

Child Custody

The Board of Directors presumes that the person who enrolls a student in school is the residential parent of the student. The residential parent is responsible for decisions regarding the day-to-day care and control of student. Parents, guardians or defacto parents have the two-fold right to receive information contained in the school records concerning their child and to forbid or permit the disclosure of such information to others subject to the authority granted to the residential parent.

The Board, unless informed otherwise, assumes that there are no restrictions regarding the nonresidential parent's right to be kept informed of the student's school progress and activities. If restrictions are made relative to the above rights, the residential parent will be requested to submit a certified copy of the court order which curtails these right(s). If these rights are questioned by the nonresidential parent, the issue will be referred to law enforcement authorities for resolution.

Unless there are court-imposed restrictions, the nonresidential parent, upon request, will be given grade reports, notices of school activities, reports of disciplinary actions, or notices of teacher or principal conferences or summaries.

A student shall be released to the residential parent or the nonresidential parent, unless the residential parent provides the school with a court order restricting and/or prohibiting the student's contact with the nonresidential parent.

The student is not permitted to visit with or be released to anyone, including the nonresidential parent, during school hours without notification to the residential parent, or an appropriate public authority. If there is a court order on file with the District that restricts and/or prohibits any parent or other person from contact with or picking up a student from school, then the student is not permitted to visit with or be released to that parent, or other person. The only exception to either parent having absolute rights would occur if the school district has actual knowledge of likely harm to the child; in this case, the District must act on the knowledge they have and, if necessary, seek the assistance of law enforcement prior to releasing the child.

Prior written authorization from the residential parent or guardian shall be required before releasing a student into the custody of someone other than the nonresidential parent unless an emergency situation justifies a waiver.

Cross References:	Board Policy 2420	Grading and progress reports
	Board Policy 3124	Removal of students during school hours
	Board Policy 3231	Student Records
	Board Policy 4200	Safe and Orderly Learning Environment
	Board Policy 4310	Relations with Law Enforcement, Child Protective Agencies and County Health Department

Legal References: CFR 45, Part 99
RCW 26.09.184
RCW 13.34.200

Family education rights and privacy act
Permanent parenting plan;
Order terminating parent and child
relationship

Management Resources:

Policy News, October 2008 Removal of a Student During the School Day

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Revised Dates: 12.08