What A Learner's Bill of Rights is and is not © 1992 johnharrisloflin@yahoo.com

Objective: To preserve the child's integrity, self-worth, and innate curiosity.

Statement: Virtually all children are born with the motivation to learn. This is a characteristic of our species.

- **Problem**: The problem is defined as the inability of the child to retain and maintain the qualities of curiosity and motivation.
- **Solution**: To provide a form to address the needs of the child by enabling the child to develop the assertiveness necessary to desire the best and to require the best from those involved in the education process.

What is a Learner's Bill of Rights?

- Deals with learning and the processes involved with acquiring knowledge in a way so as to reduce anxiety and promote the joy and passion for learning.
- Tries to investigate the issues/factors involved motivation, joy, and passion.
- Attempts to address the student's relationship with "self", the teacher, and learning—how the student views learning, "self", and how the learner is viewed by the teacher/school.

What a Learner's Bill of Rights is not:

- Does not deal with student's responsibilities directly such as is done in a discipline code.
- Does not concern locker searches, arm bands, property rights, management and control by school staff, or general/ordinary rights of a student.

What are some of the possible issues/factors that relate to the joy and passion for learning?

Learning/Anxiety

- grades
- guessing/risking
- failing/succeeding
- making mistakes
- learning at one's own speed
- learning styles
- having more than one
- chance to succeed
- negative self-talk

Teacher/School

- having questions
- not understanding
- saying one doesn't understand
- questioning facts/ authority

- evaluating teachers
- understanding the grading process
- needing and getting extra help
- fair treatment
- having more than one chance to show learning

Student's Values

- accepting oneself
- being accepted
- being different
- having own opinions/ values
- having own expectations /limitations
- defining success in

own terms

- expecting others to view them as capable
- having innate ability to learn
- being born full of wonder, curiosity, and motivation
- grades and selfesteem
- personal identity
- thinking for oneself

Participation

 participation in the decisions/ responsibility for decisions that deal with one's education