

RESOLUTION 25-031-Approval of Amended Board Policy JF/JFA- Student Rights and Responsibilities

Background: This update is in response to the approval of Resolution 25-025-Affirming MESD's Commitment to Gender Expansive and Transgender Youth. The Board Policy Committee reviewed identified policies for gender-related language in alignment with the Board's recent resolution and made minor updates to three policies that lacked the language affirming the right to privacy regarding gender identity. .

WHEREAS, the Multnomah Education Service District Board of Directors Policy Committee reviewed and discussed Board Policy JF/JFA-Student Rights and Responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Multnomah Education Service District Board of Directors Policy Committee recommends that the Board adopt Policy JF/JFA-Student Rights and Responsibilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if no further discussion is required, Board Policy JF/JFA-Student Rights and Responsibilities is approved as proposed and does not require a second reading.

Multnomah Education Service District

Code: **JF/JFA**
Adopted: 9/20/94
Revised/Readopted: 5/21/13; 2/18/14; 6/10/25

Student Rights and Responsibilities

The Board has the responsibility to afford students in MESD programs the rights that are theirs by virtue of guarantees offered under federal and state constitutions and statutes. In connection with rights are responsibilities that must be assumed by students.

Among these student rights and responsibilities are the following:

1. Civil rights--including the right to equal educational opportunity and freedom from discrimination; the responsibility not to discriminate against others;
2. The right to attend free public schools; the responsibility to attend school regularly to learn and to observe school rules essential for permitting others to learn at school;
3. The right to due process of law with respect to suspension, expulsion and decisions which the student believes injure his/her rights;
4. The right to free inquiry and expression; the responsibility to observe reasonable rules regarding these rights;
5. The right to privacy, which includes privacy in respect to the student's school records, as provided by law. In accordance with guidance from the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), schools are not legally required to disclose a student's gender identity to parents or guardians. MESD is committed to protecting student privacy, especially for transgender and gender-expansive students, recognizing that involuntary disclosure may present risks to a student's safety and well-being. Students have the right to be addressed by their chosen names and pronouns and to have their gender identity respected within the school environment. While family engagement is encouraged, MESD will prioritize student autonomy and confidentiality, unless a specific legal obligation or immediate safety concern requires disclosure.

Students have the right to know the behavior standards expected of them as well as to know the consequences of misbehavior.

Student's rights and responsibilities, including standards of conduct, will be made available to students, their parents, guardians or persons in a parental relationship, and employees through information distributed at least annually.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

<u>ORS 334</u> .125(1)(2)(7)	<u>ORS 659</u> .850	<u>OAR 581-021</u> -0046
<u>ORS 337</u> .150	<u>ORS 659</u> .865	<u>OAR 581-021</u> -0050 to -0075
<u>ORS 339</u> .155		<u>OAR 581-022</u> -1140
<u>ORS 339</u> .240	<u>OAR 581-021</u> -0045	

Hazelwood Sch. District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).
Bethel Sch. Dist. v. Fraser, 478 U.S. 675 (1986).

MESD Cross Reference:

JB - Equal Educational Opportunity
JFCA - Student Dress and Grooming**
JFCB - Care of School Property by Students**
JFCC - Student Conduct on Buses
JFCF - Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing/Cyberbullying/Teen Dating Violence - Students
JFCJ - Weapons in the District
JFG - Student Searches and Questioning**
JFH - Student Complaints
JG - Student Discipline
JGB - Detention of Students**
JGDA/JGEA - Discipline of Students with Disabilities**
JGE - Expulsion**