

Notice of Parent/Student Rights

On behalf of Thornton Academy's sending public school districts, Thornton Academy is providing notice of the procedural safeguards afforded pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act ("Section 504") to parents and their publicly funded children who are identified as individuals with disabilities, or determined not to have a disability under Section 504. The school district is obligated to inform parents of decisions about their child and of their rights if they disagree with any of those decisions.

Parents and students have the following rights:

- 1. To have their child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of their disability;
- 2. To have the school/district advise them of parents' rights under federal law;
- 3. To receive notice from the school/district with respect to the identification, evaluation, educational program, or placement of their child;
- 4. To have their child receive a free appropriate public education according to the Department of Education's 504 Regulations. This includes the right to be educated with students without disabilities to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to regular or special education and related aids and services (also referred to as 504 Accommodations) necessary for the child to benefit from their educational program;
- 5. To have their child educated in comparable facilities and receive comparable services to those provided to students without disabilities;
- 6. To have decisions regarding their child's evaluation, program, and placement based upon a variety of information sources, and made by persons familiar with the student, the evaluation data, and the placement options;
- 7. To have their child re-evaluated periodically and before any significant changes are made to their child's educational program or placement;



- 8. To have their child receive an equal opportunity to participate in non-academic and extra-curricular services and activities;
- 9. To examine all relevant educational records relating to decisions regarding their child's identification, evaluation, educational program, and placement;
- 10. To file a complaint through the school district's local grievance procedures regarding any alleged violation of Section 504;
- 11. To request an impartial hearing to dispute decisions or actions regarding the child's identification, evaluation, educational program, or placement as a student with a disability. Parent(s) and child may take part in the hearing and have an attorney represent them at their own expense;

Questions about how to request a hearing with the public school district may be forwarded to Thornton Academy's 504 Coordinator, whose name and contact information are updated annually and listed below; and

12. To have the decisions made by hearing officers or others reviewed in state or federal court.

504 Coordinators

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