

STUDENTS' ENVIRONMENTAL BILL OF RIGHTS

Background

Whereas children and youth are human beings and are entitled to fundamental rights and freedoms;

Whereas due to their size and the delicate nature of physical development, young people are more vulnerable to injury from toxic chemicals than adults;

Whereas it is the duty of adults to take care that children are protected from such injury and to ensure that children are educated and informed so that they may protect themselves;

Whereas parents have the primary responsibility for their children's safety and care, and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child makes it clear that governments are bound to assist families to fulfill their responsibility and to protect the rights of children.

Procedures

1. Therefore, the District declares:
 - 1.1. All students and their parents within the District shall be entitled to information relating to toxic chemicals known to exist in their school environment, and to protection from the risks of exposure to such harmful chemicals.
 - 1.2. School officials will actively seek alternatives to substances known to contain ingredients that are suspected or known to be harmful to the child.
 - 1.3. The District will actively seek to eliminate toxic substances already present within the school environment.
2. The foregoing rights shall apply to all students within the District.

Reference: Sections 17, 20, 22, 23, 65, 85 School Act
Health Act
Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act
Occupational Health and Safety Regulation

Approved: May 19, 2009
Revised: August 15, 2021