

Custodial and Noncustodial Parent Rights and Responsibilities

The following procedures have been developed for situations involving child custody, visitation and release of records:

1. The enrollment records of the District will include information regarding the marital status of a student's parents. The parents will be informed that this information is requested solely to protect their rights as parents.
2. Responsible individuals in each school need to be made aware of issues relating to custodial conflicts. Those issues relating to the right of access of noncustodial parents will be noted on the Student Personal Data Information card.
3. If a person whom the principal or designee does not recognize appears at school requesting the release of a student, the principal or designee will require identification such as a driver's license and determine if release is appropriate.

Children of divorced/separated parents

1. Both natural parents have the right to:
 - a. View the child's school records.
 - b. Receive school progress reports.
2. The District will presume that both parents have equal access to a child when that student is registered in school unless one parent provides the District with a court order indicating otherwise.
3. A copy of the court order governing a divorce, separation or delineation of parental rights will be provided by the custodial parent and kept in the student's cumulative record as a temporary record.
4. If the school is aware that the student's parents are divorced or separated and that the divorce decree or temporary order contains custodial stipulations, the custodial parent will be asked to provide a copy of the divorce decree. If the custodial parent refuses to provide a copy of the court order to the District, the principal will be advised and a statement of the refusal will be noted, including the date and situation. This statement will be filed in the student's cumulative record. The District will provide full access to both parents in this case.
5. In some instances, two opposing court orders may be presented to the school. In such event, the latest order will govern.

6. Joint custody stipulations in a divorce decree will be read carefully in order to understand the rights and privileges allowed each parent. If issues of custodial access are present, the school will review such a decree for purposes of establishing residency and visitation rights. If custodial access or any other prevailing issue is not of concern, no such review will be made. Students may be allowed by such a decree to attend two schools on a rotation basis corresponding to custody arrangements.
7. A student will not be released to or visited by a noncustodial parent during the school day unless the custodial parent has provided written permission stipulating the time and date of the release or permission for visitation.
8. If a school official is in doubt about the validity of a request or documentation presented, the official will contact the Superintendent or designee. The official should request positive identification of any individual making a request for release or visitation of a student.
9. If a parent making a request for release or visitation refuses to leave the school premises at the principal's request, the principal will contact the appropriate law enforcement agency.
10. Contact from an attorney on behalf of a parent may be referred to the school attorney on advice of the Superintendent.
11. It is not the responsibility of the District or its employees to resolve disputes between parents regarding matters of a student's custody or visitation.

CROSS REF.: KBBA, Custodial and Noncustodial Parent Rights and Responsibilities