

ANNUAL FERPA, CHILD FIND (IDEA and 504) NOTICES

Student Records Notice (state and federal law) – The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requires school districts to provide annual notice of student and parents rights regarding student records; the existence of the Student Records' Policy (347) and where copies can be obtained; and, of the opportunity to file a complaint with the Family Policy and Regulations Office of the Department of Education.

Parents/guardians/adult students have the legal right to request a review and/or copy of the contents of the permanent school records of their children. They may also request the amendment of the student's records if it is believed that the records are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. Such a review and/or request for an amendment must be made by scheduling an appointment with the principal. If copies are requested, there will be a charge based on actual cost. If the District decides not to amend the record, the district will notify the parent, guardian or adult student of the decision and the right to a hearing regarding their request. Additional information regarding the hearing procedure will be provided in the event of a hearing request.

Directory Data Notification

If a School Board has designated directory data in accordance with 118.125 of the Wisconsin State Statutes, the Almond-Bancroft District must notify parents, legal guardians or guardians ad litem of the categories of information, which the Board has designated as directory data, which may be released without the prior consent of the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem.

Almond-Bancroft defines directory data as a student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and athletics, weight and height of members of athletic teams, photographs, degrees and awards, and school of most recent attendance.

Upon request, the Almond-Bancroft District may release a student's name, address, and school grade of attendance to requesting agencies (such as State technical colleges, State colleges and universities, alumni reunion committees, the United States Military Services {seniors and students who drop out of school}, photographers for senior pictures, driver's education facilities, publications sponsored by the Almond-Bancroft School District, etc.).

Upon request, student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and athletics, weight and height of members of athletic teams, photographs, degrees and awards, and school of most recent attendance may also be released to publications sponsored by the Almond-Bancroft School District, area newspapers, and appropriate private and public sponsored magazines.

Parents or guardians of minor children and adult students have the right to consent to the disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in their student records, except as allowed by state and federal law.

In accordance with the law, the Almond-Bancroft District forwards upon request student records to another school without consent for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer.

Student records shall be made available to Almond-Bancroft School District employees who are required by the state to hold a teacher's license and to other school district officials only if they have a legitimate educational or safety interest in the records. Employees and district officials have a legitimate educational or safety interest in the record if the individual needs to review an education record in order to provide educational service or to fulfill some aspect of his or her professional responsibilities.

Administrators have the discretion to refuse the release of individual student phone numbers and addresses for the safety of the student.

IF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS DO NOT WISH TO HAVE ANY OR ALL OF THE CATEGORIES OF

INFORMATION RELEASED, THEY MUST NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IN WRITING WITHIN 14 DAYS OF THIS NOTICE BEING PROVIDED. Directory data shall be considered public information and may be released to appropriate persons and media in accordance with Board of Education policy unless the parent(s) or adult students refuse the release in writing by notifying their respective school principal. Forms for this purpose will be available at each school.

Parents/guardians may file a complaint with the Family Policy and Regulations Office of the Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201 if they feel their rights have been violated.

Student Records (Wisconsin Law) (*The notice directly above incorporates this information and is an appropriate notice for publication.*) - If a school district has designated student directory data in accordance with §118.125 of the state statutes, the district must notify parents, legal guardians or guardian ad litem: (1) of the categories of information that the board has designated as directory data with respect to each student; and (2) that they have 14 days to inform the school that all or any part of the directory data may not be released without the prior consent of the parent, guardian or guardian *ad litem*. The district must allow the parent, guardian or guardian ad litem 14 days to provide this response before any student directory data is released. This notice is required by §118.125(2)(j) of the state statutes.

Recruiter Access to Students/Records (*The notice directly above incorporates this information and is an appropriate notice for publication*) - Districts receiving federal education funds are required to notify parents of secondary school students:

1. that a secondary school student or the parent of the student may request that the student's name, address and telephone listing not be released to military recruiters or institutions of higher education without prior written parental consent; and
2. that the district must comply with such request. School districts receiving federal education funds are required to provide, on request made by military recruiters or an institution of higher education, access to secondary school students' names, addresses and telephone listings unless access to such information has been restricted by the secondary school student or the student's parents as outlined above. Federal guidelines issued to implement this requirement state that if a school district does not designate student names, addresses and/or telephone listings as directory data it must still provide all three items to military recruiters and institutions of higher education upon request.

Child find obligation and Student Services: Under the state and federal laws governing students “at risk” or with disabilities under IDEA and/or Sec. 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, districts must undertake activities to “find” children with disabilities eligible for federally funded services, and must advise of the alternative educational programming opportunities. The following is an appropriate notice for annual publication in the first class notice section of the district’s official newspaper:

Child Find and Student Services – The Almond-Bancroft School District must locate, identify, and evaluate all resident children with disabilities, including children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities. The school district has a special education screening program to locate and screen all children with suspected disabilities who are residents of the Almond-Bancroft District and who have not graduated from high school. Upon request, the Almond-Bancroft District will screen any resident child who has not graduated from high school to determine whether a special education referral is appropriate. A request may be made by contacting: Andria Bena, Director of Special Education at 715-366-2941 x123 or by writing her at: 1336 Elm Street, Almond WI, 54909.

Children, ages three to twenty-one, suspected of having a disability should be referred to the Director of Pupil Services, who in turn will see that all necessary evaluations are conducted. Evaluations will be completed by the IEP (Individual Education Program) team members after parental permission has been secured. The IEP team will determine if the child has a disability and is in need of special education services. An appropriate placement will be made by the IEP team including parent(s)/guardian(s) and appropriate required school personnel. All procedures followed in the identification and provision of service to children with a disability will be conducted in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations.

Programs have been designed to improve and expand educational opportunities for students including homebound instruction, gifted and talented enhanced opportunities, and children at risk, following compulsory school attendance guidelines as stated in Wis. Stat. §118.15. Parent(s)/guardian(s) may request, in writing, program or curriculum modifications to a child's current academic program, a school work training or work study program, enrollment in an alternative public school or program or in any nonsectarian private school or program located in the Almond-Bancroft District which complies with certain federal requirements, and enrollment in any public educational program located outside the District pursuant to a contractual agreement between the school districts in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations. Requests shall be directed to the school principal. A written decision of a request will be provided within 90 days, except a decision will be rendered within 30 days if a child has been evaluated and determined to be a child with a disability. A child's parent or guardian may request the school board to review any decision made.