

## SAYDEL COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

### ACADEMIC FREEDOM

The Board believes students should have an opportunity to reach their own decisions and beliefs about conflicting points of view. Academic freedom is the opportunity for teachers and students to study, investigate, present, interpret, and discuss facts and ideas relevant to the subject matter of the classroom and appropriate to the maturity, intellectual and emotional capacities of the students.

It will be the responsibility of the teacher to refrain from advocating partisan causes, sectarian religious views, or biased positions in the classroom or through teaching methods. Teachers are not discouraged from expressing personal opinions as long as students are aware it is a personal opinion and students are allowed to reach their own conclusions independently.

It will be the responsibility of the Principal to ensure academic freedom is allowed but not abused in the classroom.

**Legal Reference:** Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.3, .6 (2013).

**Cross Reference:**

- 502.1 Student Appearance
- 502.2 Care of School Property/Vandalism
- 502.3 Freedom of Expression
- 502.4 Student Complaints and Grievances
- 903.5 Distribution of Materials

**Approved:** April 21, 1997

**Reviewed:** January 2017

**Revised:** January 2017