

Relations with Non-custodial Parents

Access to Students

The parent with whom the student primarily resides shall be recognized by the district as the custodial parent unless a current legal document or signed parental agreement indicates otherwise. Unless there are specific court-imposed restrictions on custody or visitation, such as: 1.) a final divorce decree; 2.) interim orders (in the case that the parents are separated); or 3.) a restraining order, the non-custodial parent, upon written request may visit the child briefly at school. If restrictions are made relative to these rights, the custodial parent will be required to submit a certified copy of all relevant court orders, to the superintendent, which curtails these specific rights.

While both parents, absent a court document described above can visit the student at school, only the custodial parent has the right to remove the student from school property. Only a verified note from the custodial parent will be cause for exception to this provision. If school personnel anticipate a possible student abduction, law enforcement personnel are to be notified immediately.

Access to Student Records

The custodial parent has the responsibility to keep the school office informed as to the address of the student's primary residence, in a manner determined by the school, and how he/she may be contacted at all times. The school district reserves the right to request verification in the form of a certified court document from any party presenting legal documents.

Therefore, upon written request to their child's school principal, the school will subsequently and routinely mail to that parent copies of all school information which is normally sent home with the child. This will include mailings of copies of report cards, and class and school newsletters during the school year in which the request is made. Non-custodial parents and parents with shared custody not normally receiving materials from the school may annually request this service.

Parents, restricted by court order, will not be given access to school information regarding their child. Challenges to a parent's access to information will be referred to and investigated by the Superintendent. Individuals initiating challenges must provide documentation regarding court orders prohibiting access to information.

Legal Reference: Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974
 Department of Education 34 C.F.R. Part 99 (May 9, 1980 45FR 30802)
 regs. Implementing
 FERPA enacted as part of 438 of General Education Provisions Act (20
 U.S.C. 1232G) – parent and student privacy and other rights with respect
 to educational records

Policy History:

Adopted on: March 12, 2008

Revised on: