

TOPEKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS	REGULATION NUMBER: 8050-01
SUBJECT: STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS	DATE OF ISSUE: 06/18/80 <hr/> REVISIONS: 06/05/09; 06/17/10; 06/16/11; 06/25/18 <hr/> PREPARING OFFICE: TEACHING, LEARNING AND ADMINISTRATION

I. PURPOSE: To establish procedures for ensuring the implementation of student responsibilities and rights.

II. STUDENT RIGHTS

- A. At the beginning of the school year or at the time of enrollment, information setting forth the major policies and regulations to which students are subject shall be available to students and/or parents.**
- B. Freedom of Association, including the right to participate in any school-approved extra-curricular activity without being subject to academic discrimination or disciplinary action as long as the student complies with Kansas State High School Activities Association guidelines and the district guidelines. The right of a student to participate fully in classroom instruction and extracurricular activities shall not be abridged or impaired because of age, sex, race, religion, national origin, pregnancy, parenthood, marriage or for any other reason not related to his/her individual capabilities except as restricted by district guidelines and by the Kansas State High School Activities Association.**
- C. Freedom of expression, including the right to express oneself verbally, in writing and symbolically, provided that such expression does not violate the laws relating to libel or slander, takes into consideration the rights of other students, and allows for the maintenance of an appropriate learning environment. Student speech which advocates unlawful behavior, is lewd, vulgar or patently offensive, or disrupts the learning environment or infringes on the rights of others may be subject to regulation.**
- D. Freedom to assemble peaceably, so long as the gathering does not interfere with the operation of the school, classroom, or orderly and efficient educational process. Student meetings outside of school hours on school property are subject to approval of the school administration of the building and may require the presence of a staff member.**
- E. Freedom from unreasonable search and seizure while at school. General searches of school property, including lockers and desks, may be conducted and items that are a threat to safety or security, or disruptive to the educational process may be**

seized and removed from a student's possession. Students shall be free from searches of their persons, clothing, personal belongings, and other property unless reasonable grounds exist to suspect that the search will yield evidence of a student's violation of the law, regulations, or District or school rules. Searches shall comply with Board Policy No. 2375 and Administrative Regulations No. 2375-1 or 2375-2.

III. PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING COMPLAINTS

- A. Complaints of discrimination, including discriminatory harassment shall be resolved using the procedures provided in Board Regulation No. 8050-2.**
- B. Procedures for the redress of grievances or complaints, other than complaints of discrimination or discriminatory harassment are as follows:**
 - 1. A student individually or in conjunction with his/her parent(s) or lawful custodian, may request a conference with the principal of the school (or one of the school's administrative staff designated by the principal) to discuss any grievances or complaints.**
 - 2. If the student and the parent(s) or lawful custodian are not satisfied with any proposed resolution of the complaint after this conference, a written complaint may be submitted to the principal. The principal will provide a copy to the Assistant Superintendent of Teaching, Learning and Administration within five (5) school days.**
 - 3. The written complaint must contain specific information about the nature of the grievance, including the date, time, and place where the incident giving rise to the grievance occurred. If a staff member is involved, it must designate in detail the staff conduct resulting in the grievance and a description of the relief sought.**
 - 4. Within five (5) school days after receiving the written complaint, the principal shall conduct a hearing including the student, parent(s) or lawful custodian, and teacher(s) affected by the complaint.**
 - 5. The student and parent(s) or lawful custodian will be sent a written summary of the hearing including any recommendations of the school staff within five (5) school days after the conclusion of the hearing.**
 - 6. All such recommendations may further be appealed to the superintendent in writing within five (5) school days after receipt of the written summary from the principal or his/her designee. The superintendent's decision will be final.**

IV. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Each student has a responsibility not to interfere with the education or rights of other students.**

- B. Each student has the responsibility to attend regularly scheduled classes and to follow those local school rules affecting tardiness and the day-to-day operation of the school.**
 - C. Each student has a responsibility to obey all federal, state and local laws, and abide by school board policies and local school regulations.**
 - D. Each student has a responsibility to safeguard the property of the school and to use computers and other school property in an acceptable manner.**
 - E. Each student has the responsibility to respect and protect the health, safety and welfare of others.**
 - F. Each student has the responsibility to learn, and to respect and foster the rights of his fellow students to learn; he/she also has the duty to respect the rights of others to teach.**
 - G. Each student has the responsibility for maintaining a school environment in which educational programs can flourish and extra-curricular programs can go forward for the pleasure and benefit of all participants.**
 - H. Each student is responsible to take action which will reflect respect for the person and property of other persons.**
 - I. Each student has a responsibility to maintain academic integrity and refrain from cheating or plagiarism.**
- V. The rights and responsibilities set forth in this policy in no way diminish the legal authority of school officials and the Board of Education to deal with disruptive students. Rather, this statement is designed to facilitate effective participation of all concerned within the spirit of genuine, sincere educational partnership.**