



## COMMUNITY RELATIONS

### Public Access to District Records

The following procedures shall be used to carry out the district's policy regarding public access to district records:

Public Records Custodian. At each facility where district records are kept, the superintendent's designee shall serve as public records custodian who shall be responsible for the maintenance of district records in accordance with district policy. The custodian shall permit access to, and copying of, district records by the public with authorization from the superintendent who is the public records coordinator. The public records coordinator shall be listed in the district directory and student/parent handbook.

Requests for Inspection and Copying. Upon written request, the district shall make available to any person for inspection and copying any record or records not exempted by district policy.

A written request for inspection and/or copying of records may include:

- A. Name, address, and signature of the party requesting disclosure and the date of request;
- B. Specification of the records or types of records requested; and
- C. A statement of the intended use of requested documents if lists of individuals are included. The district shall not deny a request solely due to refusal to furnish a reason for the request.

Written requests for inspection and/or copying of records shall be made to the coordinator at the district's central office or to the student records custodian at the place where the requested records are kept. If a request is significant/broad the district may make the records installment available on a partial or installment basis.

Written requests shall be made and records shall be available for inspection and copying during the customary business hours of the district's central office and/or the facility where the requested records are kept.

With respect to those records which the coordinator has designated in writing as "open to inspection," the student records custodian at the facility where the record is kept shall have authority to grant a request for inspection and copying. With respect to all other records, a request for inspection and copying shall be granted only after review and approval of the request by the coordinator.

A response to each written request for inspection and copying of district records shall be provided within five business days. The district may respond by providing the requested record, denying the request, or acknowledging receipt of the request and providing a reasonable estimate of the time the district will require to respond. Any denial of a request shall contain an explanation of the statutory basis of the denial. If a record contains disclosable information, the district shall disclose the record with the nondisclosable portion deleted and provide a written explanation of the statutory basis for the deletion.

If a requested record contains personally identifiable information about a person, prior to release the person and appropriate bargaining unit, if any, shall be notified of the request and the district's intended response.

If the public records coordinator concludes that disclosure of a requested record that is not exempt from disclosure is not in the public interest and would substantially and irreparably damage any person or vital governmental function, the coordinator shall seek a court injunction to prevent disclosure.

Staff shall provide full assistance to members of the public making inquiries or requests related to district records. Staff shall locate and produce for inspection requested records which are not exempt from disclosure and which have been sufficiently identified in a request for inspection. Staff may request a clarification of any request that is unclear and need not respond if the request is not clarified. On request, the district shall make copies of public records for a per-page fee, and the actual cost of postage and an envelope, if any. Determining the actual cost of copying is excessively burdensome, therefore, the district is using the statutory rate per-page charge. The district may require a deposit not to exceed 10 percent of the estimated cost of providing copies of a request and may charge per installment. The district may stop filling a request if an installment is not claimed.

A staff member may condition access to a public record containing a list of individuals on the requester's promise that the record will not be used for a commercial purpose, but may not require the requester to enter into a hold harmless agreement to that effect.

The coordinator and student record's custodian shall have authority to impose reasonable conditions on the manner of inspection of records so as to minimize the risks of damage or disorganization of the records and to prevent excessive interference with other essential operations of the district.