Student Bill of Rights

POLICY: Student Bill of Rights			
POLICY NUMBER:	700.04.01	**CUSTODIAN:**	Academic Dean
APV'D DATE:	8/11/2020		
EFFECTIVE DATE:	8/11/2020	**REVIEW DATE:**	August 2020
REFERENCES: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Policy, Student Records Policy, Academic Freedom Policy			

Part 1. Policy Background and Purpose

The students attending White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) are accorded rights such as civil, constitutional, contractual and consumer, which allows them to make use of their educational investment.

Part 2. Definitions

The term 'student' in this Section means an eligible student under FERPA.

Part 3. Responsibility

The Associate Dean of Student Services and Academic Dean are responsible to advocate for student's rights and uphold the regulations to protect student information.

Part 4. Policy

Subpart A. Freedom of Access to Higher Education

WETCC makes clear in the approved policies and Student Handbook its expectations regarding the characteristics of students which it considers relevant to success in the college programs. No student is barred based on race, sex, creed, color, or national origin from WETCC. The academic facilities and services of WETCC are open to all enrolled students, subject to departmental limitations.

Subpart B. In the Classroom

Faculty in the classroom and in conference should encourage free discussion, inquiry, and expression. Student performance is to be evaluated solely on an academic basis, not on opinions or conduct in matters unrelated to academic standards.

1. Protection of Freedom of Expression - Students are free to take reasonable exception to the data or views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled.

2. Protection Against Improper Academic Evaluation - Students have protection against prejudiced or capricious academic evaluation. At the same time, they are responsible for maintaining standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled.

3. Protecting Against Improper Disclosure - Information about students' views, beliefs, and political associations which the professors acquire in the course of their work as instructors, advisors, and counselors is considered confidential. Protection against improper disclosure is a serious professional obligation. Judgment of ability and character may be provided under appropriate circumstances, normally with the knowledge of the student.

Subpart C. Grievance

Employees or students concerned about violations of a policy may request assistance from the office of Student Services, or an appropriate Cabinet Member. The grievance procedure shall be available for a person who wishes to file a complaint.

Subpart D. Rights

Students of WETCC are afforded the following rights:

- Access and Affordability – all students have the right to access an affordable and equitable education tailored to their individual needs that prepares them for life beyond WETCC.
- Civic Participation – all students have the right to engage with their community and expect the College to treat them with the rights of citizens.
- Influence Decisions – all students have the right to shape decisions impacting their future.
- Diversity and Inclusivity - All students have the right to learn in an environment that does not discriminate against them and reflects the variety of backgrounds in the student body.
- Due Process – All students have the right to understand existing rules in the College and the opportunity to address unfair treatment.
- Expression – All students have the right to express themselves within an educational context.
- Positive Environment – All students have the right to feel mentally, physically, and emotionally safe at WETCC.
- Assessment - All students have the right to academic evaluation solely based on academic achievement.