The School Board of Lee County

2.062

Related Entries: 2.06, 2.06, 2.062, 2.09, 2.17, 2.18, 2.21, 2.34, 3.071, 4.19

Parents' Bill of Rights

The Board recognizes the rights and its obligation to reinforce the fundamental rights of parents to make decisions regarding the upbringing and control of their children. The Board is committed to honoring the rights of parents and promoting parental involvement in the District. To this end, the Board establishes the following standards and expectations per Florida Statute 1014 et seq. and 1001.42. The forgoing policy supersedes all current practices and shall be deemed incorporated, as if fully set forth, in the student code of conduct.

(1) Parent Rights

- (a) The Board recognizes the following parental rights:
 - 1. The right to direct the education and care of his or her minor child;
 - 2. The right to direct the upbringing and the moral or religious training of his or her minor child;
 - 3. The right to apply to enroll his or her minor child in a public school, or as an alternative, a private school, including a religious school, a home education program, or other available options;
 - 4. The right to access and review all school records relating to his or her minor child;
 - 5. The right to make health care decisions for his or her minor child, unless otherwise prohibited by law;
 - 6. The right to access and review all medical records of his or her minor child, unless prohibited by law or if the parent is the subject of an investigation of a crime committed against the minor child and a law enforcement agency or official requests that the information not be released;
 - 7. The right to consent in writing before a biometric scan of his or her minor child is made, shared, or stored;
 - 8. The right to consent in writing before any record of his or her minor child's blood or deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) is created, stored, or shared, except as required by general law or authorized pursuant to a court order;

- 9. The right to consent in writing before the school district makes a video or voice recording of his or her minor child unless such recording is to be used for the following purposes:
 - a. A safety demonstration
 - b. A legitimate academic or extracurricular activity
 - c. A purpose related to regular classroom instruction
 - d. Security or surveillance of buildings or grounds
 - e. A photo identification card
- 10. The right to be notified promptly if an employee of the school district suspects that a criminal offense has been committed against his or her minor child unless the incident has first been reported to law enforcement or the Department of Children and Families and notifying the parent would impede the investigation.
- (b) This policy, however, does not preclude an employee of the school district from acting in his or her official capacity within the scope of his or her authority.
- (c) Parents will be notified if there is a change in their child's services or monitoring related to their mental health, emotional health, physical health, or well-being and the school's ability to provide a safe and supportive learning environment. The District will encourage the child to discuss issues relating to their well-being with their parents or will help to facilitate said discussion between the child and parents.
- (d) Any school district employee who encourages or coerces, or attempts to encourage or coerce, a minor child into withholding information from his or her parent may be subject to disciplinary action.
- (e) Except as otherwise provided by law, an employee of the school district will not provide medicinal drugs to a minor child without first obtaining written parental consent.

(2) Promoting Parent Involvement

- (a) The school district shall provide parents with opportunities to participate in school to improve parent and teacher cooperation in such areas as homework, school attendance, and discipline.
- (b) The school district shall provide parent opportunities to learn about his or her child's course of study, including the source of any supplemental education materials.

- (c) Parents will be able to object to instructional materials and other materials used in the classroom, based on beliefs regarding morality, sex, and religion or the belief that such materials are harmful.
- (d) Parents can withdraw their minor child from any portion of the school district's comprehensive health education that relates to sex education or instruction in AIDS or any instruction regarding sexuality if the parent provides a written objection to his or her minor child's participation. Parents shall be notified in advance of such course content so that he or she may withdraw his or her minor child from those portions of the course.
- (e) Parents shall have the opportunity to learn about the nature and purpose of clubs and activities offered at his or her minor child's school.

(3) Parent Requests for Information

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- (a) A parent may request, in writing, from the Superintendent the information required to be shared by this policy. Within 10 days, the Superintendent will provide such information to the parent. If the Superintendent denies a parent's request for information or does not respond to the parent's request within 10 days, the parent may appeal the denial to the school board. The school board will place a parent's appeal on the agenda for its next public meeting. If it is too late for a parent's appeal to appear on the next agenda, the appeal will be included on the agenda for the subsequent meeting
- (b) The District will inform parents how to:
 - 1. Opt-out of comprehensive health education that relates to sex education instruction in AIDS education or any instruction regarding sexuality.
 - 2. Receive information about school choice options.
 - 3. Exempt his or her child from immunizations.
 - 4. Review statewide standardized assessment results.
 - 5. Qualify his or her child in gifted or special education programs.
 - 6. Inspect instructional materials.
 - 7. Access information relating to the school district's policies for promotion or retention, including high school graduation requirements.
 - 8. Will have access to a school report card and be informed of his or her minor child's attendance requirements.

135 9. Access information relating to the state public education system, state standards, report card requirements, attendance requirements, and instructional materials 136 137 requirements. 138 139 10. Participate in parent-teacher associations and organizations that are sanctioned by the SDLC School Board or the Department of Education. 140 141 142 11. Opt-out of any district-level data collection relating to his or her minor child not required by law. 143 144 145 (c) Parents will be responsible to ensure that they are in compliance with all other 146 statutory rules and regulations. 147 148 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1001.42, 1001.43, Chapter 1014 F.S. 149 150 151 Adopted: 10/5/2021 Revised: 8/30/2022 152 153 154 Office of Legal Services 2022