

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Students have certain legal rights under federal/state constitutions and statutes as interpreted in pertinent court decisions. In connection with these rights is the expectation that students will demonstrate ethical and responsible behavior.

Among these student rights are:

- A. The right to equal educational and extracurricular opportunity;
- B. The right to freedom from discrimination and harassment because of race, color, sex, religion, ancestry or national origin, sexual orientation, or disability;
- C. The right to attend free public schools in accordance with provisions of Maine statutes and policies of the RSU 40/MSAD 40 Board of Directors;
- D. The right to due process with respect to suspension, expulsion, or an administrative decision which a student believes has injured his/her rights;
- E. The right to free inquiry and expression and to voice grievances within the bounds of reasonable rules regarding these rights, and to express themselves in a manner that does not materially or substantially disrupt the operation of the school or conflict with the school's basic educational mission;
- F. The right to privacy regarding the content of student records, as defined by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA);
- G. The right to dress as he/she wishes within reasonable guidelines related to health, safety, and the avoidance of potential disruption;
- H. The right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures; and
- I. The right to access school rules and, when necessary, an explanation of these rules from school personnel.

The School Board has the authority to make, or delegate authority to its staff to make, rules and regulations regarding the orderly operation of the schools.

This policy is designed for educational and informational purposes and is not intended to create, expand, or restrict any student rights or responsibilities.

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Reviewed:

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