

DESCRIPTOR TERM: School – Community Relations	Millard District Policy File Code: 7030 Approved: 08-14-14
--	---

PARENT RIGHTS TO ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

A. Meaning of “reasonably accommodate”

As used in this policy, “reasonably accommodate” means that a school shall make its best effort to enable a parent to exercise a right identified in this policy without substantial impact to staff and resources. Impact to staff and resources includes, but is not limited to:

1. employee working conditions,
2. safety and supervision on school premises and for school activities, and
3. the efficient allocation of expenditures.

In accommodating a parent request, schools will balance the following:

1. the rights of parents;
 2. the educational needs of other students;
 3. the academic and behavioral impacts to a classroom ;
 4. a teacher’s workload; and
 5. the assurance of the safe and efficient operation of a school.
- Utah Code § 53A-15-1501(2) (2014)*

B. Parent rights to academic accommodations

The District recognizes that a student’s parent or guardian is the primary person responsible for the education of the student, and the state is in a secondary and supportive role to the parent or guardian. As such, a student’s parent or guardian has the right to reasonable academic accommodations from the student’s school as specified in this policy. The listing of rights in this policy is not meant to be exhaustive, and a student’s parent or guardian, as a user of the public education system, may have other rights or be entitled to other accommodations.

Whether under this policy or otherwise, each requested accommodation shall be considered on an individual basis and no student shall be considered to a greater or lesser degree than any other student.

Utah Code § 53A-15-1503(1) (2014)

C. Academic Accommodations

Each school in the District shall reasonably accommodate the request of a student's parent or guardian:

1. made in writing to retain a student on grade level based on the student's academic ability or social, emotional, or physical maturity;
2. regarding initial selection of a teacher or request for a change of teacher;
3. to visit and observe any class the student attends;
4. made in writing to excuse the student from attendance for a family event or visit to a health care provider, without obtaining a note from the provider (such excuse does not diminish expectations for the student's academic performance) (see Policy 6010);
5. made in writing to place a student in a specialized class or an advanced course (the school shall consider multiple academic data points when considering this requested accommodation); and
6. to meet with a teacher at a mutually agreeable time if the parent or guardian is unable to attend a regularly scheduled parent teacher conference.

Utah Code § 53A-15-1503(2)-(6), (8) (2014)

D. Parent rights regarding alternative credit and testing

Students shall be allowed, consistent with requirements of the State Board of Education, to earn course credit towards high school graduation without completing a course in school by either testing out of the course or demonstrating competency in course standards.

Utah Code § 53A-15-1503(7) (2014)

E. Parent rights regarding student discipline

As required by Policy 6090, parents or guardians will be provided a copy of that policy (which is the student conduct and discipline policy). When a student is suspended for any period of time or is recommended for expulsion, the student's parent or guardian shall be provided notice of the violation or violations that disciplinary action is to be based and shall have an opportunity to respond as set forth in Policy 6090.

Utah Code § 53A-15-1503(10) (2014)

F. Notice of parent rights

Each student's parent or guardian shall be given annual notice of the parental rights and school responsibilities under this policy.

Utah Code § 53A-15-1502 (2014)