

PARENTAL RIGHTS IN THE STATE OF UTAH

Current parental rights that are written into law

Utah law provides "that parents retain the fundamental right and duty to exercise primary control over the care, supervision, upbringing, and education of their children. There is a rebuttable presumption that a parent's decisions are in the child's best interests."

Parents have a RIGHT to Education and Academic Accommodations

A student's parent is the primary person responsible for the education of the student, and the state is in a secondary and supportive role to the parent. As such, a student's parent has the right to reasonable academic accommodations from the student's LEA as specified in this section. (Utah Code § 53G-6-803)

<p>Opt your child out of any school assignment or activity if it violates beliefs</p>	<p>Ethics complaint against local school board member</p>	<p>Instructional material must be consistent with principles of inalienable rights, etc.</p>
<p>Requires a school to accept a participation waiver for a certain curriculum or activities that contradicts with the student's, or family's strongly-held belief.</p> <p>(Utah Code § 53G-1-203 & 53G-10-205)</p>	<p>A Parent may file a complaint against a local school board member and that complaint will be reviewed by the Political Subdivisions Ethics Review Commission</p> <p>(Utah Code § 53G-5-206)</p>	<p>Requires the State Board of Education, local education agencies, and staff to ensure that instructional materials and classroom instruction are consistent with the principles of inalienable rights, equal opportunity, and individual merit.</p> <p>(Utah Code § 53G-10-202)</p>
<p>Schools are REQUIRED to respect the interests of the PARENTS</p>	<p>CONTROVERSIAL topics may not be taught in Utah schools</p>	<p>By Law Parents have the RIGHT to request a teacher and visit the classroom</p>
<p>In the implementation of "all policies, programs, and responsibilities, the Utah Legislature, the state school board, local school boards, and charter school governing boards" are required to "respect, protect, and further the interests of parents in their children's public education"</p> <p>(Utah Code § 53E-2-201-2(a))</p>	<p>Furthermore "political, atheistic, sectarian, religious, or denominational doctrine may not be taught in the public schools except as provided in Section 53G-10-202"</p> <p>(Utah Code § 53G-10-402)</p>	<p>An LEA shall reasonably accommodate a parent's initial selection of a teacher or request for a change of teacher.</p> <p>An LEA shall reasonably accommodate the request of a student's parent to visit and observe any class the student attends.</p> <p>(Utah Code § 53G-6-803)</p>
<p>Schools can not ask students for protected information through, tests, surveys, or evaluations without parental consent</p>	<p>School Boards must allow reasonable time for verbal & written public comment</p>	<p>There must be a transparent curriculum process with regards to digital and online curriculum</p>
<p>Protected information includes: political affiliations, mental or psychological problems, sexual behavior, orientation, or attitudes, illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior, critical appraisals of individuals with whom the student has close family relationships, and religious affiliations or beliefs.</p> <p>(Utah Code § 53G-9-203)</p>	<p>Requires a local school board holding an open meeting to allow a reasonable opportunity for the public to provide verbal comments at the meeting, subject to certain exceptions; requires a local school board to adopt a written policy allowing public comment in a public meeting;</p> <p>(Utah Code § 52-4-201.3)</p>	<p>Requires a transparent process when adopting district-wide curriculum and requires that providers of digital and online resources notify an LEA when content is changed.</p> <p>(Utah Code § 53G-4-403 & 53G-4-404)</p>

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