

EQUIPPING PARENTS FOR BACK TO SCHOOL

THE MOST EFFECTIVE FORCE OF BRINGING ABOUT CHANGE IN EDUCATION IS WELL-INFORMED AND EQUIPPED PARENTS.

*Visit our equipping parents page for a vast library of resources for parents teachers on K-12 education.



PARENTAL RIGHTS

- Learn <u>your rights</u> as a parent.
- Check your state's parental rights laws here.
- Education on Federal Privacy Laws: <u>FRPA</u> & <u>PPRA</u>

- Educate yourself on the <u>Title IX Rewrite</u>
- Take action immediately to <u>secure protection</u> for your child's school.

CAMPUS AND DIGITAL SAFETY

- Read the school's Student Handbook policies on Discipline & Safety
- Does your school have a threat reporting hotline?
- Update your student's emergency contacts with the school.
- As new technologies emerge and online spaces evolve, educate yourself with the knowledge needed to keep students safe in the digital world <u>here</u>.

OPT OUT FORMS

- Depending on your <u>state</u>, you may be able to opt out of certain instruction, testing and invasive surveys that are often given at the start of the school year. Learn more <u>here</u>.
- Opt out forms for <u>Surveys</u>, <u>Gender Ideology</u>, <u>Sex Ed</u>, SEL, and <u>School-based health clinics</u>

BOOKS

- Freedom in Education has partnered with <u>RatedBooks.org</u> to educate parents and communities nationwide on the content in books found in school media centers.
- Search a vast database of reading material, and review detailed reports on each book that documents how it acquired its rating.



STANDARDS VS. CURRICULUM

- Standards are defined by the state and dictate WHAT students should be learning in the public school system.
- Curriculum is knowledge and skills students are expected to learn as defined by state standards; the books, materials, videos, presentations, and readings used in a course; and the tests, assessments, and other methods used to evaluate student learning.
- If the curriculum does not map to state standards, you should ALWAYS, in writing, ask the teacher WHY it is being taught. Learn more <u>here</u>.



- <u>Effective communication</u> between parents and schools is vital to the educational success and well-being of children.
- Follow the recommended chain of command and always document communication in writing.

APPEALING CONTROVERSIAL MATERIAL

- Visit your school system's website to locate the policies & procedures established by your school board, where you will search for a "Book Appeal Process" or "controversial material appeal" policy.
- Educate yourself on the <u>appeal process</u> and learn the steps to identify offensive books in your local district and take appropriate action to effectively challenge those books.

TRANSPARENCY

- <u>FOIA laws</u> empower parents with a tool to keep school districts transparent and hold them accountable.
- If parents are not getting answers to their questions, FOIA is a simple process and upheld by laws in every state.
- <u>Sunshine laws</u> promote transparency by requiring certain proceedings of government agencies to be open or available to the public.



 \odot

SHARE YOUR STORY

- <u>Freedom in Education</u> is here to be a voice for those who have been silenced, advocate for those who are unable, and listen to those ignored by others. You can freely share your findings, experiences and struggles in K-12 education <u>here</u>.
- Courage is contagious; your stories could inspire others to make a difference in their community!

DISCLAIMER

Nothing implied or stated here in this toolkit should be construed to be legal or professional advice. It is recommended that you seek the help of a qualified attorney if needed on matters pertaining to rights as a student, parent, guardian, or caregiver.



We hope these resources will be a catalyst to educating and engaging parents. We continually update our website so parents can access the most up-to-date information.

PARENT MUST DO LIST

READ STUDENT HANDBOOK/CODE OF CONDUCT-DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

REVIEW SYLLABUS & CURRICULUM FOR EACH CLASS

REVIEW ELA BOOK LIST FOR THE YEAR (Request alternative options if necessary.)

SUBMIT OPT OUT FORMS

 $\left[\right]$

 \rightarrow

STORE IMPORTANT SCHOOL DATES/DEADLINES IN CALENDAR

STORE TEACHER & SCHOOL CONTACTS IN PHONE

JOIN PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)

→ STAY CONNECTED 🖒





<u>SUBSCRIBE</u> <u>TO OUR</u> NEWSLETTER





Х



(onfact us! info@freedomined.org

STUDENT PORTAL LOGIN

PARENT PORTAL LOGIN

\rightarrow teacher contacts

FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST

\rightarrow school nurse

 \rightarrow

 \rightarrow

 \rightarrow

 \rightarrow

 \rightarrow PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL BOARD CONTACT

SCHOOL SAFETY HOTLINE

TRANSPORTATION CONTACT