

## **RSU #63**

- a. NEPN/NSBA Code:** **JI**
- b. Title:** **Student Rights and Responsibilities**
- c. Author:** **Superintendent/Board of Directors**
- d. Replaces Policy:**
- e. Date Approved:** **10/26/2015 RSU #63**
- f. Previously Approved:** **03/28/2005**
- g. Policy Expiration:** **Review as Needed**
- h. Responsible for Review:** **Superintendent/Policy Committee**
- i. Date Reviewed:** **10/01/2015 Superintendent; 10/05/2015 Policy Committee**
- j. References:**
  - Cross Referenced Policies: JIC – Student Conduct**
  - JICA – Student Dress Code**
  - EEAEC – Student and Rider Conduct on School Vehicles**
  - JICK – Bullying, Cyberbullying, & Hazing**
  - JICIA – Weapons, Violence, & School Safety**
  - JK – Student Discipline**
  - JKD – Suspension of Students**
  - JKE – Expulsion of Students**
- k. Narrative:**

- I.** Students have certain legal rights under both federal and state constitutions and statutes as interpreted in pertinent court decisions. In connection with these rights are responsibilities students must accept. 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 RSU #63's School Board; the right to attend school as required by law;
  - C.** The right to due process with respect to suspension, expulsion, or an administrative decision which a student believes has injured his/her rights;
  - D.** The responsibility to observe school rules and regulations essential for permitting others to learn at school;
  - E.** The right to free inquiry and expression and 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;
  - F.** 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 disruption as described in Policy JICA; and

- G.** The right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures; the responsibility to comply with school rules and policies.
- II.** 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. This policy shall be referenced 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 effectively achieve mutual respect of rights and the acceptance or responsibility.
- III.** This Board policy is designed for educational and informational purposes and is not intended to create, expand, or restrict any student rights or responsibilities.