

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Each student has a right to an education. Students have the responsibility to apply themselves to maximize the benefit they receive from their education. Each student has a right to an environment that allows them to identify and pursue personal academic interests. Students have the responsibility to behave in such a way that all other students can exercise that right. Student behavior that disrupts classwork, involves substantial disorder or invades the rights of others shall not be tolerated.

Students shall have the right to advocate change of any policy or regulation. Students may exercise their right to freedom of expression through speech, petition, and other lawful means. The exercise of this right may not interfere with the rights of others. Freedom of expression may not be utilized to present material which tends to be obscene or slanderous, or to defame character, or to advocate violation of federal, state and local laws, or official school policies, rules and regulations.

No right is absolute. One basic limitation is this: the freedom of an individual or group to exercise rights ceases when that exercise unduly infringes upon the rights of others. Teachers and students should promote tolerance for the views and opinions of others, as well as for the right of an individual to form and hold different opinions and beliefs.

Since a student who has reached the age of majority possesses the full rights of an adults, s/he may authorize those school matters previously handled by his/her parent/guardian, but s/he also assumes the responsibility for his/her performance in school, attendance, and compliance with school rules.

The enforcement of this policy must be done in accordance with due process. Students and parents/guardians are given notice of the rules governing expected behavior and consequences for misbehavior through the Code of Conduct which they receive annually in their student handbooks. The process for a hearing when the Code of Conduct is violated is also specified in the student handbooks.

Legal Ref.: Section 120.13(1) Wisconsin Statutes