

POLICY TITLE: Parental Rights

Parental Rights

The Board of Trustees encourages parents/guardians to be involved in their student's school activities and academic progress. As required by IC 33-6001, the Agency reinforces the rights and responsibilities of parents as primary stakeholders to make decisions regarding the upbringing and control of their child.

The Board is mandated to adhere to laws, rules, and regulations including the Constitution of the State of Idaho; the rules of the Idaho State Board of Education (Idaho Administrative Procedures Act); the rules and regulations of the Idaho State Department of Education; the laws, rules, and regulations of the federal government and the U.S. Department of Education; as well as educational provisions outlined in the Idaho Code. These mandates include the requirement stated at Article IX, Section 1 of the Idaho Constitution that it is "... the duty of the Legislature of Idaho to maintain a general, uniform, and thorough system of public, free common schools."

Based upon the above provisions, as well as the State's mandated requirements for advancement and graduation, the Agency has established its practices, policies, and procedures as well as the approved curriculum and assessment program. Failure to follow the Agency's practices, policies, and procedures as well as the school's curriculum and assessment program amounts to a violation of State and/or federal laws, rules, and regulations by the Agency, including but not limited to the failure to provide a general, thorough, free, and uniform system of public education as well as putting the Agency's operations and funding in jeopardy.

Parents/guardians and students are expected to abide by the Agency's practices, policies, and procedures governing the operation of the schools which are required by various State and/or federal laws, rules, and regulations. However, a student's parent/guardian has the right to reasonable academic accommodation if the accommodation does not substantially impact Agency staff and resources, including employee working conditions, safety and supervision on school premises for school activities, and the efficient allocation of expenditures. The Agency will strive to balance the rights of parents/guardians, the educational needs of other students, the academic and behavioral impacts to a classroom, a teacher's workload, and the assurance of the safe and efficient operations of the school.

If a parent has an objection to the Agency's implementation of various mandates through the Agency's practices, policies, and procedures, or if a parent/guardian would like to request reasonable academic accommodation, the appropriate avenue for the parent/guardian is to first seek to address such concerns through communication with the school's administration. Should that avenue not resolve the situation, a

parent/guardian is free to address such concerns with the Board of Trustees in conformance with Board policy regarding public participation at Board meetings.

A parent/guardian who has an objection to their child's participation in the Agency's adopted curriculum and/or the Agency's implementation of practices, policies, and procedures in accordance with educational mandates, on the basis that it harms the child or impairs the parents' firmly held beliefs, values, or principles, may withdraw their child from the activity, class, or program. Except in the case of sex education curriculum, a parent/guardian who chooses to not have their child participate in the provided educational activity shall be responsible for identification and provision of non-disruptive alternative educational activities for their child during any time of objection, at no cost to the Agency. The final decision as to the placement of such alternative educational activity shall be at the discretion of the Agency, with input of the parent, consistent with the requirements for advancement and graduation and consistent with the reasonable accommodation requirements outlined above.

In the case of dual credit courses offered by an institution of higher education, academic accommodations and excusing students from objectionable assignments is solely at the discretion of the course provider and not the Agency. The Agency has no control over the selection, adoption and removal of curricular materials and it is the responsibility of the parent to have knowledge of and/or review such prior to student enrollment.

Access to Learning Materials

Parents/guardians are entitled to review all learning materials, instructional materials, and other teaching aids used in their student's classroom. Parents/guardians can request access to learning materials by contacting the school's administration during school hours.

Student Wellbeing

If a member of the Agency's staff becomes aware of a change in the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being the staff member shall report this change so the student's parent/guardian can be notified as described in Procedure 2425.

Addressing Parent/Guardian Concerns

Notice

The Agency shall annually provide parents/guardians with notice of their rights as specified in this policy.

Cross References: 4105

Request to Address the Board

Legal References: Id. Const. art. IX
IC § 32-1010

Education and School Lands
Intent of the Legislature – Parental Rights

IC § 32-1012	Parental Right to Direct the Education of Children
IC § 32-1013	Interference with Fundamental Parental Rights Restricted
IC § 33-6001	Parental Rights
IC § 33-6002	Annual Notice of Parental Rights
IDAPA §§ 08.01-.04	State Board of Education and State Department of Education Administrative Rules

Policy History:

Adopted on: September 18, 2023

Revised on:

Reviewed on: