

Book WCSD Policy Manual

Section 5000 Students

Title Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Exhibit

Code 5500-E.1

Status Active

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FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA) NOTICE REGARDING ACCESS TO STUDENT RECORDS AND STUDENT INFORMATION

Dear Parent or Eligible Student:

This is to advise you of your rights with respect to student records pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). FERPA is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of student records. The law gives parents and students over 18 years of age (referred to in the law as "eligible students") the following rights:

- 1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the district receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the Building Principal a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The Principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- 2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask the district to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading by writing the Principal, clearly identifying the part of the record they want changed, and specifying why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the district decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- 3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. 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 person serving on the school board; 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 in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
- 4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The Office that administers FERPA is:

Washington, DC 20202-4605

NOTIFICATION OF LIMITED USAGE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION DESIGNATIONS

In addition to the rights outlined above, FERPA also gives the school district the option of designating certain categories of student information as "directory information." Directory information includes 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, grade level, photograph, e-mail address, and enrollment status. The District only permits limited directory information disclosure, meaning that the District limits disclosure of its designated directory information to specific parties for specific purposes. Only the District is permitted to use student directory information for such limited purposes as school yearbooks, honor roll lists (including newspaper honor roll lists), graduation programs, playbills, class lists, and other similar uses without obtaining individual consent.

You may object to the release of any or all of this "directory information." However, you must do so in writing within 14 business days of receiving this notice. If we do not receive a written objection, we will be authorized to release this information without your consent. For your convenience, you may note your objections to the release of directory information on the enclosed form and return it to the Building Principal.

Sincerely,

{Insert Building Principal's Name Here}