

ANNUAL NOTICES

PROJECT "Child Find"

The Elida Local School District's Special Education Officer is the "Child Find" coordinator for Elida Local Schools. "Child Find" is an annual search to identify and evaluate all district children, birth through 21, who may not be receiving appropriate educational opportunities. Children who have suspected difficulties in motor skills, communication skills, cognitive areas or social/emotional functioning, are, upon request, eligible for evaluation and possible services regardless of their special education needs. Persons who are aware of a child in the district fits the criteria for a needs evaluation may contact the Special Education Officer, 401 E. North St., Elida, OH 45807 or call 419-331-4115. It is the philosophy of the Elida Local School District to ensure that every child, regardless of their special needs, develops to their fullest potential.

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) prohibits employers and other entities covered by GINA Title II from requesting or requiring genetic information of employees or their family members. In order to comply with this law, the District will direct employees not to provide any genetic information in response to requests for medical information, including but not limited to FMLA medical certification or recertification. "Genetic information," as defined by GINA, includes an individual's family medical history, the results of an individual's or family member's genetic tests, the fact that an individual or an individual's family member sought or received genetic services, and genetic information of a fetus carried by an individual or an individual's family member or an embryo lawfully held by an individual or family member receiving assistive reproductive services.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (A.D.A)

The Elida Board of Education welcomes and encourages any and all comments from individuals interested in the Americans With Disabilities Act (A.D.A) The A.D.A. contains Title I-Employment, Title II-Public Services, and Title III-Public Accommodations. Please contact Maureen Rentz, Special Education Officer, 401 E. North St., Elida, OH 45807 or at 419-331-4115.

BULLYING AND OTHER FORMS OF AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. The Board of Education will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property or while enroute to or from school, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as

field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, in a school vehicle, or where an employee is engaged in school business.

Board policies and procedures can be found in their entirety online at <http://www.neola.com/elida-oh/>

EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

All students of the District have equal educational opportunities. Students have the right to be free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, citizenship status, religion, sex, economic status, marital status, pregnancy, age, disability, genetic information or military status in all decisions affecting admissions; membership in school-sponsored organizations, clubs or activities; access to facilities; distribution of funds; academic evaluations or any other aspects of school-sponsored activities. Any limitations with regard to participation in a school-sponsored activity are based on criteria reasonably related to that specific activity.

Any person who believes that s/he has been discriminated against on the basis of his/her race, color, disability, religion, gender, or national origin while at school or a school activity should immediately contact the School District's Compliance Officer(s): Special Education Officer, Elida Local Schools, 401 E. North St., Elida, OH, 419-331-4115.

Complaints will be investigated in accordance with the procedures described in Student/Parent Handbooks. Any student making a complaint or participating in a school investigation will be protected from retaliation. The Compliance Officer(s) can provide additional information concerning equal access to educational opportunity.

Individuals may also, at any time, contact the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, Cleveland Office, 600 Superior Avenue East, Suite 750, Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2611; Telephone: (216) 522-4970; Fax: (216) 522-2573; TDD: (216) 522-4944; E-mail: ocr.cleveland@ed.gov ; Web: <http://www.ed.gov/ocr>.

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (IDEA) NOTICE

The Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) established funds for which school districts may apply. The funds generated through these grant awards must be utilized in the education of children with disabilities. If you have any comments, questions, or would like additional information regarding these funds, you may submit them in writing to the Special Education Officer, 401 E. North St., Elida, OH 45807.

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate. Parents or eligible students may ask the District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate. They should write the Director of Pupil Services clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate. If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to District officials with legitimate educational interests. A District official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the District Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another District official in performing his or her tasks.

A District official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another District in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-5901

Student records shall be available only to students and their parents, eligible students, designated school officials, and designated school personnel, who have a legitimate educational interest in the information, or to other individuals or organizations as permitted by law. Both parents shall have equal access to student records unless stipulated otherwise by court order or law. In the case of eligible students, parents may be allowed access to the records without the student's consent, provided the student is considered a dependent under section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code. Only "directory information" regarding a student shall be released to any person or party, other than the student or his/her parent, without the written consent of the parent, or, if the student is an eligible student, without the written consent of the student, except to those persons or parties stipulated by the Board's policy and administrative guidelines and/or those specified in the law.

Each year the District provides public notice to students and their parents of the District's intent to make available, upon request, certain information known as "directory information." The Board designates as student "directory information":

a student's name; address; telephone number; date and place of birth; major field of study; participation in officially-recognized activities and sports; height and weight, if a member of an athletic team; dates of attendance; date of graduation; or awards received.

For information about parent and student rights to inspect, review and request amendments to educational records, or if parents/students believe their rights under Federal law have been violated, please contact the Special Education Officer, 401 E. North St., Elida, OH 45807 or at 419-331-4155.

REPORT FRAUD

Ohio Fraud Reporting System provides citizens and public employees with several ways to anonymously report allegations of fraud, abuse or misuse of taxpayer funds.

Individuals can:

1. Anonymously call the Auditor of State's Fraud Hotline at 866-FRAUD-OH (866.372.8364)
2. Complete an online complaint form at
<http://www.auditor.state.oh.us/fraudcenter/default.htm#>
3. Submit a written complaint via the U.S. mail to:

Ohio Auditor of State's Office
Special Investigations Unit
88 East Broad Street, P.O. Box 1140
Columbus , OH 43215

Ohio Ethics Law and Related Statutes

ethics.ohio.gov/education/factsheets/ethicslaw.pdf

PESTICIDE/HERBICIDE USE

In accordance with Assembly Bill 2260, school districts are required to notify parents regarding the types of pesticides/herbicides that may be using in the maintenance of the school sites. Parents may register with their school site if they wish to be notified when a pesticide/herbicide will be used. You may also request the list provided by the District's Maintenance & Operations Department. Should you have questions, please contact M&O Department at 419-331-4155.

The Elida Local School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, economic status, disability, genetic information, or military status in its dealings with employees, students, the general public, individuals with whom it does business, applicants for employment, or in its educational programs and activities