

## ADMINISTRATION

**Deborah McBride Heppes**  
Chief Operating Officer

**Kerri B. Stroka**  
Deputy Superintendent

**Mark P. Coleman**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Finance and Management Services

**Thomas M. Bongiovi**  
District Superintendent



## BOARD MEMBERS

**Eugenia S. Pavsek**, President  
**William M. Boss**, Vice-President

**Michael Bello**  
**Lawrence E. Berger**  
**Martha Bogart**  
**David Eaton**  
**Edwin A. Estrada**

**Sharleen Depew**  
Clerk of the Board

## Division of Special Education

James Higgins, Ed. D.  
**Director**  
845-291-0200  
ext. 10210

Keith Sullivan  
**Assistant Director**  
845-291-0200  
ext. 10220

**Principals**  
Susan DeGeorge  
Barbara Gasperetti  
Meghan Gildea  
Jennifer Lepore  
Jodie Maassen  
Kelley O'Neill  
Pilar Rocha

**Assistant  
Principals**  
Suzanne Arrington  
Cynthia Brescia  
Marissa Carlton  
Lauren Miller

**Transition  
Coordinator**  
Veronique Dietrich

## PARENTAL NOTIFICATION REGARDING THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Dear Parent or Guardian:

*The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)*, a Federal law, requires that Orange-Ulster BOCES, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Orange-Ulster BOCES may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised Orange-Ulster BOCES to the contrary. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Orange-Ulster BOCES to include information from your child's education records in certain school publications.

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, as amended (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. **[Note: These laws are Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. § 7908) and 10 U.S.C. § 503(c).]**

If you do not want Orange-Ulster BOCES to disclose any or all of the types of information designated below as directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the Orange-Ulster BOCES in writing by September 15, 2023. Orange-Ulster BOCES has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Student's address
- Student's telephone listing
- Date and place of birth
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized sports and activities
- Weight and height (for members of athletic teams)
- Dates of attendance
- Honors, degrees and awards received

(over)

- Email address
- Name of educational institution previously attended
- Student ID number, user ID or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a PIN, password or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.

Please feel free to contact my office at any time if you have questions about this procedure. We very much appreciate your continued support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

*James Higgins*

James Higgins, Ed.D.  
Director of Special Education