

**ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

THE BOARD, EMPLOYEES, AND ASSOCIATIONS OF EMPLOYEES SHOULD, WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED COURSE OF STUDY OF THE BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, SEEK TO EDUCATE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DEMOCRATIC TRADITION, TO FOSTER A RECOGNITION OF INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, TO INSPIRE MEANINGFUL AWARENESS OF AN RESPECT FOR THE CONSTITUTION AND THE BILL OF RIGHTS, AND TO INSTILL APPRECIATION OF THE VALUES OF INDIVIDUALITY. IT SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED THAT THESE DEMOCRATIC VALUES CAN BEST BE TRANSMITTED IN AN ATMOSPHERE WHICH IS FREE FROM CENSORSHIP AND ARTIFICIAL RESTRAINTS UPON FREE INQUIRY AND LEARNING, AND IN WHICH ACADEMIC FREEDOM FOR TEACHER AND STUDENT IS ENCOURAGED.

FREEDOM OF INDIVIDUAL EXPRESSION SHALL BE ENCOURAGED AND FAIR PROCEDURES SHOULD BE DEVELOPED TO SAFEGUARD THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF THE SCHOOLS AND TO EXHIBIT BY APPROPRIATE EXAMPLES THE BASIS OBJECTIVES OF A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY.

WHILE THE TEACHER MUST BE FREE TO LIVE ACCORDING TO HIS/HER OWN CONSCIENCE, SO MUST HIS/HER STUDENTS AND THE PUBLIC HE/SHE SERVES. THE TEACHER MAY NOT INFRINGE UPON THE FREEDOM OF STUDENTS ASSEMBLED INVOLUNTARILY BY APPLICATION OF ATTENDANCE LAWS. PROSELYTISING SHOULD HAVE NO PLACE IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL. OPINION AND THEORY SHOULD BE CLEARLY STATED AND IDENTIFIED AS SUCH.

AUTHORITY: F.S. 230.22 (1) (2)

**POLICY HISTORY**

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