

**Tigard-Tualatin
School District 23J**

Code: **IBB**
Adopted: 11/8/90
Readopted: 5/17/07

Academic Freedom

The Board believes that in order to present a complete education, teachers should have a certain amount of academic freedom. The Board also believes that with this academic freedom comes certain responsibilities.

Employees shall be protected from undue criticism or restraint, which may interfere with their obligations to perform their prescribed teaching functions.

Teaching to controversial issues is an accepted procedure in appropriate subject matters and grade levels. However, this does not give an employee the license to promote a particular point or view. Employees are obliged to use thoughtful judgment in approaching controversial issues and shall present, varying aspects or sides of the issue, clearly identify a personal position, and use care in selecting the type of material used in studying the controversial issue, provided the material and/or discussion is relevant to the grade level, and curriculum scope and sequence.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.072](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

[ORS 339.880](#)

[ORS 339.885](#)

HB 3279 (2007)

[OAR 581-021-0050](#)

[OAR 581-021-0055](#)

Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 4071-4074 (2006).

Westside Cmty. Bd. of Educ. v. Mergens, 496 U.S. 226 (1990).

Hazelwood Sch. Dist. v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).

U.S. CONST. amend. I; U.S. CONST. amend. XIV.

OR. CONST., art. I, § 8.