

ANNUAL FERPA NOTIFICATION

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students certain rights with respect to educational records.

DISCLOSURE OF RECORDS

Student records shall be made available for inspection and review to the parent(s) of a student or to an eligible student on request. Eligible students are those 18 years of age or older or those duly enrolled in a post-secondary school program. In general, FERPA rights pass to the eligible student upon either of those events. Parents may be provided access to the educational records of an eligible student 18 years old or older if the student is dependent under federal tax laws.¹

Upon written request, parents or eligible students may be provided copies of their educational records, including those maintained in electronic format, when necessary to reasonably permit inspection. Such copies shall be provided in a manner that protects the confidentiality of other students. A reasonable fee may be charged for copies.

District personnel must use reasonable methods to identify and authenticate the identity of parents, students, school officials, and any other parties to whom the District discloses personally identifiable information from education records.

In addition, considering the totality of the circumstances, the District may disclose information from education records to appropriate parties, including parents of eligible students, whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of a student or another individual, if there is an actual, impending, or imminent articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individual. In such instances, the basis for a decision that a health or safety emergency existed shall be recorded in the student's education records.

Authorized District personnel also may disclose personally identifiable information to the following without written parental consent:

- Officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled, so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer;
- Authorized representatives of a Kentucky state child welfare agency if such agency presents to the District an official court order placing the student whose records are requested under the care and protection of said agency. The state welfare agency representative receiving such records must be authorized to access the child's case plan.
- School officials (such as teachers, instructional aides, administrators) and other service providers (such as contractors, consultants, and volunteers used by the District to perform institutional services and functions) having a legitimate educational interest in the information.

District and school officials/staff may only access student record information in which they have a legitimate educational interest.

Contractors, consultants, volunteers, and other parties to whom the District has outsourced services or functions may access student records provided they are:

- Under the District's direct control with respect to the use and maintenance of education records; and
- Prohibited from disclosing the information to any other party without the prior written consent of the parent/eligible student, or as otherwise authorized by law.

DISCLOSURE TO REPRESENTATIVES FOR FEDERAL OR STATE PROGRAM PURPOSES

Personally identifiable student information may be released to those other than employees who are designated by the Superintendent in connection with audit, evaluation, enforcement, or compliance activities regarding Federal or State programs. Such designation must be executed in writing with the authorized representative and specify information as required by 34 C.F.R. Part 99.35.

DUTY TO REPORT

If it is determined that the District cannot comply with any part of FERPA or its implementing regulations due to a conflict with state or local law, the District must notify the Family Policy Compliance Office (FPCO) within forty-five (45) days of the determination and provide the text and citation of the conflicting law.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Superintendent/designee is authorized to release Board-approved student directory information. Approved "directory information" shall be: name, address, phone number, date and place of birth, student's school email address, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, photograph/picture, grade level, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees, honors and awards received, and most recent educational institution attended. Any eligible student or parent/guardian who does not wish to have directory information released shall notify the Superintendent/designee in writing within thirty (30) calendar days after receiving notification of FERPA rights.

The District allows for disclosure of directory information only to specific parties for specific purposes. Such limitations are specified in the student directory information notification.

Unless the parent/guardian or secondary school student requests in writing that the District not release such information, the student's name, address, and telephone number (if listed) shall be released to Armed Forces recruiters upon their request.

SURVEYS OF PROTECTED INFORMATION

Parents/eligible students shall be notified of and given opportunity to opt their child(ren) out of participation in any protected information survey, analysis, or evaluation, if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education and/or as follows:

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the

immediate health and safety of a student, except for any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and

3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

Parents/eligible students may inspect, upon written request and prior to administration or use, materials or instruments used for the collection, disclosure, or use of protected information.

PPRA requirements do not apply to evaluations administered to students in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA).

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The District's special education policy and procedures manual shall include information concerning records of students with disabilities.

RECORDS RELEASE TO JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Once a complaint is filed with a court-designated worker alleging that a child has committed a status offense or public offense, schools shall provide all records specifically requested in writing, and pertaining to that child to any agency that is listed as part of Kentucky's juvenile justice system in [KRS 17.125](#) if the purpose of the release is to provide the juvenile justice system with the ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the needs of the student whose records are sought. The authorities to which the data are released shall certify that any educational records obtained pursuant to this section shall only be released to persons authorized by statute and shall not be released to any other person without the written consent of the parent of the child. The request, certification, and a record of the release shall be maintained in the student's file.

JUVENILE COURT RECORDS

Records or information received on youthful or violent offenders shall not be disclosed except as permitted by law. When such information is received, the Superintendent shall notify the Principal of the school in which the child is enrolled. The Principal shall then release the information as permitted by law. Only the Superintendent and school administrative, transportation, and counseling personnel or teachers or other school employees with whom the student may come in contact, shall be privy to this information, which shall be kept in a locked file when not in use and opened only with permission of the administrator. Notification in writing of the nature of offenses committed by the student and any probation requirements shall not become a part of the child's student record.²

RECORDS OF MISSING CHILDREN

Upon notification by the Commissioner of Education of a child's disappearance, the District in which the child is currently or was previously enrolled shall flag the record of such child in a manner that whenever a copy of or information regarding the child's record is requested, the District shall be alerted to the fact that the record is that of a missing child. Instead of forwarding the records of a child who has been reported missing to the agency, institution, or individual making the request, the District shall notify the Justice Cabinet.

COURT ORDER/SUBPOENA

Prior to complying with a lawfully issued court order or subpoena requiring disclosure of personally identifiable student information, school authorities shall make a documented effort to notify the parent or eligible student. In compliance with FERPA, notice to the parent is not required when a court order directs that disclosure be made without notification of the student or parent, or when the order is issued in the context of a dependency, neglect, or abuse proceeding in which the parent is a party. If the District receives such orders, the matter(s) may be referred to local counsel for advice.