

**Parent/Student Rights
(Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973)**

The following is a description of the rights granted by the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) to students identified as disabled under that law. The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning decisions about your child, and to inform you of your rights if you disagree with any of these decisions.

You have the right to:

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of her/his disability;
2. Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law;
3. Receive notice from the school with respect to identification, evaluation, and educational program or placement of your child, or the filing of a due process hearing;
4. Receive all information in the parent's/guardian's native language and primary mode of communication;
5. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education, including the right to be educated with students without handicaps to the maximum extent possible, and the right to have the school district make reasonable accommodations necessary for your child to benefit from her/his educational program;
6. Have your child educated in comparable facilities and receive comparable services to those provided to students without disabilities;
7. Have your child receive special education and related services if your child is found to be eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or under Section 504(§504) of the Rehabilitation Act;
8. Have evaluation, educational, and placement decisions based upon a variety of information sources, and made by persons familiar with the student, the evaluation data, and placement options;
9. Have re-evaluations of your child, to the extent needed, when deciding upon significant changes in your child's educational program;

10. Have your child receive an equal opportunity to participate in extra-curricular school activities;
11. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, and educational program and placement;
12. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost, unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records;
13. A response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records;
14. Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child; or receive in a reasonable amount of time, the school district's refusal to amend the record and notification of your right to a hearing;
15. File a grievance through local grievance procedures, file a complaint with the federal Office of Civil Rights, or request an impartial hearing on decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, or educational program or placement; and take part in the hearing with your child and an attorney to represent you; (Questions about how to request a hearing may be forwarded to the Office of Special Services, Lee, Maine 04455, or the Department of Education in Augusta.)
16. Have the decisions made by hearing officers or others reviewed in State or Federal court; and
17. Information concerning low-cost or free legal counsel.

The person in M.S.A.D.#30 who is responsible for assuring that the District complies with Section 504 is the Director of Special Services, and may be reached through the Office of Special Services, 738-3060.

Adopted: October 30, 2001

