P.A.R.E.N.T.S. Act

Parental Awareness, Rights, and Ensuring No Travel off School Grounds

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Act is to ensure student safety, protect parental rights, and prevent students from leaving school grounds without proper notice, consent, and supervision. This Act recognizes that unscheduled or politically motivated walkouts place children at risk from traffic hazards, unknown threats, and lack of accountability.

Section 2. Definitions

School Grounds – Any property owned, leased, or operated by a public school or school district.

Off-Campus Activity – Any activity that requires students to leave school grounds during the school day, including but not limited to protests, demonstrations, walkouts, marches, or assemblies.

Written Parental Consent – A signed document or verified electronic authorization from a parent or legal guardian.

Section 3. Parental Notification and Consent

a. No student shall be permitted to leave school grounds for any off-campus activity without written parental consent.

b. Parents or legal guardians must be notified no less than seven (7) days in advance of any planned off-campus activity.

c. Exception: School-sponsored athletic events, field trips, or extracurricular activities that are part of an established schedule and announced months in advance may satisfy notice requirements through seasonal or annual consent forms.

d. Same-day walkouts, protests, or demonstrations shall not be permitted under any circumstances.

Section 4. Duty of School Staff

a. Teachers and staff shall take reasonable and appropriate actions to keep students on school grounds during instructional hours.

b. If students attempt to leave school grounds, staff must immediately:

Direct students to remain on campus;

Notify school administration; and

Attempt to contact parents or guardians for student pickup.

c. Teachers and staff must make reasonable efforts to return students to the school building if students leave or attempt to leave.

Section 5. Student Discipline

a. A student who leaves school grounds without authorization shall be subject to disciplinary action, which may include:

Detention;

Loss of privileges; or

Academic penalties, including a reduction of a letter grade for failure to follow instructions.

b. Discipline shall be progressive and documented.

Section 6. Staff Accountability

a. Any teacher, administrator, or staff member who knowingly encourages, permits, or facilitates an unauthorized off-campus activity shall be subject to disciplinary action, including unpaid suspension of no less than thirty (30) days.

b. Repeated violations may result in termination.

Section 7. Safety Training and Education

a. Schools shall provide annual training to staff regarding procedures under this Act.

b. Schools shall educate students on the rules and risks associated with leaving school grounds, at a frequency comparable to fire drills or active shooter drills.

Section 8. Enforcement

Each school district shall adopt policies consistent with this Act and report violations to the state Department of Education