# Parent Rights and Public Education in Oklahoma

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| Oklahoma Parent Bill of Rights  
25 O.S. § 2002 | - Parent bill of rights which reserves specific rights to parents including the right to direct the education of the minor child and all rights of parents identified in Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, including:  
  - the right to access and review all school records relating to the minor child;  
  - the right to direct the upbringing of the minor child;  
  - the right to direct the moral or religious training of the minor child;  
  - the right to make healthcare decisions for the minor child, unless otherwise prohibited by law;  
  - the right to access and review all medical records of the minor child unless otherwise prohibited by law or the parent is the subject of an investigation of a crime committed against the minor child and a law enforcement official requests that the information not be released;  
  - the right to consent in writing before a biometric scan of the minor child is made, shared or stored;  
  - the right to consent in writing before any record of the minor child’s blood or deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) is created, stored or shared, except as required by Sections 1-516 and 1-524.1 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or unless authorized pursuant to a court order;  
  - the right to consent in writing before the state or any of its political subdivisions makes a video or voice recording of the minor child, unless for a purpose related to a legitimate academic or extracurricular activity, a purpose related to regular classroom instruction, security or surveillance of buildings or grounds, and photo identification cards;  
  - the right to be notified promptly if it is suspected that a criminal offense has been committed against the minor child by someone other than a parent. |
|                | - The law also states that any attempt to encourage or coerce a minor child to withhold information from the child’s parent shall be grounds for discipline of an employee of this state, any political subdivision of this state or any other governmental entity, except for law enforcement personnel. |
| **Student Transfers**  
**70 O.S. Sec. 8-101.2** | • Parents have a right to request transfer of students and appeal a denial of the request to the local board and the state board of education. |
| **Student Grade Retention**  
**70 O.S. § 24-114.1** | • Parent has a right to appeal an educator’s determination that a student should be retained at their present grade level. |
| **Graduation Requirements**  
**70 O.S. § 11-103.6** | • Parent may opt student out of college/preparatory/work ready curriculum and instead choose the core curriculum. |
| **Parent Engagement**  
**25 O.S. § 2003** | • The board of education of a school district, in consultation with parents, teachers and administrators, shall develop and adopt a policy to promote the involvement of parents and guardians of children enrolled in the schools within the school district including areas such as:  
  o homework,  
  o the review of coursework and instructional materials,  
  o a procedure by which a parent may object to coursework or instructional materials and may withdraw their student from using such materials including areas such as beliefs or practices in sex, morality or religion;  
  o procedures by which parents may learn about the nature and purpose of clubs and activities that are part of the school curriculum, as well as extracurricular clubs and activities that have been approved by the school;  
  o notification of a parent’s rights to withdraw their student from various curriculum. |
| **Parent Engagement**  
**OAC 210: 35-13-44**  
**OAC 210: 35-3-69** | • Regarding instructional delivery in progress in Career Tech and public schools:  
  o parents shall be informed regularly of student progress;  
  o parents shall be given handbook and the behavior code developed with parents;  
  • parents should have the opportunity for parent involvement. |
| **Parent Engagement**  
**210: 35-31-3** | • Local plan of educational services in partial hospital programs and treatment programs shall include parent collaboration. |
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| **Student Discipline**<br>**70 O.S. 24-100.4** | • Parental involvement in development of student discipline policies.  
• Parental notification student discipline policies.  
• Timely notification to parents of victims of documented and verified bullying and to parents of the perpetrator. |
| **70 O.S. 24-100.5** | • Parents should be included in the Safe Schools Committee. |
| **OAC 210:15-34-13** | • Parents shall receive student progress reports for students enrolled in supplemental online courses. |
| **70 O.S. 1210.308** | • Local advisory committee on education for gifted and talented children shall include parents of such children. |
| **Parent Engagement** | • Parental involvement is a critical piece of the Title I provisions of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act.  
• Most school districts receiving Title I funds are required to spend at least 1% of its Title I funds on training/education program for parents. |
| **Instructional Materials**<br>**Okla. Const. Art 13, § 6 70 O.S. § 16-101 et seq.** | • Textbooks are selected from a list prepared by a state committee whose members are appointed by the Governor.  
• School districts must choose from the list of approved texts.  
• Includes a comprehensive review process at the state level.  
• Committee must conduct an annual public hearing to gather testimony on textbooks considered for adoption. |
| **Instructional Materials**<br>**70 O.S. § 11-105.1** | • Materials used to teach or used in connection with a sex education class or program or used for the purpose of discussing sexual behavior or attitudes, as well as any test, survey, or questionnaire with the same primary purpose must be made available for inspection to parents.  
• Schools are also required to notify all parents of this right.  
• If the parent objects in writing, the student does not have to participate.  
• The teacher using the material must submit it for review which must be approved by the Superintendent or their designee. |
| **Instructional Materials**<br>**70 O.S. § 11-106** | • Allows parents to review instructional material used in connection with any program or project designed to explore or develop new or unproven teaching methods or techniques. |
| **Instructional Materials**<br>**70 O.S. § 11-106.1** | • Allows a parent to review all instructional material, including but not limited to teacher manuals, films, tapes or other supplementary instructional material in any format, used by a
public school as part of the educational curriculum. Also requires that the school have a policy in place pertaining to parent review of materials. "Instructional material" means instructional content that is provided to a student, regardless of the format.

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<th>Instructional Materials</th>
<th>Parents have the right to inspect curriculum, instructional materials, classroom assignments, and lesson plans to ensure compliance with 70 O.S. §24-157(B). (Prohibition of Mandatory Gender or Sexual Diversity Training or Counseling)</th>
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| OAC 210:10-1-23 (emergency/proposed) | Schools receiving federal funds to adopt policies pertaining to:  
  - the right of a parent of a student to inspect, upon the request of the parent, any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for the student;  
  - any applicable procedures for granting a request by a parent for reasonable access to instructional material within a reasonable period of time after the request is received;  
  - the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information (or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose), including arrangements to protect student privacy that are provided by the agency in the event of such collection, disclosure, or use, including the review of any instrument used to collect such personal information.  
  - The law also requires notification to parents if the policies are substantially changed and to opt out of such collections.  
  - The law requires notifications to parents for various other testing including nonemergency physical examinations, and notices to all parents of their rights under this law.  
  - Failure would subject school to loss of federal funds. |
| Instructional Materials | There are various parent protections when it comes to special education which are outlined in the parent procedural safeguards. Also included is the right of parents:  
  - to review student records,  
  - participate in meetings related to the identification, evaluation, and placement of their child,  
  - the provision of FAPE (a free appropriate public education) to their child,  
  - to obtain an independent educational evaluation (IEE) of their child,  
  - the right to consent prior to certain actions by a school,  
  - the right to receive “prior written notice,” |
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<td>o the right of parents to disagree with decisions made by the school and to challenge them through a due process hearing and to appeal those determinations though both administrative and judicial means.</td>
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| **Information Privacy**  
10A O.S. § 1-6-102                                                        | • Keeps non-directory student information private.  
• Requests through a subpoena are invalid unless a specific procedure has been followed wherein the requested records have been reviewed by a judge and determined to be needed. |
| **Information Privacy**  
20 U.S.C. § 1232g  
34 CFR Part 99  
Also see OAC 210:1-3-8                                                  | • Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) a parent has the right to:  
  o access their student’s educational records,  
  o confirm their accuracy and seek to have records amended or corrected,  
  o review and appeal records, and  
  o to consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information. |
| **Consent: Medical Test**  
25 O.S. § 2004                                                            | • No physical examinations, surgery, or other medical treatment without parental consent unless there is an emergency.                          |
| **Consent: Medical Test**  
25 O.S. § 2005                                                            | • No mental health testing or treatment without parental consent unless an emergency which creates a threat of serious injury or death.        |
| **Consent: Non-academic surveys/information collection**  
20 U.S.C. § 1232h                                                        | • Without the consent of a parent, students cannot be asked to reveal information through any sort of survey, analysis, or evaluation regarding any of the following topics:  
  o the student’s or their parents political party or beliefs,  
  mental or psychological problems for the student or the student’s family;  
  o sex behaviors or attitudes;  
  o illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;  
  o critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;  
  o legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;  
  o religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student’s parent;  
  o income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program). |
<p>| <strong>Consent: Non-academic testing</strong>                                        | • As to statewide testing, tests cannot include the use of projective psychological, personality, or adjustment tests for the purpose of |</p>
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<th><strong>70 O.S. § 1210.511</strong></th>
<th>Collecting information relative to the personality, environment, home life, parental or family relationships, economic status, religious beliefs, patriotism, sexual behavior or attitudes, or sociological problems of a student or their family.</th>
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| **Consent: Non-academic testing**  
70 O.S. § 11-107 | • A school must have written consent prior to any psychological testing and prior to any test, examination, or survey which would elicit information about their religious beliefs, mental or psychological problems, sexual behavior and attitudes, critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student has a close family relationship, or legally recognized privileged communication. |
| **Religious Practice/Beliefs**  
51 O.S. §§ 252, 253, 256. | • The state or political subdivision cannot interfere with a citizen’s religious practices or beliefs. (Essentially a state solution to Oregon v. Smith) |
| **Vaccinations**  
70 O.S. § 1210.192 | • A parent may opt-out of vaccinations for medical, religious, or personal reasons. |