the petition is free from obscenities, libelous statements, personal attack, advocacy of disruption, which could pose as a threat of disruption to the regular school program, or it is within the bounds of reasonable conduct.
- (d) Student Due Process Rights - Each student is entitled to a clearly established means by which "Administrative due process" is available to see that an individual's rights are protected. Students are to be involved, singly and collectively, as citizens of the school with the rights of citizenship and corresponding responsibilities for proper conduct regarding their own affairs and those of other students. Before any disciplinary action is taken against a student, the student has a right to the due process guaranteed him or her by the United States Constitution. A student, accused of an action and threatened with punishment for the action, has the right to request a hearing with the Building Administrator. The student's parents/guardians may attend the hearing if the student desires. When such a hearing is concluded and the decision(s) identified and if the student is dissatisfied with the decision(s), he/she may request a hearing with the Superintendent. If after that hearing the student is still dissatisfied, he/she may

request a hearing before the Board.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Constitution of Iowa, Art. I, Sec. 0; U.S. Constitution, Amendments 1,4,14.

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