

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

Dear Parents/Guardians:

At the beginning of each school year, we are required to notify you about your rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. We also need to update the information that tells us what you want us to do when releasing directory information about your child.

FERPA is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. It also requires that Lexington County School District One obtain your written consent or your student's written consent (if over 18 years of age) prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your student's education records.

Lexington District One may, however, disclose, without prior written consent, appropriately designated "directory information," unless you have advised the district to the contrary.

Directory information is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, and is only that information which is normally included in certain school publications such as yearbooks.

Lexington District One classifies the following student information as directory information: name; address; telephone number; photograph; date and place of birth; major field of study; dates of attendance; school and grade level; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic team(s); degrees, honors or awards received; the most recent educational agency or institution attended; and district-assigned student identification number (not Social Security Number), user ID or other unique personal identifier.

During your child's school career, your child will participate in a variety of academic, athletic, fine arts, and other events and activities. During these events and activities, your child may be photographed and/or interviewed by district staff, school staff or other students. Information about your child may appear in school annuals or yearbooks, and in other places intended for school use such as school newsletters, articles, videos, television broadcasts, displays, websites or promotional pieces including, but not limited to, brochures, fliers, honor roll or other recognition lists, playbills, programs (including graduation and athletic programs), etc.

In compliance with the law, the district routinely discloses directory information (name, address, telephone number) to military recruiters, upon request. The district also routinely discloses directory information to outside organizations such as companies that manufacture class rings, take school photographs or publish school yearbooks.

If you do not want the district to release some or all of your child's directory information without prior written consent, you must notify the district in writing by completing the Directory Information Form available when you register online, or by returning a printed and signed copy of this form to your child's school by Friday, Sept. 4, 2020.

You may change your mind and revoke or revise this authorization at any time (except when action has already been taken) by filling out another copy of this form (available on our website at lexington1.net) and returning it to your child's principal. If you neither own a computer nor have access to the internet, the Gilbert, Lexington and Pelion branches of the Lexington County Public Library system provide computers for public use and internet access.

If you have questions, please call 803-821-1150. Any member of the Communications staff can help you.

Mary Beth Hill, Chief Communications Officer