

Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Regulations 2021-2022 Addendum

Auburn School District Parents and Students,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 School Year, we are so happy to have students back in school!

The Auburn School District is committed to engaging, educating and empowering EACH student with equity and excellence. The Auburn School District's Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Regulations Handbook contains a summary of the District's policies and procedures that most impact your student, which is posted on our district <u>website</u> and is available in hardcopy at your student's school. This information is to be distributed to students and parents annually.

Over the past year there have been some changes in the state regulations for schools that impact your student's rights. We are in the process of updating our policies to align with them and want to be sure you are aware of the changes as well.

Student Discipline

In 2019, the Auburn School District convened stakeholder groups to review and revise the District's discipline policies. Recently the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction has released guidance requiring school districts to identify specific sanctions for behaviors. The Auburn School District will be working again with stakeholders to complete this process.

Attendance and Truancy Legal Requirements

Washington State passed updated regulations concerning school attendance. The district will comply with these laws as we thoughtfully revise our policy and procedures. You can find more information about the changes at https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/support-programs/attendance-chronic-absenteeism-and-truancy.

Withholding of Transcripts and Diplomas - Limitation

<u>The law</u> addressing fees/fines for a student who defaces or otherwise injures any school property, or property belonging to a school contractor, employee, or another student has been revised to support a student's access to continuity in educational programming.

Gender Expression and Gender Identity

Civil rights laws prohibit discrimination and discriminatory harassment on the basis of gender expression and gender identity in K–12 public schools. In May 2021, the Auburn School Board adopted <u>Policy 3211</u>: Gender-Inclusive Schools.

Informed Consent for Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

<u>State law</u> now gives school nurses, school counselors, and McKinney-Vento homeless student liaisons the authorization to provide consent for health care for unaccompanied homeless students. In situations where informed consent is necessary due to the age of the student, the authorized school personnel may provide that consent for "nonemergency outpatient primary care services, including physical examinations, vision examinations and eyeglasses, dental examinations, hearing examinations, and hearing aids, immunizations, treatments for illnesses and conditions, and routine follow-up care customarily provided by a health care provider in an outpatient setting, excluding elective surgeries." Health services may also include outpatient treatment for mental health and substance abuse.

Of course, the summary above and in the Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Regulations Handbook do not cover all policies that affect a student's educational experience. To access the complete set of Auburn School District's governing policies and procedures please refer to www.auburn.wednet.edu/board-policy-manual/home.

We want to hear your voices—if you would like to be involved in the district policy review process, please contact my office. Have a safe and healthy school year!

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