English

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Annual Notice of Student Education Record Privacy

Vaughn School District 74

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
Annual Notice of Student Education Record Privacy

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive federal funds.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their child's education records. When a student reaches the age of 18 or attends a post-secondary school or college, the parent's rights transfer to the student. At that time the student is an "eligible student" under the law.

Under FERPA, parents and eligible students have the following rights:

1. You have the right to examine and review the student's education records kept by the school. The school must allow this within 45 days of receiving a written request. The request should identify the record(s) to be examined. The school is not required to provide copies of records and may charge a fee if copies are requested. The following staff person may be contacted to request access to your child's record:

   Name of Staff: Kristi Kasuske Phone: 406 965 2231

   Email: kkasuske@vaughnschool.com

   You will be notified of the place and time the record(s) may be available for review.

2. You have the right to request that the school correct records believed to be inaccurate or misleading. The request must be in writing and clearly specify: (a) the part of the record that you are requesting be changed, and (b) why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to change the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to a hearing. A hearing is like a legal trial where evidence is reviewed to determine what should be done. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to change the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement in the record about the contested information. The school is not required to consider requests for grade or disciplinary decisions, opinions of school officials in the education record, or the child's special education determination. The following staff person may be contacted to request a change to your child's record:

   Name of Staff: Kristi Kasuske Phone: 406 965 2231

   Email: kkasuske@vaughnschool.com

3. You have the right to control the release of your child's personally identifiable information from his or her education record. The school or district must, with certain exceptions, obtain parent written consent prior to the release of personally identifiable information from education records. The exception is that release of personally identifiable information without consent is allowable when it is released to authorized representatives of the school district with legitimate educational interests. This would be to:
   a. a person employed by the district;
   b. a person serving on the school board;
   c. a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, or therapist);
   d. a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a grievance (complaint) or disciplinary committee or assisting another school official;
   e. an official of another school district in which a student seeks to enroll;
   f. an individual or agency responsible for audit, evaluation, or enforcement of compliance with state or federally supported programs.

4. A school official has a legitimate education interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill a professional responsibility. A school district may also release personally identifiable information from education records without prior written consent to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals. Student directory information may also be released without prior consent if the categories to be released are designated and parents are given the opportunity to refuse to allow directory information to be released prior to it being released.

You have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education at the following address if you feel the school district has failed to comply with the requirements of FERPA:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

© 2017 TransACT Communications, LLC.
1759917