FOUNDATIONS AND BASIC COMMITMENTS

Academic Freedom for Teachers

I. Teachers shall have the right to academic freedom. No special limitations shall be placed upon the study, investigation, presentation, and interpretation of facts and ideas provided they are relevant to the approved course content and curriculum.

II. Each teacher is ultimately responsible for any abuse or indiscretion in the exercise of this right.

III. When controversial issues are presented in class, the various points of view shall be presented; however, the teacher is responsible for following the guidelines contained in Regulation 041-1.

IV. The initial assignment of academic grades by teachers, in the process of student evaluation, shall be the sole responsibility of the teacher(s) concerned. Grades assigned by teachers may be raised or lowered by the building principal at his/her professional discretion; but in such cases, the teacher involved shall be notified and shall be relieved of all responsibility for such grades. Teachers may be called upon to explain or recalculate grades; but, in the absence of error in calculation, educational or unsound practices, or lack of adherence to Division grading regulations, no teacher shall be required to change grades without cause.

The Associate Superintendent for Student and Professional Learning (or designee) is responsible for implementing and monitoring this regulation.

This regulation and any related policies shall be reviewed at least every five years and revised as needed.