

PARENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS FOR DATA PRIVACY AND SECURITY

As part of the Common Core Implementation Reform Act, Education Law § 2-d requires that Eden II School for Autistic Children, Inc. (the "School") develop a Parents' Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security ("Parents' Bill of Rights"). The purpose of the Parents' Bill of Rights is to inform parents (which also include legal guardians or persons in parental relation to a student, but generally not the parents of a student who is age eighteen or over) of the legal requirements regarding privacy, security and use of student data. In addition to the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), Education Law § 2-d provides important protections for student data, and remedies for breaches of the responsibility to maintain the security and confidentiality of such data. The Parent's Bill of Rights is published on the School's web-site and provided to School's contractors who receive student records.

A. What are the essential parents' rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) relating to personally identifiable information in their child's student records?

The rights of parents under FERPA are summarized in the Model Notification of Rights prepared by the United States Department of Education for use by schools in providing annual notification of rights to parents. It can be accessed at <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/lea-officials.html>. A copy of Eden's Notification of Rights under FERPA is attached to this Parents' Bill of Rights for your reference as needed.

Parents' rights under FERPA include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the school or school district receives a request for access.
2. The right to request amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.
3. The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information ("PII") from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent (including but not limited to disclosure under specified conditions to: (i) school officials within the school or school district with legitimate educational interests; (ii) officials of another school for purposes of enrollment or transfer; (iii) third party contractors providing services to, or performing functions for an educational agency; (iv) authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as the New York State Education Department ("NYSED"); (v) organizations conducting studies for or on behalf of educational agencies) and (vi) the public where the school or school district has designated certain student data as "directory information" (described below). The attached

Notification of Rights under FERPA more fully describes the exceptions to the consent requirement under FERPA).

4. Where a school or school district has a policy of releasing “directory information” from student records, the parent has a right to refuse to let the school or school district designate any all of such information as directory information. Note that Eden does not publish directory information.
5. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

B. What are parents’ rights under the Personal Privacy Protection Law (PPPL), Article 6- A of the Public Officers Law relating to records held by State agencies?

The PPPL (Public Officers Law §§ 91-99) applies to all records of State agencies and imposes duties on State agencies to have procedures in place to protect from disclosure of “personal information,” defined as information which because of a name, number, symbol, mark or other identifier, can be used to identify a “data subject” (in this case the student or the student’s parent). The PPPL confers a right on the data subject (student or the student’s parent) to access to State agency records relating to them and requires State agencies to have procedures for correction or amendment of records. A more detailed description of the PPPL is available from the Committee on Open Government of the New York, Department of State, One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Avenue, suite 650, Albany, NY 12231, their email address is coog@dos.ny.gov, telephone number is (518) 474-2518. Guidance on the PPPL can be accessed at <http://www.dos.ny.gov/coog/shldno1.html>.

C. Parents’ Rights Under Education Law §2-d relating to Unauthorized Release of Personally Identifiable Information

1. What kind of student data is subject to the confidentiality and security requirements of Education Law §2-d?

The law applies to personally identifiable information contained in student records of an educational agency listed above. The term “student” refers to any person attending or seeking to enroll in an educational agency, and the term “personally identifiable information” (“PII”) uses the definition provided in FERPA. Under FERPA, personally identifiable information or PII includes, but is not limited to:

1. The student’s name;
2. The name of the student’s parent or other family members;
3. The address of the student or student’s family;
4. A personal identifier, such as the student’s social security number, student number, or biometric record;

5. Other indirect identifiers, such as the student's date of birth, place of birth, and Mother's Maiden Name;
6. Other information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student with reasonable certainty; or
7. Information requested by a person who the educational agency or institution reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the education record relates.

2. What kind of student data is *not* subject to the confidentiality and security requirements of Education Law §2-d?

The confidentiality and privacy provisions of Education Law § 2-d and FERPA extend only to PII, and not to student data that is not personally identifiable. Therefore, de-identified data (e.g., data regarding students that uses random identifiers), aggregated data (e.g., data reported at the school district level) or anonymized data that could not be used to identify a particular student is not considered to be PII and is not within the purview of Education Law §2-d or within the scope of this Parents' Bill of Rights.

3. What are my rights under Education Law § 2-d as a parent regarding my student's PII?

Education Law § 2-d ensures that, in addition to all of the protections and rights of parents under the federal FERPA law, certain rights will also be provided under the Education Law. These rights include, but are not limited to, the following elements:

- (A) A student's PII cannot be sold or released by the educational agency for any commercial or marketing purposes.
 - PII may be used for purposes of a contract that provides payment to a vendor for providing services to an educational agency as permitted by law.
 - However, sale of PII to a third party solely for commercial purposes or receipt of payment by an educational agency, or disclosure of PII that is not related to a service being provided to the educational agency, is strictly prohibited.
- (B) Parents have the right to inspect and review the complete contents of their child's education record including any student data stored or maintained by an educational agency.
 - This right of inspection is consistent with the requirements of FERPA. In addition to the right of inspection of the educational record, Education Law §2-d provides a specific right for parents to inspect or receive copies of any data in the student's educational record.

(C) State and federal laws protect the confidentiality of PII, and safeguards associated with industry standards and best practices, including, but not Education Law §2-d also limits the collection of data, including, but not limited to:

- (D) NYSED may only require schools to submit PII, including data on disability status and student suspensions, where such release is required by law or otherwise authorized under FERPA and/or the New York State Personal Privacy Law; and
- (E) Except as required by law or in the case of educational enrollment data, the School shall not report to NYSED student data regarding juvenile delinquency records, criminal records, medical and health records or student biometric information.
- (F) Parents may access the NYSED Student Data Elements List, a complete list of all student data elements collected by NYSED, at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/irs/sirs/documentation/NYSEDstudentData.xlsx>, or may obtain a copy of this list by writing to the Office of Information & Reporting Services, New York State Education Department, Room 863 EBA, 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234; and
- (G) Parents have the right to file complaints with an educational agency about possible breaches of student data by that educational agency's third party contractors or their employees, officers, or assignees, or with NYSED. Complaints regarding the School should be directed to Shari Schatzman, Eden II Privacy Officer, at (718) 816-1422, ext. 225, hipaa@eden2.org, 94 Wright Avenue, Staten Island, New York, 10303. Complaints to NYSED should be directed in writing to the Chief Privacy Officer, New York State Education Department, 89 Washington Avenue, Albany NY 12234, email to CPO@mail.nysed.gov.

4. No Private Right of Action

Please note that Education Law § 2-d explicitly states that it does not create a private right of action against NYSED or any other educational agency, such as a school, school district or BOCES.

5. Additional Information.

For more information regarding the laws that govern this Parents' Bill of Rights please reference the publication at the following web-site: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/docs/parents-bill-of-rights.pdf>.

ATTACHMENT

Notification of Rights under FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”) affords parents and students who are years of age or older (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days after the day Eden II School for Autistic Children, Inc. (the “School”) receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to Shari Shatzman (the “Eden II Privacy Officer”) a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify 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 otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the School to amend a record should write the Eden II Privacy Officer, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before the School discloses personally identifiable information (“PII”) from the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs an institutional service of function for which the School would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer 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 School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without consent of the parent or eligible student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in §99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the parent or eligible student, §99.32 of the FERPA regulations requires the school to record the disclosure. Parents and eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A school may disclose PII from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the parents or the eligible student –

- To other school officials, including teachers, within the educational agency or institution whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in § 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(1) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(2) are met. (§ 99.31(a)(1))
- To officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of § 99.34. (§ 99.31(a)(2))
- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as the State educational agency in the parent or eligible student's State ("SEA"). Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of § 99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§ 99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)
- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§ 99.31(a)(4))

- To State and local officials or authorities to whom information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed by a State statute that concerns the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records were released, subject to §99.38. (§99.31(a)(5))
- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§ 99.31(a)(6))
- To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§ 99.31(a)(7))
- To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§99.31(a)(8))
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. (§ 99.31(a)(9))
- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to § 99.36. (§99.31(a)(10))
- Information the school has designated as "directory information" under § 99.37. (§ 99.31(a)(11))