

NEW SUMMIT CHARTER ACADEMY PARENT BILL OF RIGHTS

You may have seen recent changes in Colorado legislation regarding your rights as parents and/or guardians in making decisions about your child(ren)'s education. Regardless of recent changes in legislation, current laws, and an ever-changing political landscape, the Board of Directors and the administration of New Summit Charter Academy reiterate our commitment to parents and/or guardians that we have a profound duty to partner with *you* in the education of *your* children.

As you know, our NSCA mission statement is to build a safe educational community that emphasizes a love of learning and inspires and empowers students to reach New Summits. As a public school, we are subject to laws and charter contract provisions, which in certain instances may constrain or otherwise overlap with parental rights and interests; however, this Bill of Rights is meant to assure you we still stand behind our core beliefs.

We Believe: Parents bear the primary responsibility for their children's education, while public schools should provide parents with viable choices to support this effort.

We Believe: All children are capable of learning and deserve a positive, caring environment, regardless of race, creed, color, or religion.

We Believe: Educational achievement is accomplished by elevating expectations for students, parents, and the school.

We Believe: Identifying and addressing learning challenges early maximizes student success.

We Believe: The lifelong pursuit of knowledge is essential for success in our rapidly changing world, and encouraging children to enjoy learning is vital for achieving that success.

With these core beliefs in mind, the Board of Directors of NSCA affirms the following Parent Rights:

- 1) *Parents and/or guardians have the right to make choices for their children's education.* Whenever possible and to the greatest extent available under law, when students make requests regarding issues of mental health, education programs, gender, and exceptional student services, NSCA will continue to partner with parents and/or guardians to make these decisions with and for their children.
- 2) *Parents and/or guardians have the right to engage in open dialogue and participate in two-way communication with NSCA leadership.* NSCA will communicate with parents and/or guardians to the maximum extent possible while considering individual circumstances and the safety of the school. We encourage parents to do the same.
- 3) *Parents and/or guardians have the right to remain informed of any changes that may affect their child(ren) and the community as a whole.* In order to maintain a safe, positive, caring environment for all students, when appropriate and/or necessary, NSCA will communicate with the school community at large.

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While the Colorado legislature may continue to consider and adopt new laws that implicate student and parent rights in education, NSCA will remain dedicated to the proposition that parents are the authority in the education of their children. NSCA will continue to strive to build a safe educational community that emphasizes a love of learning and inspires and empowers students to reach new summits.

We pledge to partner with parents to protect legal rights, while promoting respect and dignity for all students. We therefore direct our Executive Director to adopt and implement practices and protocols that, to the greatest extent permitted by law, involve engagement and decision making by parents regarding mental health services, program choices, requests for recognition of gender expression or gender identity transitions, and exceptional student services. We further direct that the administration develop and adopt an annual training plan in support of these priorities.

Adopted this 8th Day of January 2025