

Student Records

Data and information about students shall be gathered to provide a sound basis for educational decisions and to enable preparation of necessary reports.

PROCEDURE TO BE ESTABLISHED

The Superintendent shall establish procedures to promote effective notification of parents and eligible students of their rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and to ensure District compliance with applicable state and federal student record requirements.

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. Legal separation or divorce alone does not terminate a parent's record access rights. 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, including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) 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.

Student Records

DISCLOSURE OF RECORDS (CONTINUED)

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.

Information about the living situation of a student designated as homeless is not to be treated as directory information and is not to be disclosed unless prior written consent is given or unless the information meets one of FERPA's exceptions to required consent. The living situation is not considered directory information.

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 student who has reached age 18 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 and institutions of higher education upon their request.

Student Records

SURVEYS OF PROTECTED INFORMATION

The District shall provide direct notice to parents/guardian to obtain prior written consent for their minor child(ren) to participate 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.

Parents/eligible students also shall be notified of and given opportunity to opt their child(ren) out of participation in the following activities:

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.

Student Records**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.

REFERENCES:

¹Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986

²KRS 158.153; KRS 610.320; KRS 610.340; KRS 610.345

KRS 7.110; KRS 15A.067; KRS 17.125; KRS 158.032; KRS 159.160; KRS 159.250

KRS 160.990; KRS 161.200; KRS 161.210; KRS 365.732; KRS 365.734; KRS 600.070

702 KAR 1:140; 702 KAR 3:220

20 U.S.C. 1232g et seq., 34 C.F.R. 99.1 - 99.67

20 U.S.C. 1232h (Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment); 34 C.F.R. 98

OAG 80-33; OAG 85-130; OAG 85-140; OAG 86-2; OAG 93-35

Kentucky Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (KRS 160.700; KRS 160.705

KRS 160.710; KRS 160.715; KRS 160.720; KRS 160.725; KRS 160.730)

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004

Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS)

P. L. 114-95, (Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015)

42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq. (McKinney-Vento Act)

RELATED POLICIES:

09.111; 09.12311; 09.43

Adopted/Amended: 8/10/2017

Order #: 6B

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Definitions

Although this listing is not intended to take the place of the complete FERPA law and regulations, the following definitions shall apply when implementing Policy 09.14 and the procedures that follow.

EDUCATION RECORDS – Refers to records directly related to a student that are maintained by the District or by a party acting for the District.

A “record” shall include any information recorded in any way, including, but not limited to, handwriting, print, computer media, video or audiotape, film, microfilm, and microfiche. Student records shall include disciplinary records with regard to suspension and expulsion.

Staff should refer to federal regulations for examples of documents that are not considered education records.

PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION – Includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Student’s name;
2. Name of the student’s parent or other family member;
3. Address of the student or student’s family;
4. Any personal identifier, such as the student’s social security or student number;
5. Personal characteristics that would make the student’s identity easily traceable, including biometric records (measurable biological or behavioral characteristics that can be used for automated recognition of an individual, such as fingerprints, retina and iris patterns, voiceprints, DNA sequence, facial characteristics, and handwriting); or
6. Other information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student with reasonable certainty.

NOTE: Unless the parent/guardian or student who has reached age 18, requests in writing that the District not release information, the student’s name, address, and telephone number (if listed) shall be released to Armed Forces recruiters and institutions of higher education upon their request.

STUDENT - Except as otherwise specifically designated by law, “student” shall mean any individual who is or has been in attendance in the District and for whom the District maintains education records.

ATTENDANCE – District “attendance” includes, but is not limited to, attendance in person or by paper correspondence, videoconference, satellite, Internet, or other electronic information and telecommunication technologies for students who are not physically present in the classroom; and the period during which a person is working under a work-study program.

DISCLOSURE - Refers to permitting access to, or release or transfer of, personally identifiable information contained in a student’s education record to any party, except the party identified as the provider or creator of the record, by any means, including oral, written, or electronic.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Definitions

EDUCATION PROGRAM - Programs principally engaged in the provision of education, including, but not limited to, early childhood education, elementary and secondary education, postsecondary education, special education, job training, career and technical education and adult education, and any program that is administered by an educational agency or institution.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM - A Head Start program, a state licensed or regulated child care program, or a program that serves children from birth through age six (6) that addresses the children's cognitive, social, emotional and physical development and is a (a) state prekindergarten program; (b) a program authorized under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; or (c) a program operated by a local education agency.

REFERENCES:

34 C.F.R. Part 99, 20 U.S.C. 1232g
P. L. 114-95, (Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015)

Review/Revised:6/16/2016

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

The following rules and procedures shall be complied with relative to disclosure of student records:

1. The District shall annually notify parents of students currently in attendance, or eligible students currently in attendance, of their rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The notification also shall be furnished to parents of all new students and to all new eligible students by the Principal at the time of enrollment.

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

Subject to federal opt-out rights, directory information shall be made available to Armed Forces recruiters on the same basis as it is provided to the public.

3. Parents or eligible students who wish to review educational records may make a request on the appropriate form. Forms are available at the school and in the Central Office. Access shall be provided within a reasonable time frame, not to exceed forty-five (45) calendar days of District receipt of the request. Because, a shorter timeline is required in certain situations involving IDEA students, staff shall adhere to the District's special education procedures for responding to such requests.

If circumstances effectively prevent a parent or eligible student from exercising inspection rights, copies of the requested records shall be provided within the above stated time frame.

Until any questions are resolved, no student record held by the District shall be discarded when the record is under an outstanding request to inspect or review.

4. School authorities shall make a documented effort to notify the parent or eligible student prior to complying with a court order or subpoena that directs the disclosure of information concerning the student. In compliance with FERPA, notice to the parent is not required when a court order directs that the parent/eligible student is not to be notified, or when the order is issued in the context of a dependency, neglect, or abuse proceeding in which the parent is a party.

As noted in the District's annual FERPA notice, parent consent/notification is not required to release student records to another school district or post-secondary institution in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled.

5. The District shall disclose personally identifiable student information to an organization designated to conduct a study for or on behalf of the District only when a written agreement has been established with the organization. Such disclosure does not require parent/eligible student consent.
6. The parent or eligible student must sign a request and consent form before a student's records are to be transferred to an agency or individual not authorized under law to receive them.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

7. A log shall be maintained of student records requests and disclosures, including emergency disclosures in response to an actual, impending, or imminent articulable and significant health/safety threat. The log requirement does not apply to the following:
 - a. Disclosures made to parents or eligible students,
 - b. Records released pursuant to written consent,
 - c. Access by school officials and others having a legitimate educational interest under FERPA,
 - d. Disclosure to a party with written consent from a parent or eligible student,
 - e. Disclosures of directory information, or
 - f. Disclosures of records made pursuant to a subpoena or court order where a court order or other law provides that the parent or student are not to be notified.
8. A challenge to the records may take the form of an informal discussion among the parents, student, and school officials. Any agreement between these parties shall be reduced in writing, signed by all parties, and placed in the student's records.
9. Upon request, the Superintendent/designee shall, arrange for a record amendment hearing in compliance with 702 KAR 1:140.

RELATED PROCEDURES:

All 09.14 procedures

Review/Revised: 6/17/14

Notification of FERPA Rights

Distribute this notice annually to parents and students.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and “eligible students” (students 18 years of age or older or students who are attending a postsecondary institution) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records. They are:

1. ***The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within forty-five (45) days of the day the District receives a request for access.***

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school Principal/designee 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 record(s) may be inspected.

2. ***The right to inspect and review logs documenting disclosures of the student’s education records.***

Except for disclosure to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosure to the parent or eligible student, FERPA regulations require the District to record the disclosure.

3. ***The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student’s privacy or other rights.***

Parents or eligible students may ask the District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of privacy or other rights. They should write the school Principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of their privacy or other rights.

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 him/her of the 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.

4. ***The right to provide written consent prior to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.***

Exceptions that permit disclosure without consent include:

- a. Disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A “school 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 school Board; a volunteer, or an outside 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 school official in performing his/her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his/her professional responsibility to the District.

This may include contractors, consultants, volunteers, and other parties to whom the District has outsourced services or functions.

Notification of FERPA Rights

- b. Upon request, disclosure of education records without parent/eligible student notice or consent to officials of another school district or post-secondary institution in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled or to other entities authorized by law so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer.
- c. Disclosure of information to those whose knowledge of such information is necessary to respond to an actual, impending, or imminent articulable and significant health/safety threat.
- d. Disclosure to state and local educational authorities and accrediting organizations, subject to requirements of FERPA regulations.

Designated Kentucky State agencies may be permitted access to student record information, which will depend on the authority granted to their particular agency.

5. ***The right to notify the District in writing to withhold information the Board has designated as directory information as listed in the annual directory information notice the District provides to parents/eligible students.***

To exercise this right, parents/eligible students shall notify the District by the deadline designated by the District.

6. ***The right to prohibit the disclosure of personally identifiable information concerning the student to recruiting representatives of the U. S. Armed Forces and its service academies, the Kentucky Air National Guard, and the Kentucky Army National Guard.***

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

7. ***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 is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

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