

February 27, 2026

Dear Cheltenham Families,

I am writing to address recent concerns raised in the news media regarding reported connections between Lifetouch, the photography company who takes our K-8 student portraits, and the former CEO of a parent company, financier Leon Black.

In light of these reports, the district is exploring all options for future student portrait services. In the interim, LifeTouch will take our K-8 photos this spring. As parents/guardians, you are able to opt your child(ren) out of photos by speaking with your building principal. Additionally, you can get information regarding how to request that LifeTouch delete your child(ren)'s images by visiting <https://schools.lifetouch.com/lifetouch-faq/>. As always, the safety, privacy, and well-being of our students remain a top priority.

We understand that media reports such as these about business associations involving prominent individuals can raise questions for families and staff. Lifetouch has issued a [public statement](#) clarifying that it has no operational relationship with Black and that he has no involvement in the company's day-to-day operations or school photography services. The company stated that it operates independently under its current corporate structure and leadership. Lifetouch further emphasized its commitment to student privacy protections, strict data security practices, and comprehensive employee background screening procedures.

At this time, there is no indication of any impact on student safety, district operations, or the services provided in our schools. Nevertheless, we are conducting appropriate due diligence consistent with policies.

We recognize that families may have questions, and we are committed to transparency. We will continue to monitor this situation and provide updates if new, relevant information emerges. If you have specific concerns, please contact your school principal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian W. Scriven
Superintendent of Schools