

Carter G. Woodson School 34-D - PARENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS POLICY

The Parents' Bill of Rights (SL 2023-106) signed into law on August 16, 2023, gives parents certain rights in their child's education. Carter G. Woodson School has addressed this legislation into its schools' policy and procedures. See

<https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2023/Bills/Senate/PDF/S49v4.pdf>

§115C-76.25 which outlines parent legal rights for their child's education states in section (b), "Public school units shall (i) allow parents to exercise these rights and (ii) make the rights contained in this section available to parents electronically or by displaying the information on the website of the public-school unit."

Purpose:

This **Parents' Bill of Rights Policy** is intended to affirm the rights of parents and guardians in the education of their children within Carter G. Woodson School, a North Carolina public charter school. Carter G. Woodson School (CGWS) recognizes that parents play a critical role in their children's education and that they have the right to be informed and involved in their children's learning experiences. See CGWS Parent and Family Engagement Policy

<https://rb.gy/7mvg9z>

1. Access to Educational Records:

Parents have the right to view their child's educational records, including academic records, assessments, and other relevant documentation; Request to review records should be made in writing to the school principal or designated school official, and the school will provide access within a reasonable timeframe; Request an evaluation of their child for an academically or intellectually gifted program, or for identification as a child with a disability; Access information relating to CGWS's policies for promotion or retention, including high school graduation requirements.

2. Curriculum Transparency:

Parents have the right to be informed about the instructional materials, textbooks, and curriculum used in their child's education. CGWS will provide access to this information upon request and will notify parents of any significant changes to the curriculum. Parents have the right to inspect and purchase public school unit textbooks and other supplementary instructional materials. Parents have the right to review standardized assessment results as part of the State report card. Parents have the right to receive student report cards and requirements on a regular basis depicting their child's grade 2 and academic performance in each class/course, and the student's conduct and attendance.

3. Opt-Out Provisions:

Parents have the right to request that their child be excused from specific portions of the curriculum or activities that conflict with their personal, moral, or religious beliefs. This request must be submitted in writing to the CGWS school principal. CGWS will offer alternative educational activities when possible. The right to consent or withhold consent for participation in reproductive health and safety education programs, consistent with state policy. The right to seek a medical or religious exemption from immunization requirements, consistent with the requirements of state policy.

4. Participation in School Activities and Decision-Making:

Parents have the right to participate in school governance, certain data collection and decision-making processes. This includes involvement in parent-teacher organizations, school board meetings, and committees that influence school policies and curriculum.

5. Notifications:

Parents have the right to be notified in advance about certain school activities in providing consent, including but not limited to: Health education classes that address human sexuality. Surveys or questionnaires administered to students that collect personal information. Any changes to CGWS school policies that affect student rights or wellbeing. Reviewing all available records of materials their child has borrowed from the schools' library/learning resource center

6. Teacher Communication:

Parents have the right to communicate with their child's teachers and to receive regular updates on their child's academic progress and behavior. Teachers are encouraged to maintain open lines of communication and to respond to parent inquiries in a timely manner.

7. Special Education and Accommodations:

Parents of students with disabilities have the right to be fully informed about their child's educational needs, to participate in the development of their child's Individualized Education Program (IEP), and to be involved in decisions regarding special education services and accommodations.

8. School Safety:

Parents have the right to be informed about the safety policies and procedures of the school. This includes information about emergency preparedness, bullying prevention, and student conduct codes. CGWS is required and will notify parents promptly in the event of a significant safety incident.

9. Health and Wellness:

Parents have the right to be informed about health services provided by the school, including mental health services, nutrition programs, and physical education. Parents must provide consent before their child receives certain health services, except in emergencies.

10. Complaint Resolution:

Parents have the right to lodge complaints if they believe their rights under this policy have been violated. Complaints should be submitted in writing to the school principal, and the school administrator will follow a formal process to address and resolve the complaint in a timely manner. Written communication will be provided to all CGWS parents/guardians in all appropriate languages and placed on the CGWS website for reference.

General NC State Statutes for Parents Bill of Rights:

- Make decisions for participation in reproductive health and safety education programs.
- Seek exemptions from immunization requirements.
- Review statewide standardized assessment results.
- Request an evaluation of their child for identification as a child with a disability or as academically or intellectually gifted.
- Inspect and purchase textbooks and other supplementary instructional materials.
- Access information on promotion and retention, including high school graduation requirements.
- Receive regular report cards that show academic performance, conduct, and attendance.
- Access information on the State public education system.
- Participate in parent-teacher organizations.
- Opt-in to participation in protected student information surveys in accordance with State law and opt-out of data collection in other surveys in accordance with federal law.
- Review available records of materials their child borrowed from a school library.

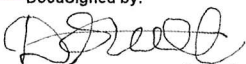
Implementation:

This policy is coordinated with the Parents Guide to Student Achievement and is communicated to all parents at the start of each school year and is made available on the Carter G. Woodson School's website. Carter G. Woodson School will comply with this policy and ensure that all staff are aware of and uphold these parental rights. Again, the full legislative document can be found at: <https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2023/Bills/Senate/PDF/S49v4.pdf>

CONTACT INFO: Parents desiring to pursue their rights should contact the CGWS Senior Executive Director – Darlene Steele and/or the CGWS School Principal – Debra Gaines at 336-723-6838 for assistance and support.

Approved by:

Darlene Steele, CGWS Senior Executive Director

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Debra Gaines, CGWS Principal/Dir. of Curriculum Services

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Kenneth Love, CGWS Board Chair

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