

# Williamson County Board of Education



**Adopted Date:**  
1/8/79  
Reviewed 4/16/01

5.600

ACADEMIC FREEDOM

1 Academic freedom may be defined as the right of a qualified scholar to pursue the search for truth  
2 in its many forms and to make public the methods and findings. It is the right of a qualified teacher  
3 to encourage freedom of discussion and controversial questions in the classroom and to develop in  
4 the students a love of knowledge and a desire to search for truth. The teachers should keep in  
5 mind that academic freedom is not a political right guaranteed in the Constitution, but rather a  
6 necessary condition for the successful practice of the academic profession in a free society.  
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9 It is recognized that the application of the principle of academic freedom at the school level involves  
10 consideration which is not equally present in college or university. The teachers should take into  
11 account the relative immaturity of their students and the need for guidance and help in studying the  
12 issues and arriving at balanced views.  
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