



Liberty STEAM Charter Free Speech Policy

The LSC Board of Directors believes that free inquiry and the exchange of ideas are essential parts of a well-rounded education. The LSC Board respects LSC employees' and students' rights to express ideas and opinions, take stands on issues, and support causes.

LSC employees and students have certain rights that are protected by the guarantees in the Constitution of the United States, the South Carolina Constitution, and state and federal statutes. In connection with rights are responsibilities that LSC employees and students must assume.

LSC students have the right to free inquiry and expression and to advocate change of any law, policy, or regulation. LSC students may exercise their right of freedom of expression through speech, approved time for assembly, petition, and other lawful means. In exercising their right to free inquiry and expression, LSC students may not engage in speech or expression that substantially disrupts the school environment or invades the rights of others.

Likewise, LSC employees, while acting within the scope of their professional duties, may not engage in speech or expression that creates a substantial adverse impact on the functions of the school or impedes the proper performance of the employees' daily duties. LSC employees should refrain from using their positions as a way to impose their personal beliefs and viewpoints on others.

LSC employees and students may not use freedom of speech and expression to present material that is obscene, profane, or slanderous or to defame character. Further, LSC employees and students may not use freedom of speech and expression to advocate violation of federal, state, and local laws or school policies, rules, and regulations.

LSC reserves the right to develop reasonable rules related to speech and expression in order to maintain order and decorum in support of LSC's educational mission. LSC employees and students have the responsibility to observe such reasonable rules regarding these rights.

In enforcing LSC's policies, rules, and regulations, LSC administrators and employees shall enforce such provisions equally and consistently.

Board Review: 5/7/21

Board Approved: 5/10/21