

POLICY

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
HIGH POINT REGIONAL**

NO. 5700

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RIGHTS OF ADULT STUDENTS

The Board of Education recognizes that pupils possess both the right to a free public education and the rights of citizenship. In granting pupils the educational opportunities to which they are entitled, the Board shall provide them with the nurture, counsel, and custodial care appropriate to pupils' ages and maturity. At the same time, the Board will respect the right of each pupil to equal treatment and equal access to the educational program, the due process of law, freedom of expression and association, and the privacy of his/her own thoughts.

Attendant on the rights guaranteed to each pupil are certain responsibilities, which include respect for the rights of others, obedience to properly constituted school authority, and compliance with the policies and regulations of this district.

As pupils differ in age and maturity, so they differ in the ability to assume both the rights and the concomitant responsibilities of citizenship. Accordingly, the exercise of each right will be granted with due regard for the degree of responsibility possessed by the pupil and the pupil's need for continuing guidance and control.

Under New Jersey Law, a student having achieved the age of eighteen years is to be considered as a legal adult. As such, eighteen year old students may sign permission forms for athletics and field trips, excuse notes, etc. An eighteen year old may also choose to have communication from the school addressed to himself/herself in addition to his/her parent or guardian.

An eighteen year old who chooses to avail himself/herself of such prerogatives is responsible for notifying in writing the school authorities of such a decision.

The parents of each student reaching the age of 18 shall be informed of the rights their child has chosen to exercise.

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6:3-3, parents to whom which adult pupils remain financially dependent, will maintain their right to access adult student records without written permission of the adult students parents may not disclose information contained in the

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adult pupil's record to a second or third part without the consent of the adult pupil's records or third part without the consent of the adult pupil.

N.J.S.A. 9:17B-1
N.J.S.A. 18A:36-20
N.J.A.C. 6:3-3

Cross reference: Policy Guide Nos. 5520, 8820
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