



Advocates for Justice and Education, Inc.

The Parent Training and Information Center for the District of Columbia

Students Rights

Board Chair
Tracey Davis

Board Members
Jane M. Brown
Tonia Dansby
Tara S. Emory
Nike Opadiran
Janay Queen

Executive Director
Weadé J. Wallace

V: (202) 678-8060
F: (202) 678-8062
TF: (888) 327-8060
W: www.aje-dc.org
E: information@aje-dc.org

25 E Street NW 4th Floor
Washington, DC 20001

Mary's Center
Tuesdays & Thursdays
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
3912 Georgia Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20011

**Children with
Special Needs,
need Parents
with Special
Skills!**

1. You have the right to a system of public education that seeks to meet your needs as an individual student.
2. You have the right to a meaningful curriculum and the right to voice your opinion and provide input into the development of the DCPS curriculum.
3. You have the right to express your views and opinions related to matters that affect the quality and content of your education.
4. You have the right to physical safety and the protection of personal property, including the right to clean and safe school buildings and facilities.
5. You have the right to respect from teachers, other students, administrators, and other school personnel, and shall not be subject to ridicule, harassment, or any punishment that is demeaning or derogatory.
6. You, your parent (s), or an authorized representative have the right to inspect and review the official records of DCPS that relate directly to you.
7. You have the right to receive adequate and timely notice of all rules, regulations, policies and sanctions to which the student is subject.
8. You have the right to consult with teachers, counselors, administrators, and other school personnel.
9. You have the right to elect your peers in student organizations, as well as the right to seek and hold office.
10. You have the right to participate in school activities without being subject to unlawful discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, family responsibilities, political affiliation, handicapping condition, or any other basis of unlawful discrimination under the laws of the District of Columbia.
11. You have the right to compete on an equal basis for participation in programs or activities.
12. You have the right to refuse to participate in activities that are against your moral, religious, or political beliefs.
13. School officials or other designated security personnel may conduct, or cause to be conducted, such searches of students as are REASONABLE to maintain the

security, discipline and educational atmosphere of a school building, event or program.

14. You have the right to use reasonable physical means to defend yourself from assault or physical abuse, and shall not be subject to suspension for using limited reasonable, physical means to restrain another person from physically assaulting or harming a third person.

15. You have the right to present petitions, complaints, or grievance to school authorities and the rights to receive prompt, authoritative replies from school officials.

16. You are entitled to an impartial hearing.

17. You have the right to exercise your constitutional rights of free speech, assembly, and expression without prior restraint, so long as the exercise does not substantially interfere with the rights of others.

18. You may exercise your constitutional rights of speech, assembly, and expression including but not limited to the following means:

- **Wearing political buttons, armbands, or badges of symbolic expression;**
- **Organizing and participating in political and social organizations;**
- **Use of student bulletin boards without prior censorship;**
- **Personal determination of appearance, including styles of hair and dress;**
- **Preparation and distribution of posters, newspapers, or other printed matter, on or off school grounds, and the reasonable use of the school public address system subject to standards adopted by the student government organization.**
- **Free expression and defense of views and opinions without having that expression affect your exams, grades, academic achievement, or participation in extracurricular activities.**