

## 2021 Tennessee Code

### Title 49 - Education

#### Chapter 5 - Personnel

#### Part 2 - Teachers' Rights and Duties Generally

#### § 49-5-209. Educator's Bill of Rights

Universal Citation: [TN Code § 49-5-209 \(2021\)](#)

1. For purposes of this section, “educator” means any teacher, principal, supervisor, or other individual required by law to hold a valid license of qualification for employment in the public schools of this state.
2.
  - An educator has the right to:
    1. Be treated with civility and respect;
    2. Have his or her professional judgment and discretion respected;
    3. Report any errant, offensive, or abusive content or behavior of students to school officials or appropriate agencies;
    4. Provide students with a classroom and school in which the educators, students, the property of the educator and students, and peers will be safe;
    5. Defend themselves and their students from physical violence or physical harm pursuant to § 49-6-4008;
    6. Share information regarding a student's educational experience, health, or safety with the student's parent or legal guardian unless otherwise prohibited by state law or the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g);
    7. Review all instructional material or curriculum prior to those materials being utilized for instruction of students; and
    8. Not be required to use their personal money to appropriately equip a classroom.