

Illinois Youth Suicide Prevention Toolkit: A Reference for Administrators, Counselors, Teachers and Staff, Module 2: Guidelines: Modifying Intervention Protocols - Crafting a Procedure for Students Exhibiting Warning Signs and for a Student Suicide, pp. 31-34, at: www.isbe.net/Pages/Suicide-Prevention.aspx.

SAMHSA Toolkit at: www.store.samhsa.gov/product/Preventing-Suicide-A-Toolkit-for-High-Schools/SMA12-4669.

Chapter 2: Protocols for Helping Students at Risk of Suicide: Tools 2.B.3-6 (pp. 70-72), 2.C (p. 79) and 2.D (pp. 70-81).

- c. Review appropriate identification procedures (see example below):

Documentation Regarding the At-Risk Student

Note: A more detailed procedure may be developed with the aid of the resources in 5.b., above.

- 1) District employees shall take notes on any conversations that involve or relate to the at-risk student. The notes shall become a part of a written report to the Building Principal.
- 2) Conversations that involve or relate to the at-risk student shall be confirmed in writing with the other party(s).
- 3) The Superintendent shall receive a copy of all reports and documentation regarding the at-risk student.
- 4) The social worker/counselor shall prepare a report of the situation for the student's records.

- d. Provide training for staff regarding identification procedures that the District will implement.

6. Resources and Contact Information (105 ILCS 5/2-3.166(c)(7)).

- a. Illinois suicide prevention organizations and State contacts at: www.sprc.org/states/illinois:

Jennifer L. Martin, Injury Prevention Coordinator (at time of publication)
535 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761
Jennifer.L.Martin@illinois.gov
(217) 558-4081

Steve Moore, J.D., Co-Chair, Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance Board member (at time of publication)
Smoore200400@yahoo.com
(312) 391-8056

- b. Primary implementation resources for 7:290-AP, *Resource Guide for Implementation of Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention Program*:

Illinois Youth Suicide Prevention Toolkit: A Reference for Administrators, Counselors, Teachers and Staff, at: www.isbe.net/Pages/Suicide-Prevention.aspx.

SAMHSA Toolkit: Chapter 1: Getting Started; Tools 1.I and 1.J., pp. 52-53.

Resources: Screening Program, p. 205; and National Organization and Federal Agencies with Resource and Information on Adolescent Suicide Prevention, pp. 206-208.

ISBE *Toolkit* at:

www.sprc.org/sites/default/files/migrate/library/AfteraSuicideToolkitforSchools.pdf.

ISBE *Suicide Prevention* at: www.isbe.net/Pages/Suicide-Prevention.aspx.

ISBE recommended guidelines and educational materials for training and professional development and ISBE-recommended resources containing age-appropriate educational materials on youth suicide and awareness, if available on ISBE's website pursuant to Ann Marie's Law (105 ILCS 5/2-3.166(b)(2)(B)).

Illinois Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan at:

www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/prevention-wellness/suicide-prevention.

c. Other available resources:

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Illinois Chapter at:

www.afsp.org/chapter/afsp-illinois/.

The Ill. Department of Human Services is required by 20 ILCS 1705/76 to develop an online database of mental health resources geared toward school counselors, parents, and teachers at: www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=29751.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at: www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/.

Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Youth Suicide at: www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/prevention-wellness/suicide-prevention.html#resources.

The Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) (www.sprc.org/) has an Illinois-specific site at: www.sprc.org/states/illinois.

Students

Student Records¹

School student records are confidential. Information from them shall not be released other than as provided by law.² A school student record is any writing or other recorded information concerning a

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ State law requires school boards to adopt a policy and procedures implementing the Illinois School Student Records Act (ISSRA) and specifying the content of school student records. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§375.100 and 226.740. Both State and federal law address school student records. See the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. §1232g) implemented by federal rules at 34 C.F.R. Part 99) and ISSRA (105 ILCS 10/, amended by P.A.s 101-515, 102-199, and 102-557, implemented by ISBE rules at 23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 375).

In addition, the U.S. Dept. of Education's (DOE) *Protecting Student Privacy* webpage, a service of the Privacy Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) and the Student Privacy Policy Office, is a *one-stop* resource for education stakeholders to learn about student privacy and confidentiality, including data privacy and security practices related to student-level longitudinal data systems, at: www.studentprivacy.ed.gov/. PTAC published a guide for school officials titled *Protecting Student Privacy While Using Online Educational Services: Requirements and Best Practices* (2014), at:

www.studentprivacy.ed.gov/resources/protecting-student-privacy-while-using-online-educational-services-requirements-and-best.

The DOE also issued a summary of resources on FERPA and virtual learning (2020) at: www.studentprivacy.ed.gov/resources/ferpa-and-virtual-learning. **Boards that wish to enter into cloud computing and other operator contracts must comply with the Student Online Personal Protection Act (SOPPA), 105 ILCS 85/, amended by P.A. 101-516, and should contact the board attorney for implementation guidance.** See also f/n 2, item #7, below.

Confusion persists regarding the interplay between the FERPA and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) (Pub. L. 104-191). The Privacy Rule implementing HIPAA, issued by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHS), addresses the disclosure of individuals' health information by *covered entities*. 45 C.F.R. Parts 160 and 164, Subparts A and E. Generally speaking, a school district becomes a *covered entity*, and must comply with applicable sections in the Privacy Rule, if it provides health care and transmits health information in electronic form in connection with transactions. However, *educational records* as defined by FERPA are excluded from HIPAA's definition of *protected health information*. 45 C.F.R. §160.103. In most cases this exception relieves school districts of complying with burdensome privacy notices and authorization forms. In December 2019, DHS and DOE issued an update to its *Joint Guidance on the Application of FERPA and HIPAA to Student Health Records*, at:

www.studentprivacy.ed.gov/resources/joint-guidance-application-ferpa-and-hipaa-student-health-records.

The board attorney should be consulted on all HIPAA-related questions.

² A plethora of statutory and decisional law protects student records. Aside from the laws identified in f/n 1, other laws protecting student records include:

1. Schools may not provide a student's *personal information* to a business organization or financial institution that issues credit or debit cards. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.38.
2. Schools may not sell personal information concerning a child under the age of 16, with a few exceptions, unless a parent has consented. Children's Privacy Protection and Parental Empowerment Act, 325 ILCS 17/.
3. The release of confidential information given by a student to a therapist, e.g., school counselor or psychologist, is governed by the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act. 740 ILCS 110/.
4. Schools must keep a sex offender registration form received from law enforcement separately from school student records maintained on behalf of the juvenile sex offender. 730 ILCS 152/121.
5. Divorced or separated parents/guardians with and without *parental responsibility* (formerly custody) are both permitted to inspect and copy the student's school student records. The Ill. Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act (IMDMA), 750 ILCS 5/602.11.
6. Schools may not provide a parent/guardian access to his or her child's school records if the parent is prohibited by an order of protection from inspecting or obtaining such records pursuant to the Domestic Violence Act of 1986 or the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963. *Id.*

student and by which a student may be identified individually that is maintained by a school or at its direction by a school employee, regardless of how or where the information is stored, except as provided in State or federal law as summarized below: ³

1. Records kept in a staff member's sole possession.
2. Records maintained by law enforcement officers working in the school. ⁴
3. Video and other electronic recordings (including without limitation, electronic recordings made on school buses⁵) that are created in part for law enforcement, security, or safety reasons or purposes. The content of these recordings may become part of a school student record to the extent school officials create, use, and maintain this content, or it becomes available to them by law enforcement officials, for disciplinary or special education purposes regarding a particular student.
4. Any information, either written or oral, received from law enforcement officials concerning a student less than the age of 18 years who has been arrested or taken into custody. ⁶

State and federal law grants students, parents/guardians, and when applicable, the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services' Office of Education and Transition Services, certain rights, including the right to inspect, copy⁷, and/or challenge school student records.⁸ The information contained in

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7. SOPPA (105 ILCS 85), amended by P.A. 101-516) addresses a school district's obligations related to *covered information* of students and contracts with educational technology *operators*. In some instances, covered information as defined under SOPPA may also qualify as education records under FERPA and school student records under ISSRA. See policy 7:345, *Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security*, and administrative procedure 7:345-AP, *Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security*, for a description of SOPPA obligations.

Note: Nos. 5 and 6 above may conflict with FERPA in that they restrict a parent/guardian's right to access his or her child's school records more than is expressly permitted by FERPA. 20 U.S.C. §1232g(a)(1)(A), (B); 34 C.F.R. §99.10(a). **Consult the board attorney for guidance.**

Allowing students to grade each other's papers does not violate FERPA; such student work is not a *school record* until it is recorded by the teacher. *Owasso I.S.D. No. I-011 v. Falvo*, 534 U.S. 426 (2002). School student records are *per se* prohibited from disclosure; a district is under no obligation to redact them. *Chicago Tribune Co. v. Chicago Bd. of Educ.*, 332 Ill.App.3d 60 (1st Dist. 2002).

³ 20 U.S.C. §1232g(a)(4); 34 C.F.R. §99.3; 105 ILCS 10/2(d); 705 ILCS 405/1-7 and 5-905; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.10. Rather than listing the exceptions in the policy, a school board may choose to end the sentence after the proviso "except as provided in State or federal law."

⁴ For a helpful resource, see f/n 1 in policy 7:150, *Agency and Police Interviews*.

⁵ For an explanation, see footnotes in policy 7:220, *Bus Conduct*.

⁶ Many lawyers believe that once these records are received by a school, they are protected as *education records* under FERPA. Consult the board attorney for advice.

⁷ 105 ILCS 10/5(a), amended by P.A. 102-199. ISSRA does not give DCFS representatives the right to challenge student records. 105 ILCS 10/7. For more information about DCFS liaison qualifications and duties, see sample policy 7:50, *School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools*, at f/n 16.

105 ILCS 10/5(c) requires that a parent's or student's request to inspect and copy records be granted no later than 10 business days (previously 15 school days) after the date of receipt of such a request by the official records custodian.

105 ILCS 10/5(c-5) outlines how a school district may extend the 10 business day timeline for response by not more than five business days from the original due date if one or more of these six reasons applies:

1. The requested records are stored in whole or in part at other locations than the office having charge of the requested records;
2. The request required the collection of a substantial number of specified records;
3. The request is couched in categorical terms and requires an extensive search for the records responsive to it;
4. The requested records have not been located in the course of routine search and additional efforts are being made to locate them;

school student records shall be kept current, accurate, clear, and relevant. All information maintained concerning a student receiving special education services shall be directly related to the provision of services to that child.⁹ The District may release directory information as permitted by law, but a parent/guardian shall have the right to opt-out of the release of directory information regarding his or her child.¹⁰ The District will comply with State or federal law with regard to release of a student's school records, including, where applicable, without notice to, or the consent of, the student's parent/guardian or eligible student.¹¹ Upon request, the District discloses school student records without parent consent to the official records custodian of another school in which a student has

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5. The request for records cannot be complied with by the school district within the time limits prescribed by subsection (c) without unduly burdening or interfering with the operations of the school district; or
6. There is a need for consultation, which shall be conducted with all practicable speed, with another public body or school district among two or more components of a public body or school district having a substantial interest in the determination or in the subject matter of the request.

The person making the request and the school district may also agree in writing to extend the timeline for compliance for a period to be determined by the parties. Id.

⁸ 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.10 provides that districts may, through board policy, allow scores received on college entrance examinations to be included on a student's academic transcript if that inclusion is requested in writing by a student, parent or person who enrolled the student. If the board of a unit or high school district wants to allow this, insert:

A student or the student's parent/guardian may request, in writing, that scores received on college entrance examinations be included on the student's academic transcript.

Note: Though 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.10 uses the phrase "student, parent or person who enrolled the student," student records rights under ISSRA and FERPA attach to *eligible students* and their *parents/guardians*, not to "a person who enrolled the student" (though that person is typically a parent or guardian).

If a board allows for the inclusion of college entrance examination scores on academic transcripts, amend the district's notification to parents/guardians and students of their school student records rights with the process for requesting the inclusion. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.30(d)(5). See 7:340-AP1, E1, *Notice to Parents/Guardians and Students of Their Rights Concerning a Student's School Records*, for an example.

⁹ 23 Ill.Admin.Code §226.740(a).

¹⁰ This sentence is required if the board allows schools to release student directory information. 20 U.S.C. §1232g; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.80; 34 C.F.R. §99.37. There is at least one instance in Illinois in which parents were upset that their school district released students' names and addresses pursuant to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. FOIA contains an exemption for home addresses. Many lawyers, however, say that a district must release student information pursuant to a FOIA request when each of the following has occurred: the FOIA request seeks information that is included in the district's definition of student directory information, the district notified parents that it releases directory information, and the parents did not opt out of allowing directory information to be released concerning their child. An opinion from the Ill. Public Access Counselor supports that a district may not rely on the FOIA exemption for home addresses. PAO 12-3.

The **PRESS** policy does not identify the components of *directory information*, leaving that task to implementing material. Boards may want to discuss this quagmire with the superintendent knowing that there are good reasons to release directory information, e.g., to allow the district to publish information about specific students, and good reasons to not release directory information, e.g., to avoid releasing names and addresses pursuant to a FOIA request.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.80(a)(1) no longer includes *gender* as information which may be designated as directory information. This is consistent with attorneys' views that Illinois' past practice of including *gender* within directory information may have violated FERPA. FERPA regulations provide that **directory information** "means information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed" and it "includes, but is not limited to, the student's name; address; telephone listing; electronic mail address; photograph; date and place of birth; major field of study; grade level; enrollment status (e.g., undergraduate or graduate, full-time or part-time); dates of attendance; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; degrees, honors, and awards received; and the most recent educational agency or institution attended." 34 C.F.R. §99.3. Though FERPA regulations do not explicitly preclude the designation of *gender* as directory information, DOE guidance has consistently advised schools not to disclose a student's sex as directory information because it would be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy. See *Letter to Institutions of Postsecondary Education*, DOE Family Policy Compliance Office (September 2009). Consult the board attorney about the practical implementation of this issue. Some attorneys, for example, believe photos of the "Girls Volleyball Team" may contradict DOE guidance.

¹¹ 20 U.S.C. §1232g(j), as added by Sec. 507 of the U.S.A. Patriot Act of 2001.

enrolled or intends to enroll, as well as to any other person as specifically required or permitted by State or federal law. ¹²

The Superintendent shall fully implement this policy and designate an *official records custodian* for each school who shall maintain and protect the confidentiality of school student records, inform staff members of this policy, and inform students and their parents/guardians of their rights regarding school student records. ¹³

Student Biometric Information Collection ¹⁴

The Superintendent or designee may recommend a student biometric information collection system solely for the purposes of identification and fraud prevention.¹⁵ Such recommendation shall be consistent with budget requirements and in compliance with State law. Biometric information means any information that is collected through an identification process for individuals based on their unique behavioral or physiological characteristics, including fingerprint, hand geometry, voice, or facial recognition or iris or retinal scans.

Before collecting student biometric information, the District shall obtain written permission from the person having legal custody/parental responsibility¹⁶ or the student (if over the age of 18).¹⁷ Upon a student's 18th birthday, the District shall obtain written permission from the student to collect student biometric information.¹⁸ Failure to provide written consent to collect biometric information shall not be the basis for refusal of any services otherwise available to a student.

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¹² 34 C.F.R. §99.31; 105 ILCS 10/6, amended by P.A.s 102-199 and 102-557.

¹³ Each school must have an *official records custodian*. 105 ILCS 10/4(a). Districts must notify students and parents/guardians of their rights concerning school student records. 105 ILCS 10/3; 105 ILCS 10/4, amended by P.A.s 101-161 and 102-199; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.30; 34 C.F.R. §99.7. Comprehensive faculty and student handbooks can provide required notices, along with other important information, to recipients. Handbooks can be developed by the building principal, but should be reviewed and approved by the superintendent and board. See 7:340-AP1, E1, *Notice to Parents/Guardians and Students of Their Rights Concerning a Student's School Records*, and 7:340-AP1, *School Student Records*.

¹⁴ This program is optional; however, districts either wishing to implement such a program or districts that have already engaged in the collection of student biometric information must have a policy consistent with the requirements of 105 ILCS 5/10-20.40. This section restates the School Code's requirements for a student biometric information policy.

¹⁵ For districts already collecting biometric information, the following is an alternative:

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a biometric screening program that is consistent with budget requirements and in compliance with State law.

¹⁶ Several statutes define legal custody and when a court may grant it; the term requires statutory construction/interpretation and school boards should discuss this issue with their attorney prior to adopting a policy on collection of student biometric information.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.40(b)(1) states the definition of legal custody is the same as the definition of legal custody for purposes of residency, payment of tuition, hearings, and criminal penalties at 105 ILCS 5/10-20.12b(2)(i)-(v).

The IMDMA, 750 ILCS 5/, changed the terms *custody* and *visitation* to *parental responsibility* and *parenting time*, respectively. It also requires a *parenting plan* that allocates: (1) significant decision-making responsibilities; and (2) each parent's right to access his or her child's school records. The IMDMA does not amend ISSRA or the School Code.

¹⁷ Based upon 105 ILCS 5/10-20.40, written permission is not required annually; it is valid until a request for discontinuation of the use of biometric information is received or until the student reaches the age of 18. See 7:340-AP1, E5, *Biometric Information Collection Authorization*.

¹⁸ Districts must reissue 7:340-AP1, E5, *Biometric Information Collection Authorization* to students turning 18 years of age during the school year. This is because all rights and privileges accorded to a parent under ISSRA become exclusively those of the student upon his or her 18th birthday, graduation from secondary school, marriage, or entry into military service, whichever comes first. 105 ILCS 10/2(g).

All collected biometric information shall be stored and transmitted in a manner that protects it from disclosure. Sale, lease, or other disclosure of biometric information to another person or entity is strictly prohibited.¹⁹

The District will discontinue use of a student's biometric information and destroy all collected biometric information within 30 days after: (1) the student graduates or withdraws from the School District, or (2) the District receives a written request to discontinue use of biometric information from the person having legal custody/parental responsibility of the student or the student (if over the age of 18).²⁰ Requests to discontinue using a student's biometric information shall be forwarded to the Superintendent or designee.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to implement this policy consistent with State and federal law.²¹

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¹⁹ State law contains two exceptions: (1) the individual who has legal custody/parental responsibility of the student or the student (if over the age of 18) consents to the disclosure; and (2) the disclosure is required by court order. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.40(b)(5).

²⁰ 105 ILCS 5/10-20.40(d). No notification to or approval from the district's local records commission, pursuant to the Local Records Act, is required to destroy student biometric information. See f/n 15 for a discussion about the terms *custody* and *parental responsibility*.

²¹ Whether the student biometric information is an education record under FERPA or falls under an exception to an education record under FERPA is an issue about which school boards should consult their board attorney. Protected Health Information under the DHS's interpretations of HIPAA excludes education records covered by FERPA, and thus HIPAA requirements are not expected to be triggered by districts collecting student biometric information. However, before implementing policies and procedures to collect student biometric information, a board should discuss these issues with the board attorney.

- LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1232g, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; 34 C.F.R. Part 99.
 50 ILCS 205/7, Local Records Act.
 105 ILCS 5/10-20.12b, 5/10-20.40, and 5/14-1.01 et seq.
 105 ILCS 10/, Ill. School Student Records Act.
 105 ILCS 85/, Student Online Personal Protection Act.
 325 ILCS 17/, Children’s Privacy Protection and Parental Empowerment Act.
 750 ILCS 5/602.11, Ill. Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act.
 23 Ill.Admin.Code Parts 226 and 375.
Owasso I.S.D. No. I-011 v. Falvo, 534 U.S. 426 (2002).
Chicago Tribune Co. v. Chicago Bd. of Ed., 332 Ill.App.3d 60 (1st Dist. 2002).
- CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:130 (Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:345 (Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security)
- ADMIN. PROC.: 7:15-E (Notification to Parents of Family Privacy Rights), 7:340-AP1 (School Student Records), 7:340-AP1, E1 (Notice to Parents/Guardians and Students of Their Rights Concerning a Student’s School Records), 7:340-AP1, E3 (Letter to Parents and Eligible Students Concerning Military Recruiters and Postsecondary Institutions Receiving Student Directory Information), 7:340-AP1, E4 (Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Military Recruiter Access to Students and Student Information, 7:340-AP1, E5 (Biometric Information Collection Authorization), 7:340-AP2 (Storage and Destruction of School Student Records), 7:340-AP2, E1 (Letter Containing Schedule for Destruction of School Student Records)

Students

Administrative Procedure - School Student Records ¹

This procedure implements policy 7:340, *Student Records*. It contains a **Table of Contents** and lettered **Sections**.

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Sections

A. Legal Citations and Definitions

The legal requirements contained in this procedure are followed by a citation to the controlling rule and/or statute. Citations in parenthesis indicate the location of a named law. For additional clarification regarding a requirement, the cited law should be reviewed.

Definitions are found in the III. School Student Records Act and the III. State Board of Education (ISBE) rules. 105 ILCS 10/2; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.10. For easy reference, some definitions are re-printed in this procedure.

The release of confidential information given by a student to a therapist, e.g., school counselor or psychologist, is not included in these procedures but is governed by the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act (MHDDCA). 740 ILCS 110/.

B. School Student Records Defined

School Student Record means any writing or other recorded information concerning a student and by which a student may be individually identified that is maintained by a school or at its direction or by an employee of a school, regardless of how or where the information is stored. 105 ILCS 10/2(d).

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¹ Modify this procedure to align it with board policy. Customize it to reflect the district's practice, particularly to specify the district's treatment of records that the law: (1) says may be kept as either permanent records or temporary records; and (2) allows to be kept as directory information.

Special Education Records means school records that relate to identification, evaluation, or placement of, or the provision of a free and appropriate public education to, students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. §1400 *et seq.*) and Article 14 of the School Code. These records include the report of the multidisciplinary staffing conference on which placement or nonplacement was based and all records and audio recordings in any format relating to special education placement hearings and appeals. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.10.

A school student record does not include any of the following:

1. Writings or other recorded information kept in a school staff member's sole possession that is destroyed not later than the student's graduation or permanent withdrawal, and is not accessible or revealed to any other person except a temporary substitute teacher. 105 ILCS 10/2(d).
2. Information maintained by law enforcement professionals working in the school. 105 ILCS 10/2(d).
3. Video or other electronic recordings created and maintained by law enforcement professionals working in the school or for security or safety reasons or purposes, provided the information was created at least in part for law enforcement or security or safety reasons or purposes. This includes, without limitation, electronic recordings made on school buses, as described in the exemption from the criminal offense of eavesdropping in 720 ILCS 5/14-3(m). The content of these recordings may become part of a school student record to the extent school officials create, use, and maintain this content, or it becomes available to them by law enforcement officials for disciplinary or special education purposes regarding a particular student. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.10. **Note:** For districts and schools that do not have a designated law enforcement unit, consult the Board Attorney regarding designating an employee to serve as the *law enforcement unit* in order to maintain the security camera and determine the appropriate circumstances in which the school would disclose recorded images.
4. Any information, either written or oral, received from law enforcement officials pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/22-20 concerning a student less than the age of 18 years who has been arrested or taken into custody. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.10. ²

C. Eligible Students Accorded the Rights of Parent/Guardian

All rights and privileges concerning school student records that are accorded to parents/guardians become exclusively those of the student when the student reaches 18 years of age, graduates from high school, marries, or enters military service, whichever occurs first. 105 ILCS 10/2(g). Such students are called *eligible students* in this procedure.

D. Official Records Custodians

Each Building Principal is designated the Official Records Custodian for his or her respective school and has the duties, without limitation, listed below. ³

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² Many lawyers believe that once these records are received by a school, they are protected as education records under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA, 20 U.S.C. §1232g). Consult the board attorney for advice.

³ For districts that have a single District-level records custodian rather than one at each school, use the following alternative sentence: "The District's Official Records Custodian or designee(s) has the duties, without limitation, listed below."

1. Is responsible for the maintenance, care, and security of all school student records, whether or not the records are in his or her personal custody or control, and shall take all reasonable measures to protect school student records through administrative, technical, and security safeguards against risks, such as unauthorized access, release, or use. 105 ILCS 10/4(a) and (b); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.40(g).
2. Reviews student temporary records at least every four years, or upon a student's change in attendance centers, whichever occurs first, to verify entries and to eliminate or correct all out-of-date, misleading, inaccurate, unnecessary, or irrelevant information. The records review is required in any given school year at the time a student first changes attendance centers within the District, but it does not need to be conducted if the student enrolls in a different attendance center later in that same school year. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.40(b).
3. When notified by the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS), purges DCFS's final finding report from the student's record and returns the report to DCFS. If a school has transferred the report to another school as part of the transfer of the student's records, the sending school shall forward a copy of the DCFS's request to the receiving school. 325 ILCS 5/8.6.
4. Manages requests to access school student records.
5. Transfers a certified copy of the records of students transferring to another school and retains the original records.
6. Provides all required notices to parents/guardians and students, including without limitation, each of the following:
 - a. Upon initial enrollment or transfer to the school, notification of rights concerning school student records; the notification may be delivered by any means likely to reach parents, including direct mail or email, delivery by the student to the parent, or incorporation into a student handbook. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.30.
 - b. Annual notification of information that is considered to be *directory information* and of the procedures to be used by parents/guardians to request that specific information not be released. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.80.
 - c. Notification to secondary students and their parents/guardians that they may opt out of the disclosure of students' names, addresses, and telephone listings to military recruiters and institutions of higher learning by submitting a written request that such information not be released without the prior written consent of the parent/guardian. 20 U.S.C. §7908.
 - d. Notification of their right to a hearing to challenge any entry in the school student records (except for academic grades) and Official Records Custodian's name and contact information. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.90.
 - e. Upon a student's graduation, transfer, or permanent withdrawal, notification to the parents/guardians, and if the student is in the legal custody of DCFS, DCFS' Office of Education and Transition Services, of the destruction schedule for the student's permanent and temporary school student records and of their right to request a copy. Notice to parents/guardians or the student may be provided through: (1) the school's parent or student handbook, (2) publication in a newspaper published in the District or, if no newspaper is published in the District, in a newspaper of general circulation within the district, (3) U.S. mail

delivered to the last known address of the parent/guardian or student, or (4) other means provided notice is confirmed to have been received, e.g., hand delivery, return receipt, or read receipt email. 105 ILCS 10/4(h), amended by P.A.s 101-161 and 102-199; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.40(c). ⁴

7. Takes all action necessary to ensure that school personnel are informed of the provisions of the School Student Records Act. 105 ILCS 10/3(c).
8. Performs all actions required of the District described in this procedure and the laws governing school student records.

The Building Principal may delegate any of these duties to an appropriate staff member but shall remain responsible for the duty's execution.

E. Maintenance of School Student Records 105 ILCS 10/2; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.10.

The District maintains two types of school records for each student: a *permanent* record and a *temporary* record.

The *student permanent record* shall consist of the following:

1. Basic identifying information, including the student's name and address, birth date and place, gender, and the names and addresses of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s).
2. Evidence required by the Missing Children Records Act. 325 ILCS 50/5(b)(1).
3. Academic transcripts, including: grades, graduation date, and grade level achieved; as applicable, and if allowed by District policy, scores received on college entrance examinations if that inclusion is requested in writing by an eligible student or the student's parent/guardian⁵; the unique student identifier assigned and used by ISBE's Student Information System (23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.75); as applicable, designation of an Advanced Placement computer science course as a mathematics-based, quantitative course for purposes of meeting State graduation requirements set forth in 105 ILCS 5/27-22, amended by P.A. 101-643; as applicable, designation of the student's achievement of the State Seal of Biliteracy, awarded in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/2-3.159 and 23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 680; as applicable, designation of the student's achievement of the State Commendation Toward Biliteracy, awarded in accordance with 23 Ill.Admin.Code §680.20(c); and as applicable, designation of the student's achievement of the Global Scholar Certification, awarded in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/2-3.169 and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.443.
4. Attendance record.

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⁴ 105 ILCS 10/4(h), amended by P.A. 101-161 and 102-199, requires notice of destruction of student records also be given to DCFS when a student is in its legal custody; however, the law does not specify how that notice is to be delivered to DCFS. A district may wish to rely on item #4 in paragraph e of this list so it has evidence the notice was received.

⁵ 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.10 provides that districts may, through board policy, allow scores received on college entrance examinations to be included on a student's academic transcript if that inclusion is requested in writing by a student, parent or person who enrolled the student. If board policy allows for the inclusion of such scores on academic transcripts, then the district's notification to parents/guardians and students of their school student records rights must include the process for requesting the inclusion. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.30(d)(5).

Note: Though 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.10 uses the phrase "student, parent or person who enrolled the student," student records rights under ISSRA and FERPA attach to eligible students and their parents/guardians, not to "a person who enrolled the student" (though that person is typically a parent or guardian).

5. Health record, defined by ISBE rule as “medical documentation necessary for enrollment and proof of having certain examinations, as may be required under Section 27-8.1 of the [School] Code.”
6. Record of release of permanent record information that contains the information listed in Section I, **Record of Release**, below.
7. Scores received on all State assessment tests administered at the high school level (that is, grades 9 through 12). 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5, amended by P.A. 101-643.

If not maintained in the temporary record, the *permanent record* may include:

1. Honors and awards received.
2. Information concerning participation in school-sponsored activities or athletics, or offices held in school-sponsored organizations.

No other information shall be placed in the permanent record.

The *student temporary record* contains all information not required to be kept in the student permanent record and must include:

1. Record of release of temporary record information that contains the information listed in Section I, **Record of Release**, below.
2. Scores received on the State assessment tests administered in the elementary grade levels (kindergarten through grade 8).
3. Completed home language survey. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §228.15(d).
4. Information regarding serious disciplinary infractions (that is, those involving drugs, weapons, or bodily harm to another) that resulted in expulsion, suspension, or the imposition of punishment or sanction.
5. Any final finding report received from DCFS provided to the school under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act; no report other than what is required under Section 8.6 of that Act (325 ILCS 5/8.6) shall be placed in the student record. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.40(f).
6. Any biometric information that is collected in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/10-20.40.
7. Health-related information, defined by ISBE rule as “current documentation of a student’s health information, not otherwise governed by the MHDDCA or other privacy laws, that includes identifying information, health history, results of mandated testing and screenings, medication dispensation records and logs, e.g., glucose readings, long-term medications administered during school hours, documentation regarding a student athlete’s and his or her parents’ acknowledgment of the District’s concussion policy adopted under Section 22-80 of the [School] Code, and other health-related information that is relevant to school participation, e.g., nursing services plan, failed screenings, yearly sports physical exams, interim health histories for sports.”
8. Accident report, defined by ISBE rule as “documentation of any reportable student accident that results in an injury to a student, occurring on the way to or from school or on school grounds, at a school athletic event or when a student is participating in a school program or school-sponsored activity or on a school bus and that is severe enough to cause the student not to be in attendance for one-half day or more or requires medical treatment other than first aid. The accident report shall include identifying information, nature of injury, days lost, cause of injury, location of accident, medical treatment given to the student at the time of the accident, or if the school nurse has referred the student for a medical evaluation, regardless of whether the parent or guardian, student (if 18 years or older), or an unaccompanied youth has followed through on that request.”

9. Any documentation of a student's transfer, including records indicating the school or school district to which the student transferred. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.75(e).
10. Completed course substitution form for any student who, when under the age of 18, is enrolled in vocational and technical course as a substitute for a high school or graduation requirement. 105 ILCS 10/4; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.445.
11. Information contained in related service logs maintained by the District for a student with an individualized education program under 105 ILCS 5/14-8.02f(d), amended by P.A. 101-643, including for speech and language services, occupational therapy services, physical therapy services, school social work services, school counseling services, school psychology services, and school nursing services.

The *temporary record* may also consist of:

1. Family background information
2. Intelligence test scores, group and individual
3. Aptitude test scores
4. Reports of psychological evaluations, including information on intelligence, personality, and academic information obtained through test administration, observation, or interviews
5. Elementary and secondary achievement level test results
6. Participation in extracurricular activities, including any offices held in school-sponsored clubs or organizations
7. Honors and awards received
8. Teacher anecdotal records
9. Other disciplinary information
10. Special education records
11. Records associated with plans developed under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. §701 *et seq.*)
12. Verified reports or information from non-educational persons, agencies, or organizations of clear relevance to the student's education

F. Retention and Destruction of School Student Records

The permanent record is maintained for at least 60 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. 105 ILCS 10/4(e). The temporary record is maintained for at least five years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. 105 ILCS 10/4(f). Individuals adding information to a student's temporary record must include their name, signature, and position and the date the information was added. 105 ILCS 10/4(d). Temporary records that may be of assistance to a student with a disability who graduates or permanently withdraws, may, after five years, be transferred to the parent(s)/guardian(s) or to the eligible student. Appropriate District personnel shall explain to the student and the parent/guardian the future usefulness of these records. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.40(d). Be sure to provide notice of destruction of school student records pursuant to 105 ILCS 10/4(h), amended by P.A.s 101-161 and 102-199, as noted in D(6)(e), above.

G. Social Security Numbers

School officials, with limited exceptions, may not require students or their parents/guardians to provide social security numbers. 5 ILCS 179/, Identity Protection Act. The collection and retention of social security numbers shall be in accordance with Board policy 4:15, *Identity Protection*.

H. Access to School Student Records

1. The phrase “access to a school student record” means any release or disclosure of information from a student’s school record, whether or not any record is copied. Access in all cases is limited to the designated portion of the record to which the consent or statutory authority applies.

2. Neither the District nor any of its employees shall release, disclose, or grant access to information found in any school student record except under the conditions set forth in the Ill. School Student Records Act. 105 ILCS 10/6. Absent a court order, school officials do not provide educational records to the Immigration Customs Enforcement.

The Building Principal shall grant access to school student records as detailed below. The Building Principal shall consult with the Superintendent and, if authorized, the Board Attorney concerning any questions.

3. Access to Parent/Guardian, Eligible Student, or DCFS

1. A student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) or eligible student, or designee, or DCFS’ Office of Education and Transition Services, when a student is in the legal custody of DCFS, are entitled to inspect and copy information in the student’s school record; a student less than 18 years old may inspect or copy information in his or her permanent school record. 105 ILCS 10/5. A request to inspect or copy school student records shall be made in writing and directed to the Building Principal. Access to the records shall be granted within 10 business days after the receipt of such a request. 105 ILCS 10/5(c). The District may extend this timeline by up to five additional business days if one or more of these six reasons applies:

- a. The requested records are stored in whole or in part at other locations than the office having charge of the requested records;
- b. The request required the collection of a substantial number of specified records;
- c. The request is couched in categorical terms and requires an extensive search for the records responsive to it;
- d. The requested records have not been located in the course of routine search and additional efforts are being made to locate them;
- e. The request for records cannot be complied with by the school district within the time limits prescribed by subsection (c) without unduly burdening or interfering with the operations of the school district; or
- f. There is a need for consultation, which shall be conducted with all practicable speed, with another public body or school district among two or more components of a public body or school district having a substantial interest in the determination or in the subject matter of the request.

4. 105 ILCS 10/5(c-5).

5. The District and the person making the request may also agree in writing to extend the timeline for response. *Id.* The response to an access request for a special education student’s records shall include those school student records located in the special education office.

2. The parent(s)/guardian(s), DCFS, if applicable, or the District may request a qualified professional to be present to interpret the student’s records. 105 ILCS 10/5(b), amended by P.A. 102-199. If the District makes the request, it is responsible for securing and bearing the cost of the professional’s presence.

3. Unless the District has actual notice of a court order or a notice of a *parenting plan* under the Ill. Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act, indicating otherwise:
 - a. Divorced or separated parents/guardians with and without *parental responsibility* (formerly custody) are both permitted to inspect and copy the student's school student records. 750 ILCS 5/602.11.
 - b. The Building Principal shall send copies of the documents listed below to both divorced or separated parents/guardians at either's request. 105 ILCS 5/10-21.8.
 - 1) Academic progress reports or records
 - 2) Emotional and physical health reports
 - 3) Notices of school-initiated parent-teacher conferences
 - 4) School calendar regarding the student
 - 5) Notices about open houses, graduations, and other major school-sponsored events including student-parent/guardian interaction
4. The school will deny access to a student's school records to a parent against whom an *order of protection* (OP) was issued if the OP prohibits the parent from inspecting or obtaining such records pursuant to the Domestic Violence Act of 1986 or the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963. See the Ill. Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act, 750 ILCS 5/602.11(a), and 750 ILCS 60/214(b)(15), and 222(f). Also see **Orders of Protection**, below.⁶
5. Parent(s)/guardian(s) or the student, or if applicable, DCFS' Office of Education and Transition Services, shall not be granted access to confidential letters and recommendations concerning the admission to a post-secondary educational institution, applications for employment or the receipt of an honor or award which were placed in the records prior to 1-1-75, provided such letters and statements are not used for purposes other than those for which they were specifically intended. Access shall not be granted to such letters and statements entered into the record at any time if the student has waived his or her right of access after being advised of his or her right to obtain the names of all persons making such confidential letters and statements. 105 ILCS 10/5(e), amended by P.A. 102-199.

6. Access With Consent of Parent/Guardian or Eligible Student

1. Access will be granted to any person possessing a written, dated consent, signed by the parent(s)/guardian(s) or eligible student, stating to whom the records may be released, the information or record to be released, and the reason for the release. 105 ILCS 10/6(a)(8); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.70(e). Whenever the District requests the consent to release records, the Building Principal shall inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) or eligible student in writing of the right to inspect, copy, and challenge their contents and to limit such consent to designated portions of the records. 105 ILCS 10/6(a)(8).
2. Access to any record that is protected by the MHDDCA, specifically that of a therapist, social worker, psychologist, nurse, agency, or hospital that was made in the course of

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⁶ This may conflict with FERPA in that it restricts a parent/guardian's right to access his or her child's school records more than is expressly permitted by FERPA. 20 U.S.C. §1232g(a)(1)(A), (B); 34 C.F.R. §99.10(a). Contact the board attorney for guidance.

providing mental health or developmental disabilities services to a student, will be granted according to the consent requirements contained in MHDDCA. 740 ILCS 110/4 and 5.

7. Access Without Notification to or Consent of Parent/Guardian or Eligible Student

1. District employees or officials of the ISBE will be granted access, without parental/guardian consent or notification, when a current, demonstrable, educational, or administrative need is shown. Access in such cases is limited to the satisfaction of that need. 105 ILCS 10/6(a)(2). Individual board members do not have a right to see student records merely by virtue of their office unless they have a current demonstrable educational or administrative interest in the student and seeing his or her record(s) would be in furtherance of the interest. 105 ILCS 10/6(a)(2).
2. Access will be granted, without parental/guardian consent or notification, to any person for the purpose of research, statistical reporting, or planning, provided that no student or parent/guardian can be identified from the information released, and the person to whom the information is released signs an affidavit agreeing to comply with all applicable statutes and rules pertaining to school student records. 105 ILCS 10/6(a)(4).
3. Access will be granted, without parental/guardian consent or notification, to another school district that overlaps attendance boundaries with the District, if the District has entered into an intergovernmental agreement that allows for sharing of student records and information between them. 105 ILCS 10/6(a)(13), added by P.A. 102-557.⁷
4. The District will comply with an *ex parte* court order requiring it to permit the U.S. Attorney General or designee to have access to a student's school records without notice to or the consent of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). 20 U.S.C. §1232(g)(j), as added by the Sec. 507 of the U.S.A. Patriot Act of 2001. An *ex parte* order is an order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction without notice to an adverse party.
5. A Serious Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP) committee member will be granted access, but only to the extent that the release, transfer, disclosure, or dissemination is consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). 105 ILCS 10/6(a)(10) allows disclosure to SHOCAP committee members who are "state and local officials and authorities" as those terms are used in FERPA. This federal law does not define "state and local officials and authorities;" rather, it limits when disclosure may be made to such officials and authorities.
6. Juvenile authorities will be granted access when necessary for the discharge of their official duties upon their request before the student's adjudication, provided they certify in writing that the information will not be disclosed to any other party except as provided under law or order of court. *Juvenile authorities* means: (a) a circuit court judge and court staff members designated by the judge; (b) parties to the proceedings under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 and their attorneys; (c) probation officers and court appointed advocates for the juvenile authorized by the judge hearing the case; (d) any individual, public or private agency having court-ordered custody of the child; (e) any individual, public or private agency

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⁷ For elementary or high school districts only. Intergovernmental agreements must meet the following requirements: (1) the sharing must be voluntary and at the discretion of each district; (2) the sharing of student information only applies to students that have a) been enrolled in both districts or b) would have been enrolled in both districts based on attendance boundaries, provided the parent/guardian has confirmed in writing that the student intends to enroll or has enrolled in the high school district; and (3) the sharing of student information does not exceed the scope of information that is shared among schools in a unit district. 105 ILCS 10/6(a)(13), added by P.A. 102-557.

providing education, medical or mental health service to the child when the requested information is needed to determine the appropriate service or treatment for the minor; (f) any potential placement provider when such release is authorized by the court to determine the appropriateness of the potential placement; (g) law enforcement officers and prosecutors; (h) adult and juvenile prisoner review boards; (i) authorized military personnel; and (j) individuals authorized by court. 105 ILCS 10/6(a)(6.5).

7. Military recruiters and institutions of higher learning will be granted access to secondary students' names, addresses, and telephone listings, unless the student's parent/guardian submits a written request that such information not be released without the prior written consent of the parent/guardian or eligible student. Only this written consent process may be used, no other processes, such as an opt-in process, etc., may be used. Military recruiters and institutions of higher learning have access to students' names, addresses, and phone numbers even if the District does not release directory information. 20 U.S.C. §7908. For more information, see 7:340-AP1, E3, *Letter to Parents and Eligible Students Concerning Military Recruiters and Postsecondary Institutions Receiving Student Directory Information*; 7:340-AP1, E4, *Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Military Recruiters Access to Students and Student Information*; ISBE Military Recruitment Access Reminder, announced in State Superintendent Smith's *Weekly Message*, 11-27-18, at: www.isbe.net/Documents/Military-Access-Reminder.pdf. The requirements in this paragraph apply only if the District receives funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. *Id.*
8. DCFS' Office of Education and Transition Services will be granted access if the student is in the legal custody of DCFS. 105 ILCS 10/6(a)(12.5), added by P.A. 102-199 and renumbered by P.A. 102-813.

8. Access Without Consent of, but With Notification to, Parent/Guardian or Eligible Student

1. In accordance with the procedures described in Section L below (Transmission of Records for Transfer Students), access will be granted, without parental/guardian consent, to the official records custodian of another school within Illinois or an official with similar responsibilities of a school outside Illinois, in which the student has enrolled or intends to enroll, upon the request of such official or student. 105 ILCS 10/6(a)(3).
2. Access will be granted pursuant to a court order, provided that the parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be given prompt written notice of such order's terms, the nature and substance of the information proposed to be released, and an opportunity to inspect and copy such records and to challenge their contents. 105 ILCS 10/6(a)(5). Parents of students who are named in a court order or parenting plan shall be deemed to have received the required written notice. The Building Principal shall respond to the order no earlier than five school days after its receipt in order to afford parents/guardians the opportunity to review, inspect, and challenge the records if the parents choose to do so. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.70(d).
9. For the purposes of these procedures, a court order is a document signed by a judge. A subpoena signed by a court clerk, an attorney, or an administrative agency official shall not be considered a court order unless signed by a judge. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.40(a).
3. Information may be released without parental consent, in connection with an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals, to appropriate persons if the knowledge of the requested information is necessary to protect