

Notification of FERPA Rights and Child Find for Children with Disabilities

Walton-Verona Independent Schools 2016 – 2017

Notice of Rights under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and eligible students (students over 18 years of age, who are married, or who are attending a postsecondary institution) the following rights with respect to the student's education records.

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within forty-five (45) calendar days of the day the district receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students submit a written request to the school principal/designee that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The Principal arranges for access and notifies 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, misleading, or in violation of the student's privacy or other rights.

Parents or eligible students may ask the district to amend a record they believe is inaccurate, misleading or in violation of privacy or other rights. The parent writes the school principal, clearly identifying the part of the record they want changed, and specifying why it is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of their privacy or other rights.

If the district decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the district notifies the parent or eligible student of the decision and advises them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures are 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.

The district may disclose records to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or 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.

Upon request, the district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or to other entities authorized by law.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
600 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

5. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee is authorized to release Board approved directory information.

Directory Information is information contained in an educational record which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. This information may be released without consent. This information may include the student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and most recent educational agency or institution attended.

Any eligible student, parent, or guardian who does not wish to have directory information released notifies the Superintendent in writing on or before September 30 of each school year or within thirty (30) calendar days after the Annual FERPA Notice has been distributed. The written request must specifically state what information may not be classified as "Directory Information".

6. The district keeps educational records in a secure location in each school and Board office.
7. The district obtains written consent from a parent or eligible student before disclosing personally identifiable information to an entity or individual not authorized to receive it under FERPA.
8. For students who have been determined eligible for special education, education records are destroyed at the request of the parent when they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services.

The district may destroy the educational records of a child without a parent's request three (3) years after they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services. Parents are advised that data contained in the records may later be needed for Social Security benefits or other purposes. The district may retain, for an indefinite period of time, a record of the student's name, address, telephone number, grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.

Children determined eligible for special education services include those children with disabilities who have a hearing impairment, visual impairment, emotional-behavioral disability, deaf-blindness, other health impairment, specific learning disability, mental disability, multiple disabilities, speech or language impairment, developmental delay, orthopedic impairment, autism, or traumatic brain injury, and who because of such an impairment need special education services. Also included for consideration are children who have a current physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.

Child Find for Children with Disabilities in Need of Special Education or 504 Services

Child Find

The Walton-Verona Independent Schools keeps educational records in a secure location in each school and Board office.

The Walton-Verona Independent Schools obtains written consent from a parent or eligible student (age 18 or who is attending a postsecondary institution), before disclosing personally identifiable information to an entity or individual not authorized to receive it under FERPA.

For students who have been determined eligible for Special Education, educational records will be destroyed at the request of the parents when they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services. The Walton-Verona Independent Schools may destroy the educational records of a child without parent request three (3) years after they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services. Parents are advised that data contained in the records may later be needed for Social Security benefits or other purposes. The Walton-Verona Independent Schools may retain, for an indefinite period of time, a record of the student's name, address, telephone number, grades, attendance records, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.

Children eligible for Special Education include those children with disabilities who have autism, deaf-blindness, developmental delay, emotional-behavior disability, hearing impairment, mental disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, or visual impairment and who because of such an impairment need Special Education services.

Children eligible for 504 services include those children who have a current physical or mental impairment that currently substantially limits some major life activity which causes the student's ability to access the school environment or school activities to be substantially limited.

The Walton-Verona Independent Schools has an ongoing "Child Find" system, which is designed to locate, identify and evaluate any child residing in a home, facility, or residence within its geographical boundaries, age three (3) to twenty-one (21) years, who may have a disability and be in need of Special Education or 504 services. This includes children who are not in school; those who are in public, private, or home school; those who are highly mobile such as children who are migrant or homeless; and those who are advancing from grade to grade, who may need but are not receiving Special Education or 504 services.

The district's "Child Find" system includes children with disabilities attending private or home schools within the school district boundaries who may need special education services.

The Walton-Verona Independent Schools will make sure any child enrolled in its district who qualifies for Special Education or 504 services, regardless of how severe the disability, is provided appropriate Special Education or 504 services at no cost to the parents of the child.

Parents, relatives, public and private agency employees, and concerned citizens are urged to help the Walton-Verona Independent Schools find any child who may have a disability and need Special Education or 504 services. The District needs to know the name and age, or date of birth of the child;

the name, address, and phone number(s) of the parents or guardian; the possible disability; and other information to determine if Special Education or 504 services are needed.

Letters and phone calls are some of the ways the Walton-Verona Independent Schools collects the information needed. The information the school District collects will be used to contact the parents of the child and find out if the child needs to be evaluated or referred for Special Education or 504 services.

If you know of a child who lives within the boundaries of the Walton-Verona Independent Schools, who may have a disability, and may need but is not receiving Special Education or 504 services, please call the Walton-Verona Independent Schools or send the information to:

Kim Chevalier
Walton-Verona Independent Schools
16 School Rd. Walton, KY 41094
Phone: 859-485-4181 | Fax: 859-485-1810

“Child Find” activities will continue throughout the school year. As part of these efforts the Walton-Verona Independent Schools will use screening information, student records, and basic assessment information it collects on all children in the District to help locate those children who have a disability and need Special Education or 504 services. Any information the District collects through “Child Find” is maintained confidentially.

Written Policies and Procedures have been developed which describe the District’s requirements regarding the confidentiality of personally identifiable information and “Child Find” activities. There are copies in the Principal’s office of each school, and in the Board of Education office. Copies of these Policies and Procedures may be obtained by contacting:

Kim Chevalier
Walton-Verona Independent Schools
16 School Rd. Walton, KY 41094
Phone: 859-485-4181 | Fax: 859-485-1810

The office is open Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Walton-Verona Independent Schools provides a public notice in the native language or other mode of communication of the various populations in the geographical boundaries of the District to the extent feasible.

If you know of someone who may need this notice translated to another language, given orally, or delivered in some other manner or mode of communication, please contact the Special Education Director at the address or phone number listed above.

Revised July 2016