



Parent/Guardian Rights to Academic Accommodations for Their Students

Policy Series: 7000 Community

Policy No. 7650

Purpose

The board of education recognizes that parents/guardians are the primary individuals responsible for the education of their children and that public education serves in a secondary and supportive role. The board is committed to working collaboratively with parents/guardians by providing reasonable academic accommodations consistent with state and federal law while balancing the educational needs of all students and maintaining safe, efficient, and effective school operations.

Definitions:

Reasonably accommodate means making the district's best effort to enable a parent/guardian to exercise rights established by this policy without substantially affecting district resources, employee working conditions, school safety, supervision, classroom instruction, or efficient school operations while balancing:

- Parental/Guardian rights;
- The educational needs of other students;
- Classroom academic and behavioral impacts;
- Teacher workload; and
- Safe and efficient operation of the school.

Parent/Guardian Rights to Academic Accommodations

The district shall reasonably accommodate requests made by a student's parent/guardian in accordance with this policy and applicable law.

Each request shall be considered individually. No student shall receive greater or lesser consideration than another student solely because an accommodation is requested.

An accommodation may be granted only if it is consistent with applicable federal law and, when applicable, the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan.

Nothing in this policy shall be interpreted to limit any additional parental/guardian rights provided by state or federal law.

Academic Accommodations

Each school shall reasonably accommodate a parent/guardian's written request to:

- Retain a student in kindergarten through grade eight based upon the student's academic ability or social, emotional, or physical maturity;
- Request the initial assignment of a teacher or request a change of teacher;
- Visit and observe any class attended by the student;
- Place a student in a specialized class, specialized program, or advanced course, with the school considering multiple measures of academic performance when evaluating the request; and
- Meet with a teacher at a mutually agreeable time if the parent cannot attend a regularly scheduled parent-teacher conference.

Alternative Credit and Competency-Based Learning

Students shall be permitted to earn course credit toward high school graduation without completing the course through the district when authorized by State Board of Education requirements, including by demonstrating competency or successfully testing out of the course.

State Assessments

Upon a parent's request, a student shall be excused from participating in state assessments as permitted by Utah law and State Board of Education rules.

The district shall not impose procedures beyond those established by the Utah State Board of Education for opting out of state assessments.

The district shall not provide nonacademic incentives or rewards to encourage participation in assessments from which students may legally be excused.

Excused Absences

~~A school shall record an excused absence for:~~

- ~~• A scheduled family activity; or~~
- ~~• A scheduled proactive health care visit;~~

~~Provided that:~~

- 84 1. ~~The parent submits written notice at least one school day before the absence; and~~
85 2. ~~The student agrees to complete missed coursework in accordance with District~~
86 ~~attendance policies.~~

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88 **Student Discipline**

89 ~~Parents shall receive notice of student discipline and due process rights as provided in District~~
90 ~~policy governing student conduct and discipline.~~

91 ~~When a student is suspended or recommended for expulsion, the student's parent shall receive~~
92 ~~notice of the alleged violation and an opportunity to respond as required by District policy and~~
93 ~~applicable law.~~

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95 **Annual Notice**

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97 The district shall annually notify parents/guardians of the rights established by this policy and
98 other parental/guardian rights required by law.

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100 Notice may be provided through:

- 101 • The district website;
102 • Individual school websites;
103 • Electronic communications;
104 • Student registration materials; or
105 • Other reasonable methods determined by the district.

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108 **Legal References:**

109 [Utah Code § 53G-6-801](#)
110 [Utah Code § 53G-6-802](#)
111 [Utah Code § 53G-6-803](#)
112 [Utah Code § 53G-10-205](#)

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115 **Board Approved:**
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