

FERPA

According to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), students' school records are confidential. FERPA allows school officials to provide what is called "directory information" without parental consent. However, public notice must be made before directory information may be made available. Parent/legal guardian notification is included in the Nye County School District Parent/Student Handbook, and materials inform parents/legal guardians of the right to restrict the distribution of directory information. Directory information includes the student's name, address, grade level, date and place of birth, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height if a member of an athletic team, years of attendance, degrees and awards received, and schools attended. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories—names, addresses and telephone listings—unless parents/legal guardians have advised the school that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

Information other than directory information is inaccessible and will not be released without the written consent of the parent/legal guardian, eligible student or by court order. Among those exempt from this ruling are school officials who have a legitimate educational interest, which may include the Board of Trustees, administrators, certified employees, classified support staff, contractors, consultants, volunteers and/or an agency caseworker or other representative of a State or local child welfare agency, or tribal organizations.

Parents/legal guardians have a right to review educational records kept by the District. To inspect these records, parents/legal guardians should contact the principal to schedule a records review. Questions regarding educational records at the school should be directed to the principal of the school in writing. In addition, parents/legal guardians may, by written request to the principal of the school, challenge the contents of student records that they believe are inaccurate. School personnel are to respond to all written requests in accordance with the requirements of Administrative Regulation 1320.

Copies of school district regulations 7810, 7820 and 7830, pertaining to the education rights and privacy of parents/legal guardians and students, are available upon request from the principal's office. The regulations can also be accessed through the Nye County School District website at www.nye.k12.nv.us.

Parents/legal guardians or eligible students have a right to file a complaint regarding the District's compliance with these requirements by contacting the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education.

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NEPN/NSBA Classification: JR

Legal Reference: Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act, 1974