

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Students have the responsibility of:

- ◆ Owning and being active participants in their learning.
- ◆ Attending school daily, arriving on time and being prepared to learn.
- ◆ Being truthful about and accountable for words and actions.
- ◆ Respecting themselves and others in class, on school grounds, on buses and any school-related activity.
- ◆ Respecting the rights and feelings of fellow students, parents, school staff, visitors and guests.
- ◆ Knowing and complying with school district rules and policies.
- ◆ Making an effort to correct and improve behavior through restorative interventions.
- ◆ Expressing thoughts and opinions in ways that are polite, respectful and courteous.
- ◆ Respecting others' personal space.
- ◆ Participating in learning communities, including helping to formulate rules and procedures in the school, engaging in school-related activities and fostering a culture of respect for learning and for others.
- ◆ Seeking help and assistance when needed.
- ◆ Taking care of property that belongs to others or the school.
- ◆ Helping to make school a community that is free from violence, intimidation, bullying, harassment and discrimination.

PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND CAREGIVERS

Parents, guardians and caregivers have the right to be active participants in the learning process, to express views and to provide input into decisions that affect their children. They are vital to the success of students in school. Parents, guardians and caregivers should have high expectations for their children. They are always welcome into our schools.

Parents, guardians and caregivers have the right to:

- ◆ Be actively involved in their children's education.
- ◆ Be treated courteously, fairly and respectfully by all school staff.
- ◆ Receive timely information about policies and procedures that relates to their children.
- ◆ Receive regular reports from school staff regarding academic progress and behavior.
- ◆ Receive notification and information of inappropriate or disruptive behaviors by their children and any disciplinary actions taken.
- ◆ Receive information about due process procedures for disciplinary matters concerning their children.
- ◆ Receive information about ways to improve their children's progress including counseling, tutoring, after-school programs, academic programs and mental health services.
- ◆ Receive information about services for students with disabilities and English language learners.
- ◆ Be contacted when their child is believed to have committed a crime or when police are called.
- ◆ Receive communication through provided translators.

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Parents, guardians and caregivers have the responsibility of:

- ◆ Providing updated contact information to the Schenectady City School District Student Registration Office and their child's school.
- ◆ Making sure that their children attend school regularly and on time.
- ◆ Letting school know when and why children are absent.
- ◆ Telling school officials about any concerns or complaints.
- ◆ Supporting their children by providing an environment suitable for learning and developing good study habits.
- ◆ Working with school staff to address any academic or behavioral problems their children may be facing.
- ◆ Talking with their children about expectations and behavior.
- ◆ Teaching and modeling respect.
- ◆ Advocating for their children and taking an active role in the school community.
- ◆ Attending parent/teacher conferences and monitoring their children's grades and progress.
- ◆ Being respectful and courteous to staff, other parents, guardians, caregivers and students while on school premises.
- ◆ Teaching children that all children have the right to attend school and be treated with respect and dignity regardless of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity or sex.

Schools will ensure that parents, guardians and caregivers have a right to participate in decision-making that affects school policies and procedures including:

- ◆ Informing them in a timely and clear manner as to when and how they can participate and to ensure that all parents, guardians and caregivers have equal access to information and opportunities for participation.
- ◆ Ensuring they have opportunities to make recommendations to schools about effective methods for participation.
- ◆ Giving them opportunities to provide input, receive information and help guide decision-making.

Schools will ensure that parents, guardians and caregivers have a right to participate in decisions that affect their child's education including:

- ◆ The identification of academic or behavioral challenges as soon as possible and working with parents, guardians and caregivers to identify solutions.
- ◆ Participation in restorative discipline solutions.
- ◆ Protection of due process rights as related to school discipline.