

**STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Board believes that students have rights which should be recognized and respected. It also believes that every right carries with it certain responsibilities.

Among these rights and responsibilities are the following:

1. The right to attend free public schools; the responsibility to attend school regularly, and to observe school rules essential for permitting others to learn at school.
2. The right to a quality education; the responsibility to put forth the best efforts during the educational process.
3. Civil rights--including the rights to equal educational opportunity and freedom from discrimination; the responsibility not to discriminate against others.
4. The right to free inquiry and expression; the responsibility to observe reasonable rules regarding these rights.
5. The right to due process of law with respect to suspension, expulsion, and decisions which the student believes injure his rights.
6. The right to privacy, which includes privacy in respect to the student's school records.

It is the Board's belief that as part of the educational process, students should be made aware of their legal rights and of the legal authority of the Board to make and delegate authority to its staff to make rules regarding the orderly operation of the schools. If the policy guidelines adopted by the Board are to be successful, it must be understood that school officials and teachers have the authority to interpret and apply them in a given situation. Students must obey any such interpretation, subject to an appeal.

When the rights and responsibilities of individuals are clearly understood, the elements of respect and cooperation will result in the harmonious and constructive education of the student.

Adopted: June 30, 1981