Parental Rights

The Board recognizes the importance of promoting parental input in decision making related to their student’s health and general well-being, in determining district and student needs for educational services, in program development and district operations. To assist the district in this effort, and in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA), the district affirms the right of parents, upon request, to inspect:

1. A survey created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed by the district to a student, including any district survey containing “covered survey items”\(^1\) as defined by ESSA;
2. Any instructional material used by the district as part of the educational curriculum for the student;
3. Any instrument used in the collection of personal information from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose.

As provided by law, parents of district students will also, upon request, be permitted to excuse their student from “covered activities”\(^2\) as defined by ESSA. The rights provided to parents under this policy, transfer to the student when the student turns 18 years old, or is an emancipated minor under applicable state law.

The superintendent will ensure that activities requiring parental notification are provided as required by law and that reasonable notice of the adoption or continued use of this policy is provided to parents of students enrolled in district schools. The input of parents will be encouraged in the development, adoption and any subsequent revision of this policy.

The superintendent shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy, including provisions as may be necessary to ensure appropriate notification to parents of their rights under federal law and district procedures to request review of covered materials, excuse a student from participating in covered activities and protect student privacy in the event of administration or distribution of a survey to a student.

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\(^1\) Covered survey items under ESSA include one or more of the following items: political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s family; mental and psychological problems of the student or the student’s family, sex behavior or attitudes; illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior; critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships; legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians and ministers; religious practices, affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parent; and income, other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program.

\(^2\) Covered activities requiring notification under ESSA include activities involving the collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose; the administration of any survey containing one or more of covered survey items; and any nonemergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance and administered and scheduled by the school in advance. See the administrative regulation for additional definitions.
Legal Reference(s):

ORS 332.107