

**STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Social Activities Sponsored by the School**

Social activities sponsored by the school will be open to all students in that school, unless otherwise excluded by administrative rule or school board policy.

**Married and/or Pregnant Students**

Married and/or pregnant students will not be excluded from attendance and participation in the full academic and extra-curricular programs in M.S.A.D. #49. It is the policy of the administration to counsel with students and their parents/guardians in order to make the necessary adjustments that their marriage and/or pregnancy warrants for their health, safety, academic and social development. When specific participation on an individual basis is deemed not to be in the best interest of the individual student's health, safety and general welfare, the administration will require the parents/guardians to give their permission in writing, releasing the district from the legal implications from such participation.

**Rights and Responsibilities**

Students have certain legal rights under federal/state constitutions and statutes as interpreted in pertinent court decisions. In connection with these rights are responsibilities that must be assumed by students. Among these rights and responsibilities are the following:

- A. Civil rights, including the right to equal educational opportunity and freedom from discrimination; the responsibility not to discriminate against others
- B. The right to attend free public schools in accordance with provisions of Maine statutes and policies of the board; the responsibility to attend school as required by law
- C. The right to due process with respect to suspension, expulsion; the responsibility to observe school rules and regulations essential for permitting others to learn at school
- D. The right to voice grievances; the responsibility to observe reasonable rules regarding these rights and to express themselves in a manner that does not materially or substantially disrupt the operation of the school or conflict with the school's basic educational mission
- E. The right to privacy regarding the content of student records – as defined by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act – and the right to dress as he/she pleases within reasonable guidelines related to health, safety, and the avoiding of potential disruptions; and
- F. The responsibility to comply with school rules and policies

**M.S.A.D. #49**

**CODE: JF**

It is the board's belief that as part of the educational process, all students should be made aware of their legal rights and also of the legal authority of the board to make or delegate authority to its staff to make rules and regulations regarding the orderly operation of the schools. As such, this policy shall be included in school handbooks or otherwise communicated to students and parents at the beginning of each school year. The board expects all staff to abide by this policy in order to most effectively achieve mutual respect of rights and the acceptance of responsibilities.

This policy is designed for educational and informational purposes and is not intended to create, expand, or restrict any student rights or responsibilities.

Approved: 4/3/14