

### **ACADEMIC FREEDOM – CERTIFIED STAFF**

The teacher must be free to think and to express ideas, free to select and employ materials and methods of instruction, free from undue pressures of authority, and free to act within his/her professional group. Such freedom should be used judiciously and prudently to the end that it promotes the free exercise of intelligence and student learning.

Academic freedom is not an absolute. It must be exercised within the basic ethical responsibilities of the teaching profession.

These basic ethical responsibilities include:

- A. A commitment to democratic tradition and its methods.
- B. A concern for the welfare, growth and development of every child.
- C. The method of scholarship.
- D. Teaching within the parameters of the duly approved curricula.
- E. Application of good taste and judgment in selecting and employing materials and methods of instruction.
- F. Awareness of the needs and sensitivity of the community.

It is the responsibility of the Superintendent to see that the currently approved curriculum guides are applied in the schools of this District, and it is the responsibility of the teaching staff to utilize the material so provided as the core of the courses they have been assigned to teach.

**Legal References:** N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1      General mandatory powers and duties

<b><u>Cross References:</u></b>	4112.7	Orientation
	4113.2	Promotion
	*4115	Supervision
	*4116	Supervision
	*4117.41	Nonrenewal
	4117.52	Dismissal/suspension
	*4119.21	Conflict of interest
	*4119.22	Conduct and dress
	*4119.23	Employee substance abuse

\*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.

**Key Words**

Academic Freedom

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