

## **Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item II.D**

Meeting Date: **February 6, 2025**

Meeting Type: **Workshop**

Item Type: **Board Workshop Item** Future Action Required: **Yes** If Yes, Month: **February**

Subject: **Policy FL(LOCAL) - Directory Information**

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### **Background Information:**

Board Policy [FL\(LEGAL\)](#) establishes student education record maintenance and access guidelines. This policy also clarifies parental rights and procedures regarding the disclosure of “directory information”, which refers to information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. This policy allows the district to make directory information available to the public. In most cases, this information must be provided promptly upon request, unless parents of the student have opted out of providing directory information to the public.

The district clarifies the categories of information it considers to be directory information subject to public disclosure in Policy [FL\(LOCAL\)](#), which currently states the following:

*The District has designated the following categories of information as directory information: student name; address; telephone listing; electronic mail address; photograph; date and place of birth; major field of study; degrees, honors, and awards received; dates of attendance; grade level; most recent educational institution attended; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; and weight and height of members of athletic teams.*

In practice, this designation means that anyone who requests directory information from Abilene ISD, including for-profit vendors and certain third parties, could receive student home addresses, direct contact information, school photographs, and birth details.

To better protect student and family privacy, district administration requested a draft revision of FL(LOCAL) from TASB for your consideration and possible approval. This revision designates two separate categories of directory information in Abilene ISD: (1) items for use only for school-sponsored purposes, and (2) items for all other purposes. If this revision is adopted, student addresses, phone listings, photographs, and dates and places of birth would be designated as directory information for school-sponsored purposes only (e.g., district publications), and the district would no longer be obligated to provide vendors and certain third parties with the ability to directly solicit our students and families.

### **Attached Supporting Documents:**

- Abilene ISD FL(L)-A to A1 proposed revisions 1-28-25 (PDF, TASB)
- Meeting presentation slides (Dr. Ziemer)

**Fiscal Implications:** None

**Administrative Recommendation:** Adopt the proposed revision to FL(LOCAL) as presented.

**Contact Person:** Dr. Jordan Ziemer, Director of Communications