

STUDENT RECORDS

In order to provide students with appropriate instruction and educational services, it is necessary for the District to maintain extensive educational and personal information. It is essential that pertinent information in these records be readily available to appropriate school personnel, be accessible to the student's parent(s) or the student in compliance with law, and yet be guarded as confidential information.

The Superintendent is responsible for the proper administration of student records in keeping with State law and federal requirements and the procedures for the collection of necessary information about individual students throughout the District.

Upon request, all records and files included in the student's cumulative file are available to parent(s) or the student (if he/she is over 18 years of age). This request must be in writing and is granted within seven calendar days. No records are to be removed from the school. A principal, teacher or other qualified school personnel must be present to explain any of the tests or other material.

All rights and protections given to parents under law and this policy transfer to the student when he/she reaches age 18 or enrolls in a postsecondary school. The student then becomes an "eligible student."

The District uses reasonable methods to identify and authenticate the identity of parents, students, school officials and any other parties to whom the agency or institution discloses personally identifiable information from education records.

The District provides notice to parents and eligible students annually, in accordance with the procedures set forth under administrative regulations, of the rights held by parents and eligible students under law and this policy. It is the intent of the District to limit the disclosure of information contained in the student's education records except:

1. by prior written consent;
2. as directory information and
3. under other limited circumstances, as enumerated under administrative regulations.

The following rights exist:

1. the right to inspect and review the student's education records;
2. the right, in accordance with administrative regulations, to seek to correct parts of the student's education records, including the right to a hearing if the school authority decides not to alter the records according to the parent(s)' or eligible student's request;
3. the right of any person to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education if the District violates relevant Federal law, specifically the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and
4. the right to acquire information concerning the procedure which the parent(s) or eligible student should follow to obtain copies of this policy, the locations from which these copies may be obtained, as well as any fees to be charged for such copies. *
(See administrative regulations.)

The District proposes to designate the following personally identifiable information contained in a student's education records as "directory information."

1. student's name
2. student's address
3. telephone number(s)
4. student's date and place of birth
5. participation in officially recognized activities and sports
6. student's achievement awards or honors
7. student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team
8. major field of study
9. dates of attendance ("from and to" dates of enrollment)
10. date of graduation

The above information is disclosed without prior written permission, except when the request is for a profit-making plan or activity. Student records that consist of "personally identifiable information" generally are exempt from disclosure. Student directory information, however, is released unless the parents have affirmatively withdrawn their consent to release in writing.

Administrative regulations set forth a procedure for annual notification to parents and eligible students of the District's definition of directory information. Parents or eligible students then have two weeks in which to advise the District, in accordance with such regulations, of any or all items which they refuse to permit as directory information about that student.

To carry out their responsibilities, school officials have access to student education records for legitimate educational purposes. The District uses the criteria set forth under administrative regulations to determine who are "school officials" and what constitutes "legitimate educational interests."

Other than requests as described above, school officials release information from, or permit access to, a student's education records only with the prior written consent of a parent or eligible student, except that the Superintendent or a person designated in writing by the Superintendent may permit disclosure in certain limited circumstances outlined under administrative regulations (e.g., transfers to another school district or to comply with judicial order or subpoena or, where warranted, in a health or safety emergency, etc.).

The District maintains, in accordance with administrative regulations, an accurate record of all requests to disclose information from, or to permit access to, a student's education records and of information disclosed and access permitted.