

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

SECTION: 200 Pupils

TITLE: Student Rights and
Responsibilities

ADOPTED: December 21,
2011

REVISED: December 14,
2017

235 STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Purpose

This policy sets forth guidelines by which student rights and responsibilities are determined, consistent with law and regulations.

Authority

The School Reform Commission has the authority and responsibility to establish reasonable rules and regulations for the conduct and deportment of district students. At the same time, no student shall be deprived of equal treatment and equal access to the educational program, due process, a presumption of innocence, and free expression and association, in accordance with SRC policy and school rules. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)[\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)[\[6\]](#)[\[14\]](#)

Attendant upon the rights established for each student are certain responsibilities, which include regular attendance; conscientious effort in classroom work and homework; conformance to SRC policies and school rules and regulations; respect for the rights of teachers, students, administrators and all others who are involved in the educational process; and expression of ideas and opinions in a respectful manner. [\[4\]](#)[\[7\]](#)

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative procedures consistent with law and SRC policy to ensure that student rights under specific conditions are properly recognized and maintained.

It shall be the responsibility of the student to: [\[7\]](#)__

1. Be aware of all policies, rules and regulations for student behavior and conduct him/herself accordingly. Each student shall assume that, until a rule is waived, altered or repealed in writing, it is in effect. [\[9\]](#)
2. Volunteer information in matters relating to the health, safety and welfare of the school community and the protection of school property.

3. Dress and groom to meet standards of safety and health, and not to cause substantial disruption to the educational processes.[11]
4. Assist the school staff in operating a safe school.
5. Comply with federal, state and local laws.
6. Exercise proper care when using district facilities, school supplies and equipment.[12]
7. Attend school daily and be on time to all classes and other school functions.[8]
8. Make up work when absent from school.
9. Pursue and attempt to satisfactorily complete the courses of study prescribed by local school authorities.
10. Report accurately in student media.[10]
11. Not use obscene language in student media or on school property.[10]

A listing of students' rights and responsibilities shall be included in the Code of Student Conduct, which shall be distributed annually to students and parents/guardians.[4][9]

All students have the right to submit a complaint to The Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities if they have been subject to any harassment or violence by a School Police Officer.

All students and their families have the right to appeal disciplinary decisions, programmatic transfer decision, designation of homelessness, school selection, parental exclusion, bullying and harassment findings and neighborhood school transfers to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Students should work in collaboration with Principals to establish student government .

Mandatory Regulatory Procedures:

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action, consistent with the Code of Student Conduct and SRC policy.[9][13]

Legal References:

1. 24 P.S. 510
2. 22 PA Code 4.4
3. 22 PA Code 12.1
4. 22 PA Code 12.3
5. 22 PA Code 12.4
6. 22 PA Code 12.9

7. 22 PA Code 12.2

8. Pol. 204 - Attendance

9. Pol. 218 - Student Conduct and Discipline

10. Pol. 220 - Student Expression/Distribution and Posting of Materials

11. Pol. 221 - Dress and Grooming

12. Pol. 224 - Care of School Property

13. Pol. 233 - Suspension and Expulsion

14. 24 P.S. 696

Related Information:

Philadelphia Home Rule Charter - 12-300