



FREEHOLD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT **FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA) AND** **DIRECTORY NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS**

Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA) Notification of Rights

FERPA affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights, which are also provided in Board of Education Policy/Regulation Pupil Records #8330, are:

- A. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the Freehold Regional High School District ("District") receives a request for access.
 - Parents or eligible students should submit to the superintendent or his/her designee, a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The superintendent or his/her designee will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- B. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.
 - Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the district to amend a record should write the superintendent or his/or designee and clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. 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 of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures is provided in Board Regulation #8330 and will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- C. The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information ("PII") from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.
 - For example one exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs an institutional service of function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. The Freehold Regional High School District may disclose without prior consent any and all educational records – including, but not limited to, disciplinary records related to breaches of academic integrity where the integrity of the District school is compromised and/or results in a significant change to a candidate's academic status or qualifications – to officials of another school, school system and/or post-secondary education institution or agency where a student seeks or intends to enroll for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer.



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- D. 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 as follows:

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

FERPA Notice for Directory Information

FERPA requires that the district, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, the district may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the district to the contrary in accordance with district procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the district to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production
- annual yearbook
- honor roll or other recognition lists
- **graduation programs, rosters, and related publications**
- sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies ("LEAs") receiving assistance under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* ("ESEA") to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information – names, addresses, and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.¹ For FERPA purposes, FRHSD has designated the following as "personally identifiable directory information":

- student's name, address, and hometown
- participation in school sponsored activities and sports
- weight and height of members of athletic teams
- telephone listing
- degrees, honors, awards received and photograph
- the most recent educational agency or institution attended
- major field of study
- date and place of birth

¹ These laws are: Section 9528 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 7908) and 10 U.S.C. § 503(c).

Note: These guidelines have been established in accordance with regulations specified by the U.S. Department of Education's Family Policy Compliance Office.