

Raymond School District Policy - JRA

STUDENT RECORDS AND PPRA POLICY

Adult students over 18 years of age and parents/legal guardians will have access to school records of Raymond students in accordance with Federal and State law and this Policy.

I. ANNUAL NOTICE

Annually, the School District will distribute a student handbook to students, parents or guardians and adult students over 18 years of age containing the following notice of policies hereby adopted by the School Board:

A. FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT ANNUAL NOTICE

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and state law affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 14 days of the day the school receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the building principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The building principal or his/her designee 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 school to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the building principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school 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 school or SAU as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member such as guidance, health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel; or a person serving on the School Board. A school official may also include a volunteer, contractor, or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of personally identifiable information from education records such as an attorney, auditor, medical or educational consultant, evaluators, educational providers, experts, therapist, SRO, or online educational services; or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or a person 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.

4. Upon request, the School District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school or school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer.
5. Under federal law, military recruiters and institutions of higher education are entitled to receive the names, addresses and telephone numbers of high school students and the School District must comply with any such request, provided that parents have been notified that they or their eligible student have the right to opt out and request that this information not be released without their prior written consent.
6. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

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

B. NOTICE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law, requires that the Raymond School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, the School District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the School District to the contrary in accordance with School District procedures. The primary purpose of directory

information is to allow the School District to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- An annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; or
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks.

In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories - names, addresses and telephone listings - unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want the School District to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the School District in writing by September 15. The School District has designated the following information as directory information:

- Parents/guardians' name and address
- Student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, dates of enrollment
- Student's participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Photograph
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- Students' grade level, enrollment status and dates of attendance

C. PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT NOTICE

(See also District Policy ILD)

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents of elementary and high school students certain rights regarding the School District's conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These rights include but are not limited to:

- Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the

survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (DOE):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
 2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
 3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
 4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
 5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
 6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
 7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
 8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.
- Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:
 1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
 2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
 3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others. This does not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions.
 - Inspect, upon request and before administration or use:
 1. Protected information surveys of students and surveys created by a third party;
 2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
 3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

The Raymond School District has developed and adopted policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The **School District** will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes.

The School District will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys at least 10

days before the specific activities or survey and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. The **School District** will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the School District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing, sales or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by DOE.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

**Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202**

II. PROCEDURE TO INSPECT AND REVIEW RECORDS

A. Parents/guardians and eligible students wishing to inspect student records must file a written request to do so with the building principal. Such inspection shall take place during regular school hours or at reasonable times during vacation periods, but not during weekends or holidays.

B. Since a student's records may be maintained in several locations, the school principal may offer to collect copies of records or the records themselves from locations other than a student's school, so that they may be inspected at one site. If parents/guardians and eligible students wish to inspect records where they are maintained, school principals will determine if a review at that site is reasonable.

C. Single copies of appropriate records shall be made available in a reasonable length of time, but in no case more than 14 days after request has been made in writing to the building principal. The records may be inspected by the parents, guardians, and all students once they reach 18 in the presence of the building principal or his/her designee.

D. The school shall make a written record of the disclosure of all student records, except directory information, and such record will be kept in the student's file. This

record of disclosure is also available for inspection by the parent or eligible student. A record of inspections will also be kept.

E. In cases involving a third party request for records requiring consent for disclosure under law, the student over 18, parent or guardian shall sign a consent form furnished by the building principal. Forms used will identify the records to which access is sought and will be placed in the student's file as a record of the request.

F. Access will be refused or granted depending upon the propriety of the request and validity of the request and consent forms.

G. If a request for access is refused, and the party who requested access objects to said refusal, said request will be referred to the Superintendent for a final ruling.

H. The building principal shall be the custodian of all student records in his/her school.

I. If for any valid reason such as working hours, distance between record location sites or health, a parent/guardian/eligible student cannot personally inspect and review a student's education records, the principal may arrange for the parent/guardian/eligible student to obtain copies of the records.

J. When records contain information about students other than a parent's/guardian's child or the eligible student, the parent/guardian/eligible student may not inspect and review the records of the other students. If such records do contain the names of other students, the principal will seek consultation with the Superintendent and/or the District's attorney to determine how best to proceed.

III. PROCEDURE TO AMEND RECORDS

A. The parent(s), guardian(s) of a student under 18, or a student over 18, shall have an opportunity to identify in writing, addressed to the building principal, the record or records which he/she believes are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights, together with a statement of the reasons for the requested amendment of the record.

B. A response by the building principal shall be made within 14 days indicating whether he/she finds the record to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights and if so how the record will be corrected or deleted. The parent, guardian or eligible student will then be given 5 days from receipt of the principal's decision to refer the request on to the Superintendent for a hearing.

C. If requested, a hearing before the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee who does not have a direct interest in the outcome of the hearing, shall be held within a reasonable period of time, but in no case more than 45 days after receipt of such a request by the Superintendent. The parent, guardian or student 18 years or older, will have the right to be represented by counsel and to present evidence in support of his/her belief that the record should be amended. A written decision will be rendered within 30 days stating

the disposition of the challenge to the record and the reasons for the determination. Although the hearing may be informal in nature, the processes used shall ensure fairness and impartiality. The decision made shall be final and not subject to appeal.

D. If as a result of the hearing the Superintendent or his/her designee decides that the information in the education record is not inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of the student, he/she shall inform the parent, guardian, or the eligible student of the right to place a statement in the record commenting on the contested information in the record or stating why he or she disagrees with the decision of the School District.

IV. MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

The building principal shall make sure that all student records are maintained in accordance with retention schedules established by law or School District policy.

Adopted: December 18, 1975
Revised: August 1, 2002
Adopted: June 23, 2010
Revised: March 6, 2019