

WAPPINGERS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Student Records/Directory Information (FERPA Rights)

Annual Notification

The Board of Education recognizes the legal requirement to maintain the confidentiality of student records. The procedures for ensuring the confidentiality of student records shall be consistent with state and federal law, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) and its implementing regulations.

The Board also recognizes its responsibility to ensure the orderly retention and disposition of the district's student records in accordance with Schedule ED-1 as adopted by the Board in policy 1120.

The Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for ensuring that all requirements under federal statutes and Commissioner's Regulations be carried out by the district.

**Annual Notification**

At the beginning of each school year, the district will publish a notification that informs parents, guardians and eligible students currently in attendance of their rights under FERPA and the procedures for exercising those rights. This notice may be published in a newspaper, handbook or other school bulletin or publication. This notice will also be provided to parents, guardians, and eligible students who enroll during the school year.

The notice will include a statement that the parent or eligible student has a right to:

1. inspect and review the student's education records;
2. request that records be amended to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the students privacy or other rights;
3. consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent; and
4. file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education alleging failure of the district to comply with FERPA and its regulations; and

In addition, the annual notice will inform parents/guardians and eligible students:

1. that it is the district's policy to disclose personally identifiable information from student records, without consent, to other school officials within the district whom the district has determined to have legitimate educational interests. For purposes of this policy, a school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel; a member of the Board of Education; a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official performing his or her tasks). A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review a student record in order to fulfill his/her professional responsibilities.
2. that, upon request, the district will disclose education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
3. of the procedure for exercising the right to inspect, review and request amendment of student records.

The district shall arrange to provide translations of this notice to non-English speaking parent(s) or guardian(s) or eligible student(s) in their native language or dominant mode of communication.

### **Directory Information**

The district has the option under FERPA of designating certain categories of student information as “directory information.” The Board directs that “directory information” include a student’s name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major course of study, participation in school activities or sports, weight and height if a member of an athletic team, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, most recent school attended, class schedule, photograph, e-mail address, and class roster.

Once the proper FERPA notification is given by the district, a parent/guardian or eligible student will have 14 days to notify the district of any objections they have to any of the “directory information” designations. If no objection is received, the district may release this information without prior approval of the parent/guardian or eligible student for the release.

The district may elect to combine both the annual notice of rights under FERPA and the annual notice of “directory information” designations into one notice.

Cross-ref:

1. 1120, School District Records
2. 5170, Student Attendance Accounting

Ref:

1. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 USC 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99
2. Education Law 225
3. Public Officers Law 87(2)(a)
4. Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, Article 57-A (Local Government Records Law)
5. 8 NYCRR 185.12 (Appendix I) Records Retention and Disposition, Schedule ED-1 for Use by School Districts and BOCES