

PARENT EDUCATION RIGHTS

POLICY

The Board welcomes and encourages parental/legal guardian involvement in the schools and is committed to a partnership to develop each student's intellectual capability and vocational skills in a safe and positive environment. The Board expects administrators and teachers to contribute towards developing this partnership by establishing a positive relationship with parents and guardians. A warm, welcoming atmosphere that encourages communication and cooperation will support the achievement of all students.

Parents and legal guardians may upon request review curriculum, textbooks and other teaching materials and visit classrooms to observe instructional activities of their student if enrolled and present. Instructional activities do not include testing.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to protect the rights and privacy of all students and their families to insure that classroom visits and the review of teaching materials is conducted at a reasonable time, place and manner. This policy and administrative guidelines shall be made available to the public.

PROCEDURES

The Board of Education has established a policy to comply with provisions of "parent's Education Bill of Rights", Sec 10 of the revised School Code, MCL 380.10, and to comply with Sec 1137 of the Revised School Code MCL 380.1136.

The following procedures shall be observed regarding the rights of parents and legal guardians. The guidelines shall be published, distributed district-wide, and made available in each building.

1. A building principal shall be responsible for ensuring that the rights of parents and legal guardians of students in the building are honored in accordance with the Revised School Code of Michigan.
2. Parents and legal guardians of an enrolled child in school shall be allowed to review the curriculum, textbooks and teaching materials of the school. Those requesting to review materials shall contact the building principal and request specific materials and a time to come to the school to review.
3. The principal shall schedule a date to review the materials during normal school hours in a staffed location. All materials and/or textbooks shall remain in the building and be returned to the principal.

4. A parent or legal guardian of a student who wishes to observe the instructional activity in a class in which the student is enrolled and present, shall make arrangements with the building principal for a time that is appropriate for the parent and teacher. In scheduling an appointment due consideration shall be given among other things to:
 - the parent's schedule
 - focus of interest of the parent
 - planned class activities (Sec 1137(1)(b) specifically excludes testing as an instructional activity)
 - the number of visitors and/or other disruptions to the class day
 - maintaining a positive and safe learning environment for all pupils
 - protection of the rights of other students
 - availability of the classroom teacher
5. Each parent or legal guardian will be provided with guidelines for classroom visitations as outlined on page 3 (see attachment to be given to parents).

Adopted 10/03/96; Amended 03/20/08

Guidelines for Classroom Visitations

Our school welcomes parents or legal guardians to observe the classroom of their child.

These guidelines shall be provided by the principal in advance of the visitation.

- The observation should be arranged in advance by contacting the building principal.
- The observations are for classes in which their pupil is enrolled and present. Observations will not be arranged when a class is participating in a test.
- Consideration will be given to the number of parents or legal guardians observing the class, and the number of times the requesting parent has visited.
- An observation should be arranged so as not to cause undue disruption to a class; arriving at the beginning and departing at the end of class.
- A follow up conference with the teacher or principal about the observation should be arranged at a time convenient to both.
- Visitors shall respect the rights and privacy of other children in the classroom.
- The parent/legal guardian will not audibly or visually tape record or photograph other students.
- The parent/legal guardian can only observe and may not participate unless invited or mutually agreed upon prior to the class session by the teacher and the observer.

Adopted 11/07/96; Amended 03/20/08