



Book	Policy Manual
Section	5000 Students
Title	STUDENT/PARENT RIGHTS
Code	po5780
Status	Active
Adopted	June 28, 2005
Last Revised	April 9, 2024

5780 - **STUDENT/PARENT RIGHTS**

The School Board recognizes that students possess not only the right to an education but the rights of citizenship as well. Federal and state law prohibits the Board from adopting any policy or rule, or from entering into any agreement, that infringes upon or waives the rights of freedoms afforded to students by the United States Constitution.

In providing students the opportunity for an education to which they are entitled, the District shall attempt to offer nurture, counsel, and custodial care appropriate to their age and maturity. The District shall, at the same time, guarantee that no student is deprived of the basic right to equal treatment and equal access to the educational program, due process, a presumption of innocence, free expression and association, and the privacy of his/her own thoughts.

Attendant to the rights guaranteed to each student, however, are certain responsibilities, which include respect for the rights of others, obedience to properly constituted school authority, and compliance with the procedures and rules of the District.

The Board realizes that as students differ in age and maturity, so they differ in ability to handle both the rights of citizens and the concomitant responsibilities. The exercise of each right shall be granted, therefore, with due regard for the degree of responsibility possessed by the student and the student's need for the continuing guidance and control of those responsible for his/her education.

Since a student who has reached the age of majority possesses the full rights of an adult, they may authorize those school matters previously handled by their parents/guardians, but the students also assumes the responsibility for their performance in school, attendance, and compliance with school rules.

All K-12 students in Florida are entitled to a uniform, safe, secure, efficient, and high-quality system of education, one that allows students the opportunity to obtain a high-quality education. Parents/guardians are responsible to ready their children for school; however, neither the state of Florida nor the District can be a guarantor of any individual student's success. Parents/guardians are encouraged to visit the Parents & Students Link at [yourcharlotteschools.net](http://yourcharlotteschools.net) for valuable information pertaining to this policy.

Parental Access at School

Each parent/guardian has the right to pick up, visit, and meet with their student at school, without interference of or the need for consent from the other parent/guardian, unless the school has received a certified copy of an enforceable court order that provides to the contrary. The Principal may restrict the times, location, frequency, and length of parent/guardian visitations at school, based on legitimate pedagogical or scheduling reasons. The District will abide by enforceable no-contact orders which have been provided to the school.

Educational Decisions

Both parents/guardians have an equal right to make decisions about the education and welfare of their student unless the school has received a certified copy of an enforceable court order that specifies that one of the parents/guardians, or someone else, has the sole right to make educational and/or general welfare decisions for the student.

If the parents/guardians cannot agree on a significant decision about the student's education or on matters affecting the health, safety, or welfare of the student, the school will take action based on what it considers to be in the best interests of the child.

## Attendance

### A. Termination of Enrollment

A student who attains the age of sixteen (16) years during the school year has the right to file a formal declaration of intent to terminate school enrollment if the declaration is signed by the parent/guardian. The parent/guardian has the right to be notified by the District of its receipt of the student's declaration of intent to terminate school enrollment; (see also Policy 5130 - )

### B. Married or Pregnant

Students who become or have become married or who are pregnant and parenting have the right to attend school and receive the same or equivalent educational instruction as other students; (see also Policy 5751 - )

### C. Compulsory Attendance

Parents/guardians of students who have attained the age of six (6) years by February 1st of any school year but who have not attained the age of sixteen (16) years must comply with the compulsory school attendance laws. Parents/guardians have the option to comply with the school attendance laws by attendance of the student in a public school; a parochial, religious, or denominational school; a private school; a home education program; or a private tutoring program; (see also Policy 5112 - and Policy 5200 - )

### D. Absence for Religious Purposes

A parent/guardian of a student may request and be granted permission for absence of the student from school for religious instruction or religious holidays; (see also Policy 5223 - and Policy 5225 - )

### E. Dropout Prevention and Academic Intervention Programs

The parent/guardian of a student has the right to receive written notice by certified mail at least five (5) days before a student is initially enrolled in, or at least five (5) days before a student initially receives services under a dropout prevention and academic intervention program. The parent/guardian will be notified in writing and entitled to an administrative review of any action by school personnel relating to the student's placement. Parents of students who reach the age of eighteen (18) years old shall continue to receive notifications unless the students can prove they are not a dependent adult student as defined in federal law. Thereafter, the parent/guardian must be notified annually. The notification must be in the parent's/guardian's primary language or other mode of communication commonly used by the parent/guardian unless clearly not feasible pursuant to F.A.C. 6A-6.0908;

### F. Absence for Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder

A parent/guardian of a student may request and be granted permission for absence of the student from school for an appointment scheduled to receive a therapy service provided by a licensed health care practitioner or behavior analyst certified pursuant to Florida law for the treatment of autism spectrum disorder including, but not limited to, applied behavioral analysis, speech therapy, and occupational therapy.

## Health Issues

### A. Notice of Health Care Services

At the beginning of the school year, the District will provide notice to parents/guardians of all health care services offered at their student's school and of the option to withhold consent to or decline any specific service. Before administering a student well-being questionnaire or health screening form to a student in kindergarten through grade 3, the District will provide the questionnaire or form to the parent/guardian and obtain the permission of the

parent/guardian;

B. School-Entry Health Examinations

The parent/guardian of any student shall be exempt from the requirement of a health examination upon written request stating objections on religious grounds; (see also Policy 5112 - )

C. Immunizations

The parent/guardian of any student shall be exempt from the school immunization requirements upon meeting an

3. Regardless of whether authorization has been given by the student's parents/guardians or by the student's physician, physician's assistant, or advanced registered nurse practitioner;

K. Diabetes Management

The District may not assign a student who has diabetes to a particular school on the basis that the student has diabetes, that the school does not have a full-time school nurse, or that the school does not have trained diabetes personnel;

Diabetic students whose parent/guardian and physician provide their written authorization to the school Principal may carry diabetic supplies and equipment on their person and attend to the management and care of their diabetes while in school, participating in school-sponsored activities, or in transit to or from school or school-sponsored activities, to the extent authorized by the parent/guardian and physician and within the parameters set forth by the State Board of Education Rules

Q e o m i s t a



Options also include the public educational choice options of the Hope Scholarship Program (see Policy 2371 - ), the Opportunity Scholarship Program and the McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program. (see also Policy 2370 - , and Policy 2370.01 - ).

B. Private School Choices

Parents/guardians may seek private educational choice options under certain programs established under F.S. Chapter 1002;

C. Home Education

The parent/guardian may choose to place the student in a home education program, in accordance with state law; (see also Policy 9270 - )

D. Private Tutoring

The parent/guardian of a student may choose to place the student in a private tutoring program in accordance with state law;

E. New Worlds Scholarships

The parent/guardian of a student in grades 3 through 5 who scored below a Level 3 on the third or fourth grade statewide, standardized English Language Arts (ELA) assessment in the prior school year may seek a reading scholarship in accordance with state law;

By September 30th of each year, the District will notify the parent/guardian of each eligible student in grades 3 through 5 who scored below a Level 3 on the statewide, standardized ELA assessment in the prior school year or (2) has a substantial deficiency in mathematics or the characteristics of dyscalculia as identified under F.S. 1008.25 or scored below a Level 3 on the Statewide, standardized Mathematics assessment in the prior school year may seek a scholarship, subject to available funds.

F. Request to Transfer to Different Classroom Teacher

Although parents/guardians do not have a right to choose a specific classroom teacher, parents/guardians may request that their child be transferred to a different classroom teacher. As part of the request, the parent/guardian must state with specificity the grounds supporting the request. Requests must be in writing. The written request must be given to the principal;

All requests for a student to be transferred to another classroom teacher shall be considered by the Principal or his/her designee. Within two (2) weeks of receiving a written request, the Principal or his/her designee shall notify the parent/guardian in writing as to whether the request is approved or denied. If denied, the Principal or his/her designee shall specify the reasons for the denial.

- G. A parent/guardian whose student is assigned an out-of-field teacher may request that their child be transferred to an in-field classroom teacher within the school and grade in which the student is currently enrolled. Although parents/guardians do not have a right to choose a specific classroom teacher, parents/guardian may request that their child be transferred. Request must be in writing. The written request must be signed and given to the principal. If denied, the Principal or his/her designee shall specify the reasons for the denial.

All requests for a student to be transferred to another classroom teacher shall be considered by the principal. Within two (2) weeks of receiving the written request, the principal shall notify the parent/guardian in writing as to whether the request is approved or denied.

If an in-field teacher for the student's course and grade level is employed by the school and the transfer would not violate maximum class size requirements, the request shall be approved. The student shall be transferred no T max5st, tha

the student will have the opportunity to participate in the ACCEL option.

#### Nondiscrimination

All education programs, activities, and opportunities offered by the District are available without discrimination on the basis of race (including anti-Semitism (as defined in Bylaw 0100)), color, ethnicity, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation, gender status, or gender identity), recognized disability, pregnancy, marital status, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information, which are classes protected by state and/or federal law (collectively, protected classes). (see also Policy 2260 - ) and Policy 2260.01 - )

#### Exceptional Students

##### A. Notice and Due Process

Parents/guardians of students with disabilities and parents/guardians of students in residential care facilities are entitled to notice and due process; (see also Policy 2460 - )

##### B. Graduation

Students with disabilities are provided the opportunity to meet the graduation requirements for a standard high school diploma. A student with disabilities who does not satisfy the standard high school diploma requirements shall be awarded a Certificate of Completion; (see also Policy 2623 - )

##### C. Meetings with District Personnel

Parents/guardians of students with disabilities, or eligible students with disabilities, may be accompanied by another person of their choice at any meeting with District personnel;

District personnel will not object to the attendance of such adult or discourage or attempt to discourage through any action, statement, or other means, parents/guardians or an eligible student, from inviting another person of their choice to attend any meeting. Parents/guardians, eligible students, or other individuals invited to attend such meetings by parents/guardians or eligible students on school grounds shall be asked to sign in and/or will be subject to security protocols in place at the school.

Parents/guardians, or eligible students, and District personnel shall, at the meeting's conclusion, be asked to sign a form which states whether or not any District personnel have prohibited, discouraged, or attempted to discourage the parents/guardians, or eligible student from inviting a person of their choice to the meeting pertaining to their child's, or their own, educational environment, placement, or discipline.

#### Blind Students

Students who are blind have the right to an individualized written education program and appropriate instructional materials to attain literacy.

#### Limited English Proficient Students

Instruction in the English language shall be provided to limited English proficient students. Such instruction shall be designed to develop the student's mastery of the four language skills, including listening, speaking, reading and writing, as rapidly as possible, and the students' parents/guardians have the right of parental involvement in the ESOL program

#### Students with Reading Deficiencies

Each elementary school shall regularly assess the reading ability of each K-3 student. The parent/guardian of any K-3 student who exhibits a reading deficiency shall be immediately notified of the student's deficiency with a description and explanation, in terms understandable to the parent/guardian, of the exact nature of the student's difficulty in learning and lack of achievement in reading; shall be consulted in the development of a progress monitoring plan; and shall be informed that the student will be given intensive reading instruction until the deficiency is corrected.

#### **S de            S b a a M a D e c e**

The parent/guardian of any K-4 student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in mathematics will be notified that the child has been identified as having a deficiency, with a description and explanation, in terms understandable to the parent/guardian, of the exact nature of the student's difficulty in learning and lack of achievement in mathematics; a

description of current services pro



B. Home Education Students

Home education students who meet specified academic and conduct requirements are eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities at the public school to which the student would be assigned or could choose to attend according to Board policies, or may develop an agreement to participate at a private school;

C. Charter School Students

Charter school students who meet specified academic and conduct requirements are eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities at the school to which the student would be assigned or could choose to attend according to Board policies unless such activity is provided by the student's charter school;

D. Florida Virtual School Full-Time Students

Florida Virtual School full-time students who meet specified academic and conduct requirements are eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities at the public school to which the student would be assigned or could choose to attend according to Board policies.

Instructional Materials

A. Core Courses

Each student is entitled to sufficient instructional materials in the core courses of mathematics, language arts, social studies, science, reading, and literature;

B. Curricular Objectives

The parent/guardian of each student has the right to receive effective

Parents/guardians have the right to participate in parent-teacher associations and organizations that are sanctioned by the Board or by the Florida Department of Education.

### Transportation

#### A. Transportation to School

Students are provided transportation to school in accordance with the provisions of state law; (see also Policy 8600 - )

#### B. Hazardous Walking Conditions

Students in grades K-6 are provided transportation if they are subjected to hazardous walking conditions, in accordance with state law;

#### C. Parental Consent

Each parent/guardian of a public school student must be notified in writing and give written consent before the student may be transported in a privately owned motor vehicle to a school function in accordance with state law. (see also Policy 8660)

### Orderly, Disciplined Classrooms

Students will be in orderly, disciplined classrooms conducive to learning without the distraction caused by disobedient, disrespectful, violent, abusive, uncontrollable, or disruptive students. (see also Policy 5600 - )

### Economic Security Report

Prior to registration, each middle school and high school student or the student's parent/guardian will be provided a two (2) page summary of the Department of Economic Opportunity a 0

Revised 3/9/21  
Revised 4/12/22  
Revised 3/7/23  
Revised 10/10/23  
Revised 4/9/24

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Legal

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F.S. 381.0056  
F.S. 394.463  
F.S. 1000.05  
F.S. 1002.20  
F.S. 1002.22  
F.S. 1002.385  
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F.S. 1003.01(13)  
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F.S. 1006.40

F.S. 1007.271

F.S. 1008.22

F.S. 1008.25

F.S. 1008.386

F.S. 1012.42

F.S. Chapter 1014

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