

PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Code **KBB** Issued **9/16**

Purpose: To establish the board's vision for the rights and responsibilities of the parents/legal guardians of the district's students.

The board has adopted the following statement on the rights and responsibilities of parents/legal guardians to describe the role of the parent/legal guardian and the role of the school in supporting a successful school experience for each child as well as establishing and maintaining a parent-friendly school setting.

For purposes of this policy, the term "parent" refers to custodial and noncustodial parents.

Every parent /legal guardian has the following **rights**:

- to be treated with courtesy by all members of the school staff
- to be respected as an individual regardless of race, creed, national origin, economic status, sex, or age
- to secure as much help as is available from the school district to further the progress and improvement of his/her child
- to receive reasonable protection for his/her child from physical harm while under school authority
- to organize and participate in organizations for parents
- to participate in his/her child's school activities (unless prohibited by court order)

Special education

- to be informed of all programs in special education
- to appeal the placement, in accordance with established guidelines, of his/her child in a special education class
- to be designated as the educational representative for an adult student with a disability by the adult student once the student reaches the age of 18 and is accorded all rights to make his/her educational decisions or to be designated as the educational representative by the district if the adult student is incapable of communicating in accordance with state law

Receiving information

- to be informed of academic requirements of any school program
- to be informed of school policies and administrative decisions
- to be informed of procedures for seeking changes in school policies and for appealing administrative decisions
- to expect that school personnel will make reasonable attempts to ensure that parents/legal guardians receive important school news and messages
- to be informed of education and cultural programs available to public school children
- Administrators and personnel of District Five Schools of Spartanburg County respond to parent inquiries via email, phone call, or a conference within 48 hours.

Conferences

- to participate in meaningful parent-teacher conferences to discuss his/her child's school progress and welfare

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Records

- to inspect his/her child's education record in conformity with current guidelines established by state and federal law

Every parent/legal guardian has the following **responsibilities**:

- to make reasonable efforts to provide for the physical needs of the child
- to prepare the child emotionally and socially to make the child receptive to learning and discipline
- to hold high expectations for academic achievement
- to expect and communicate expectations for success
- to recognize that parental involvement in middle and high school is equally as critical as in elementary school
- to ensure attendance and punctuality
- to attend parent-teacher conferences
- to monitor and check homework
- to communicate with the school teachers
- to build partnerships with teachers to promote successful school experiences
- to attend, when possible, school events
- to model desirable behaviors
- to use encouraging words
- to stimulate thought and curiosity
- to show support for school expectations and efforts to increase student learning
- to encourage appropriate behavior at school and during school-sponsored events

Cf. KB

Adopted 5/20/13; Revised 9/26/16

Legal references:

A. Federal Law:

1. The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C.A. Section 1232(g).

B. S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:

1. Section 63-5-30 - Parental right to participate in child's school activities unless prohibited by court order.

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2. Sections 59-28-100 through 59-28-220 - Parental Involvement in Their Children's Education Act.
3. Section 59-33-310, *et seq.* - Adult Students with Disabilities Educational Rights and Consent Act.
4. Section 59-59-10, *et seq.* - South Carolina Education and Economic Development Act.