

# **Wasatch County School District Notification of Parent/Guardian Rights**

\*For the purposes of this document, the term “parent” includes legal guardian

A student’s parent is the primary person responsible for the education of his/her student, and the state plays a secondary and supportive role to the parent. Parents have the right to reasonable academic accommodations from Wasatch County School District (WCSD) as specified below. Each accommodation shall be considered on an individual basis and no student shall be considered to a greater or lesser degree than any other student. The parent rights specified in this section do not include all the rights or accommodations that may be available to a student’s parent as a user of WCSD schools.

## 1. Parents’ Rights:

- a. WCSD shall reasonably accommodate (see definition in section 2a below) a parent’s request for the following student accommodations:
  - i. Pursuant to written request, to retain a student on grade level based on the student’s academic ability or the student’s social, emotional, or physical maturity.
  - ii. Pursuant to written request, to excuse a student from attendance for a family event or visit a health care provider without obtaining a note from the provider.
    1. An excused family absence does not diminish expectations for the student’s academic performance and WCSD may require a student complete make-up work missed due to an absence excused for a family event.
    2. WCSD may offer positive incentives for students to attend school.
  - iii. Pursuant to written request, to place a student in a specialized class or advanced course. WCSD shall consider multiple academic data points when determining placement in a specialized class or advanced course.
  - iv. A parent’s initial selection of a teacher or a request for a change of teacher.
  - v. A parent’s request to visit and observe any class the student attends or to meet with a teacher at a mutually agreeable time if the parent is unable to attend regularly scheduled parent/teacher conference times.

- vi. Pursuant to written request, to excuse a student from taking a statewide test or the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).
  - b. WCSD will allow a student to earn course credit towards graduation without completing the course by testing out of the course or demonstrating competency in course standards.
2. WCSD will make a determination of what is reasonable based on the factors provided in Utah Code Ann. 53A-15-1501(2)(a) and (b), as outlined below:
- a. “Reasonably accommodate” means:
    - i. WCSD shall make its best effort to enable parents to exercise a parental right 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 of school premises and for school activities, and
      - 3. The efficient allocation of expenditures.
    - ii. In determining the feasibility of accommodating a parent request, WCSD will balance the following:
      - 1. The rights of parents;
      - 2. The educational needs of other students;
      - 3. The academic and behavior impacts to a classroom;
      - 4. A teacher’s workload; and
      - 5. The assurance of the safe and efficient operation of a school.
3. Notice to parents and students
- a. This policy serves as notice to parents of their rights under Utah Code §53A-15-1502.
  - b. WCSD will distribute the schools Safe Schools Policy to students and parents will be notified and provided with an opportunity to acknowledge receipt of WCSD’s Safe Schools Policy.
  - c. WCSD will notify a parent of a student’s violation of the Safe Schools Policy, and allow a parent to respond to the notice as outlined in the policy.