

5060 - Collection, Maintenance, and Dissemination and Retention of Student Records and Information

Schools maintain extensive and intimate information about students and their families for legitimate educational purposes, including instructional, guidance, evaluation, and research. The collection and maintenance of information about students or their families constitutes an intrusion into their privacy. Therefore, efficient administration of student records is a fundamental responsibility of the School District.

The internet and secure web access have altered the ways that confidential information may be accessed, communicated, and transferred by members of society. Those changes are influencing instruction and student learning. The School Board supports access by students, parents/guardians, teachers, and administrators to informational resources that will improve participation in a child's education and improve communication between students, parents/guardians, and the students' teachers.

The Duluth Public Schools manages student information electronically and will make the education records available for viewing only to authorized parents/guardians and students with a secure connection over the internet. All parents/guardians and students will comply with the internet use regulations and all technology regulations/procedures, as well as all other District policies that may apply.

The purpose of a Records Retention policy is to provide a plan for managing student records by giving continuing authority to dispose of records under Minn. Statute 138.17. The responsible authority for the maintenance and security of student records shall be the Superintendent of Schools.

Previously, the School District adopted the Student Records section of the School District General Records Retention Schedule as developed and published by the Minnesota Department of Administration (School Board Resolution B-7-99-1913 dated July 20, 1999). The District will comply with all of the minimum standards set out in the Retention Schedule. Although the District reserves the right to retain certain records for a period longer than the State proposes, it will not shorten any retention period to less than what is recommended by the Department of Administration.

Special Education Records

All records of students receiving special education services will be retained for at least seven years following the last date of eligibility for services to the student. The "last date of eligibility for services" means either the student's graduation or the last day on which the student was eligible for services from the District, whichever is later.

As long as a student is eligible by residence and age to receive special education services, the District will maintain educational data necessary to provide educational services to the student. The District will notify the parents/guardians of a student receiving special education services upon its determination that personally identifiable information about the student is no longer needed to provide educational services.

Reference : MN Data Practices Act, Chap 13

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