

POLICY ON PARENTS' RIGHTS

PARENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS. Parents have the right to the following:

1. To direct the education and care of his or her child.
2. To direct the upbringing and moral or religious training of his or her child.
3. To enroll his or her child in a public or nonpublic school and in any school choice options available to the parent for which the child is otherwise eligible by law in order to comply with compulsory attendance laws.
4. To access and review all education records relating to his or her child, as authorized by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g.
5. To make health care decisions for his or her child, unless otherwise provided by law.
6. To access and review all medical records of his or her child, as authorized by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), P.L. 104-191, as amended, except as follows:
 - a. If an authorized investigator requests that information not be released to a parent because the parent is the subject of an investigation of either: (1) a crime committed against the child or (2) an abuse and neglect complaint; or
 - b. When otherwise prohibited by law.
7. To prohibit the creation, sharing, or storage of a biometric scan of his or her child without the parent's prior written consent, except as authorized pursuant to a court order or otherwise required by law.
8. To prohibit the creation, sharing, or storage of his or her child's blood or deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) without the parent's prior written consent, except as authorized pursuant to a court order or otherwise required by law.
9. To prohibit the creation by the State of a video or voice recording of his or her child without the parent's prior written consent, except a recording made in the following circumstances:
 - a. During or as part of a court proceeding.
 - b. As part of an investigation into the alleged abuse or neglect of the child.
 - c. When the recording will be used solely for any of the following purposes:
 1. A safety demonstration, including one related to security and discipline on educational property.
 2. An academic or extracurricular activity.
 3. Classroom instruction.
 4. Photo identification cards.
 5. Security or surveillance of buildings, grounds, or school transportation.
10. To be promptly notified if the school or an employee of the school suspects that a criminal offense has been committed against his or her child, unless the incident has first been reported to law enforcement or the county child welfare agency, and notification of the parent would impede the investigation.

PARENTS' RIGHTS – CHILD'S EDUCATION. Raleigh Charter High School recognizes and will allow parents to exercise the following rights which they have regarding their child's education:

1. The right to consent or withhold consent for participation in reproductive health and safety education programs, consistent with the requirements of G.S. 115C-81.30.
2. The right to seek a medical or religious exemption from immunization requirements, consistent with the requirements of G.S. 130A-156 and G.S. 130A-157.
3. The right to review statewide standardized assessment results as part of the State report card.

4. The right to request an evaluation of their child for an academically or intellectually gifted program, or for identification as a child with a disability, pursuant to state and federal law.
5. The right to inspect and purchase public school unit textbooks and other supplementary instructional materials.
6. The right to access information relating to the school's policies for promotion or retention, including high school graduation requirements.
7. The right to receive student report cards on a regular basis that clearly depict and grade the student's academic performance in each class or course, the student's conduct, and the student's attendance.
8. The right to access information relating to the State public education system, State standards, report card requirements, attendance requirements, and textbook requirements.
9. The right to participate in parent-teacher organizations.
10. The right to opt in to certain data collection for their child, as provided in Part 5 of Article 7B and Article 29 of Chapter 115C of the North Carolina General Statutes.
11. The right for students to participate in protected student information surveys only with parental consent, as provided in G.S. 115C-76.65.
12. The right to review all available records of materials their child has borrowed from a school library.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. For purposes of this policy, "parent" is defined as a person who has legal custody of a child, including a natural parent, adoptive parent, or legal guardian.
2. Nothing in these policies authorizes a parent to engage in unlawful conduct or to abuse or neglect a child.
3. The requirements of these policies do not prohibit a State official, employee or court from acting within the reasonable and prudent scope of their authority or as permitted by law.
4. An employee who encourages, coerces, or attempts to encourage or coerce a child to withhold information from his or her parent may be subject to disciplinary action.
5. A copy of this policy shall be posted on the school website.

References: N.C.G.S. 114A-10, -15, -20 (Parents' Bill of Rights)
N.C.G.S. 115C-76.25 (Parent legal rights for their child's education)

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

Raleigh Charter High School supports parental involvement in the education of their children and encourages parental participation in school activities and programs so that students benefit from a strong relationship between school and home. Raleigh Charter High School and its employees will support and cooperate in implementing a well-planned, inclusive, and comprehensive program to assist parents and families in effectively participating in their child's education.

Parent's Guide for Student Achievement. Annually, Raleigh Charter High School will provide parents a written parent guide to student achievement that is understandable to students and parents. The guide will include State Board of Education requirements as well as a copy of this Policy. The guide will be discussed at the beginning of each school year in meetings of students, parents, and teachers.

Community Services. Links to community services will be made available to parents on the school's website and may also be shared through flyers, brochures and bulletin boards at school.

Family Involvement Programs. The Principal will solicit input from parents and school officials regarding the development, implementation and evaluation of family involvement programs. The Principal may use surveys, polls, meetings of existing parent organizations or other appropriate tools. The Principal will provide a report on family involvement programs to the School Advisory Council and to the Board of Directors.

Curriculum Information. At the beginning of each school year, the Principal will provide parents written information about the school's curricular objectives and how textbooks are used to implement those objectives. At the beginning of each school year, teachers will provide parents written information about the course of study for their classes and the supplementary instructional materials that will be used in the classroom. Throughout the school year, parents will be able to access information about assignments, homework, attendance and discipline through [PowerSchool].

School Advisory Councils. The Principal will establish a School Advisory Council to allow for input and cooperation from parents and school officials on school programs and activities. The Principal will notify parents of the opportunity to serve on the council as well as opportunities to participate in school volunteer programs and other activities.

Clubs and Activities. Information about the nature and purpose of curricular and extracurricular clubs and activities offered at the school will be made available to parents on the school's website and may also be shared through flyers, brochures and bulletin boards at school.

References: N.C.G.S. 115C-76.20; -76.30; 76.35.

PARENTAL INFORMATION REQUESTS POLICY

Parents may request in writing from the Principal any of the information the parent has the right to access under North Carolina law (Chapter 115C, Article 7B, Part 3). When a parent submits a written request for any such information, the school will respond as follows:

1. Within 10 business days of receiving the written request, the Principal shall either, (i) provide the requested information to the parent or (ii) provide an extension notice to the parent that, due to the volume or complexity of the request, the information will be provided no later than 20 business days from the date of the parental request.
2. If the Principal (i) denies or fails to respond to the request for information within 10 business days or (ii) fails to provide information within 20 business days following an extension, the parent may appeal the denial or lack of response to the Board of Directors. The parent must submit a written appeal no later than 20 business days from the date of the request to the Principal.
3. If there is a timely appeal to the Board of Directors, the Board shall place the parent's appeal on the agenda for the next meeting of the Board occurring more than three business days after submission of the appeal. A decision of the Board under this section is final and is not subject to judicial review.

A copy of this policy shall be posted on the school website.

References: N.C.G.S. 115C-76.40.

PARENT REVIEW OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS POLICY

Parents have the right to inspect textbooks and other supplementary instructional materials used in their child's classroom. Parents may submit a written request to the Principal to inspect and review textbooks and other supplementary instructional materials. The Principal shall schedule a mutually agreeable date and time for the parent to come to the school and review the materials. The review will occur as soon as possible but no later than 10 business days from the date of the request.

Parents may submit an objection in writing to the Principal regarding the use of particular textbooks and supplementary instructional materials. The Principal may establish a committee to review the objection.

- If the Principal or the committee determines that any material violates constitutional or other legal rights of the parent or student, the Principal or the committee shall either remove the material from instructional use or accommodate the particular student and parent.
- Before any material is removed, the Principal or the committee shall ensure that the curriculum is still aligned with current statewide instructional standards.
- If a parent objection is not based upon constitutional or legal rights, the Principal or committee may accommodate the objection after considering the effect on the curriculum; any burden on the school, teacher, or other students that the accommodation would create; and any other relevant factors.

The decision of the Principal or the committee may be appealed to the Board of Directors. The Board shall place the parent's appeal on the agenda for the next meeting of the Board occurring more than three business days after submission of the appeal.

This Policy shall be available for in-person review by parents at school and will be publicly available on the school's website.

References: N.C.G.S. 115C-76.35(b)(3) and -76.35(b)(4); -76.40.

NOTIFICATIONS OF STUDENT PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

Notice of Services

At the beginning of each school year, the School shall notify parents of each health care service offered at the School and the means for the parent to provide consent for any specific service.

Prior to or contemporaneous with changes, the School shall provide notice of changes in services or monitoring related to his or her child's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being and the school's ability to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for that child.

Prior to the administration to students in kindergarten through third grade, the School shall provide a copy of any student well-being questionnaire or health screening form and the means for the parent to consent to the use of the questionnaire or form for his or her child.

Reproductive Health and Safety Education

The School shall notify parents prior to allowing students to participate in reproductive health and safety education programs. Prior to participation in such programs, parents will have the opportunity to review the materials to be used in the program and to provide their consent for the child's participation.

Name/Pronoun Changes

The School shall notify the parent prior to any changes in the name or pronoun used for a student in school records or by school personnel.

Age-Appropriate Instruction for Grades K-4

Instruction on gender identity, sexual activity, or sexuality shall not be included in the curriculum provided in grades K-4, regardless of whether the information is provided by school personnel or third parties.

Role of Parents

School personnel shall encourage a child to discuss issues related to the child's well-being with his or her parent and, when appropriate, facilitate discussion of the issue with the child's parents.

School personnel shall not discourage or prohibit parental notification of and involvement in critical decisions affecting a student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being.

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit parents from accessing any of their child's education and health records created, maintained or used by the School except when school personnel reasonably believe that such disclosure would result in the child being abused or neglected or when an authorized investigator requests that information not be released because the parent is being investigated for abuse, neglect or other criminal act or when disclosure is otherwise prohibited by law.

RESOLUTION OF PARENTAL CONCERNS POLICY

This Policy applies to parent concerns regarding the School's procedures or practices under Article 7B, Part 4 of Chapter 115C of the North Carolina General Statutes, including the School's policy governing Notifications of Student Physical and Mental Health.

Any parent concerns about the School's procedures or practices under the above-referenced section of the Parents' Bill of Rights should be submitted to the Principal in writing as soon as possible after the event(s) giving rise to the concern. The parent submission shall include a description of the concern, any supporting documentation, and a description of the proposed resolution. The Principal will review the submission and, within seven business days, provide the parent a response to the concern or notify the parent that additional time (up to seven additional business days) is needed to respond to the concern.

If the Principal fails to respond within 14 business days or the concern is not resolved within that timeframe, the parent may submit a written appeal to have their concern reviewed by the Board of Directors.

If there is a timely appeal to the Board of Directors, the Board shall place the parent's appeal on the agenda for the next meeting of the Board occurring more than three business days after submission of the appeal. The Board will issue a written decision on the parent's appeal within five business days of the Board meeting.

If the parental concern has not been resolved within 30 days following the date of notification by the parent, the School shall provide the parent a statement of the reasons for not resolving the concern and the parent may choose to utilize the remedies set forth in N.C.G.S. 115C-76.60.

References: N.C.G.S. 115C-76.45; -76.60
North Carolina State Board of Education Policy PRNT-001

POLICY ON PROTECTED INFORMATION SURVEYS

Raleigh Charter High School shall implement the following procedures for any protected information surveys.

- Parents and adult students shall be notified at least 10 days prior to the administration of a protected information survey.
- The above notification shall include the full text of the protected information survey and the process for providing consent to participate in the protected information survey.
- The above notification shall be made available both electronically and in-person.
- No student shall be permitted to participate in a protected information survey without the prior written or electronic consent of the parent or the adult student.

A protected information survey is a survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning any of the following:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent.
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family.
3. Sex behavior or attitudes.
4. Illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships.
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent.
8. Income, other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program.

References: N.C.G.S. 115C-76.65