

STUDENT RELEASE PRECAUTIONS

School district staff will not permit a student to leave school during the school day unless the student is accompanied by the student's parent/guardian, or other person so authorized by the school district and the student's parents/guardians. (The requirement to be accompanied by a parent/guardian will not apply if the student is of driving age and has been previously authorized by the parent/guardian and the school district to drive themselves to/from school.) In all situations, the Principal shall approve the early release.

School officials will presume that each parent has equal authority to exercise rights of visitation, removal of the student from school, the right to inspect and review educational records, and all other rights and privileges extended to parents. Requests from parents asking the school to restrict the release of a student to the other parent will not be honored unless accompanied by a court order or other legally binding document which corroborates the request.

The Principal is authorized to establish additional procedures necessary to ensure the proper and safe release of students. Such procedures must adhere to the following rules:

1. Unless previously authorized by the parent/guardian and the school district to drive themselves to/from school, students will only be released to the parent, guardian, or written designee of the parent or guardian, or to other individuals or agencies as permitted or required by law.
2. The District will release a student to either parent unless the District has a valid court order directing otherwise or unless the parent requesting the release is only entitled to supervised visitation. If district staff have concerns about releasing the student to a parent, the student may be held while additional precautions are taken, including, but not limited to, verifying custody orders, contacting the other parent or contacting appropriate authorities.
3. Students who are 17 years old and living independently and students 18 years old or older must validate their own attendance and dismissal.
4. Telephone requests for early dismissal of a student shall be honored only if the caller can be positively identified as the student's parent or guardian. The parent or guardian will still be required to enter the school building and sign the student out unless the student is of driving age and has been previously authorized by the parent/guardian and the school district to drive themselves to/from school.
5. If it is determined that a student who is ill or sick should be taken home, the school nurse will contact the student's parent or guardian to arrange for an early release. The school nurse will also notify the Principal.

~~All school personnel are to be instructed to refuse requests for children to leave the school grounds once they have come to the school or have been deposited there from the school buses or other vehicles. Children shall not leave the school grounds from the time they arrive until the time of their departure for home except as follows:~~

- ~~1. No school or grade may be dismissed before the regular hour for dismissal except with the approval of the Superintendent or his/her designee.~~
- ~~2. No teacher may permit any individual student to leave school prior to the regular hour of dismissal except by permission of the building Principal or his/her designee.~~

~~3.—No student may be permitted to leave school prior to the dismissal hour for any reason unless permission of the parent/guardian has been first secured, nor sent home unless a responsible adult is at the home. Any student being released during the school day must be released through the school office when he/she leaves and must report to the office when he/she returns, except that students who are ill may also be released through the Nurse's Office. Students will be released only when legally authorized by the parent or legal guardian. Students traveling on school buses to school-sponsored activities will return from that activity on the bus unless released to their parents.~~

Adopted: August 1, 2002

Proposed Revision Second Reading: November 15, 2023