

Policy 603.09: Academic Freedom**Status:** ADOPTED**Original Adopted Date:** 12/09/2002 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 11/14/2022

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 of licensed employees and students to study, investigate, present, interpret, and discuss facts and ideas relevant to the subject matter of the classroom and appropriate to and in good taste with the maturity and intellectual and emotional capacities of the students.

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

NOTE: *This is not a mandatory policy, but it is strongly recommended. The policy and accompanying regulation reflect current law on the subject.*

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.3, .6.

I.C. Iowa Code

Iowa Code § 279.8

Iowa Code § 280.3

Iowa code § 280.6

Description[Directors - General Rules - Bonds of Employees](#)[Education Program - Attendance Center Requirements](#)[Religious Books](#)**Cross References****Code**

502.03

502.03-R(1)

903.05

903.05-R(1)

Description[Student Expression and Student Publications Code](#)[Student Expression and Student Publications Code - Regulation](#)[Distribution of Materials](#)[Distribution of Materials - Regulation](#)