

SUBJECT: PERSONNEL COOPERATION WITH LAW GUARDIANS

It shall be the policy of the Belfast Central School District that a cooperative effort shall be maintained between District personnel and a court appointed official, such as a law guardian on matters relating to a child's welfare.

A law guardian who wishes to speak with District personnel concerning a student who is currently or was previously enrolled in the Belfast Central School District must seek permission from the building principal. The law guardian must indicate the reason for the visit, the personnel to be interviewed, and the time involved for the visit. The building principal will inform the student's parents as to this request and, unless an objection is raised, the law guardian will be permitted to speak with the designated personnel at a mutually convenient time and at a District location/room with appropriate privacy. If the parent does not object, written parental consent must be secured for such interview/discussion of student records prior to the interview.

Should either or both parents object to the law guardian's visit, the law guardian will be so informed and access to the District personnel on school grounds will not be permitted unless and until resolution/parental permission is received.

This policy is being implemented to comply with the requirements of FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) in assuring that confidential student records and other personal information about the student are not disclosed without appropriate authorization. Court orders for release of student records and/or requests to interview a student and/or District personnel regarding a student will be reviewed by the School Attorney for compliance with applicable laws prior to District compliance.