

311 ACADEMIC FREEDOM

A professional staff seeks to educate people in the democratic tradition, to foster recognition of individual freedom and social responsibility, to inspire meaningful awareness of and respect for the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and to instill an appreciation of each individual's values. These democratic values can best be transmitted in an atmosphere free from censorship and artificial restraints on free inquiry and learning and in which academic freedom for teachers and students is encouraged.

Academic freedom within the confines of state law and Board policy will be guaranteed to teachers to create an atmosphere of freedom in the classroom. This atmosphere permits students to raise questions dealing with critical issues of the time. An atmosphere of freedom produces an environment conducive to the study, investigation, presentation, and interpretation of facts. The teacher is responsible for exercising good judgment in selecting for discussion issues of value to the students involved.

CROSS-REFERENCE: Policy 381 - Teaching About Controversial Issues

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