

# Pennsbury School District

## School Board Policy

Effective Date	Supercedes Index No.	Index No.
<b>1/15/09</b>	<b>NEW</b>	<b>235.1</b>

**Title:** Students' Rights

**Purpose:** This policy sets forth guidelines by which student rights and responsibilities are determined, consistent with law and regulations.

**Authority:** The School Board has the authority and responsibility to establish reasonable rules and regulations for the conduct and deportment of district students. At the same time, no student shall be deprived of equal treatment and equal access to the educational program, due process, a presumption of innocence, and free expression and association, in accordance with School Board policy and school rules as well as state and federal laws.

**Policy:** Student Responsibility  
Attendant upon the rights established for each student are certain responsibilities, which include respect for the rights of others; obedience to properly constituted school authority; and compliance with the policies, rules and regulations of this School District as well as state and federal laws.

Emancipated Students

An emancipated student who has reached the age of 18 years possesses the full rights of an adult and may authorize those school matters previously handled by parents.

Each emancipated student who has reached the age of 18 years shall assume full responsibility for his/her performance in school, attendance, and compliance with school rules and regulations.

### Instructional Materials

Parents shall be notified annually that all instructional materials, including teacher's manuals, audiovisuals, or other supplementary instructional material, used in the instructional program shall be available for inspection by the parents of students, in accordance with School Board policy. Instructional materials do not include tests or academic assessments.

### Surveys

All surveys and instruments used to collect information from students shall relate to the School District's educational objectives.

Parents shall have the right to inspect, upon request, a survey created by a third party prior to administration or distribution to a student. Such requests shall be in writing and submitted to the building principal.

No student shall be requested, without written parental consent for students under 18 years of age or written consent of emancipated students or those over 18 years, to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of student or parents.
2. Mental and psychological problems of the student or family.
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes.
4. Illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior.
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships.
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents.
8. Income, other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program.

However, such survey, analysis or evaluation may be conducted on a voluntary basis, provided that the student and parent have been notified of their right to inspect all related materials and to opt the student out of participation.

The School District shall implement procedures to protect student identity and privacy when a survey contains any of the restricted subject areas listed above.

The Chief Executive Officer or Superintendent will notify the School Board prior to any survey conducted by outside agencies, organizations and individuals.

Collection of Information for Marketing

Parents have the right to inspect the material and opt out the student from participating in any activity that results in the collection, disclosure or use of personal information for purposes of marketing or selling that information. This does not apply to the collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for or to students.

**Designation of Responsibility:**

The Chief Executive Officer or Superintendent or designee shall develop and promulgate procedures consistent with law and School Board policy to ensure that student rights under varying conditions are properly described.

The Chief Executive Officer or Superintendent or designee shall annually notify parents concerning:

1. Contents of this policy and its availability.
2. Approximate dates that any surveys requesting personal information may be scheduled.
3. Procedures to request access to survey instruments prior to administration.
4. Procedures for opting students out of participation in surveys.

**Definition:**

Personal information means individually identifiable information including a student's or parent's name, address, telephone number, or social security number.

**Source:**

School Code Sec. 510  
PA Code Title 22, Sec. 4.4, 12.2, 12.3  
20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232h

**Responsible Administrator:**

Assistant Superintendent, Administration