
CUSTODIAL RIGHTS/PARENTAL PARTICIPATION

SECTION I: General Policy Statement

It shall be the Policy of the Cherokee County School System to encourage parental contact and participation in school related activities unless specifically prohibited by custodial arrangements or custody orders.

SECTION II: Definitions

- A. Enrolling Parent, the parent/guardian, whose parental rights have not been terminated, who actually enrolled the child or children in school and executed all necessary documents for school attendance. In all cases specified herein, the custodial parent or guardian shall supersede the rights of the enrolling parent.
- B. Custodial Parent, the parent, whose parental rights have not been terminated, who has been awarded sole or primary custody of the child or children by a Court of competent jurisdiction. In order to be considered the custodial parent, the school must have on file a certified copy of the Order or Orders preferring custody.
- C. Guardian, an individual who has been declared the legal guardian of a child by a Court of competent jurisdiction. In order to be considered the guardian of a child, the school must have on file a certified copy of the Order or Orders preferring guardianship.
- D. Attorney in Fact, the holder of a duly executed power of attorney recognized by School Board Policy JBC, Sections I.A and I.C.

SECTION III: Parental Participation

Unless specifically ordered by a Court of competent jurisdiction, a certified copy of which is maintained on file with the school, the Cherokee County School System shall allow each parent an opportunity to participate in school related activities, including but not limited to: (1) PTA; (2) school lunches; (3) student programs; (4) parent/teacher conferences; (5) award ceremonies; and (6) field trips.

Access to school shall be denied upon presentation of an affidavit by the guardian, custodial or enrolling parent, which in the principal's opinion provides sufficient facts to exhibit the threat of a disruption of the learning environment if access to the school is allowed.

SECTION IV: Release of Students

Schools shall not release students to individuals other than custodial parent(s)/guardian(s) or enrolling parent(s) without written permission from the custodial parent(s)/guardian(s) or enrolling parent(s). It is the responsibility of the custodial parent(s)/guardian(s) or enrolling parent to notify the school when their child will be picked up or checked out by any one other than those previously designated in the child's records.

SECTION V: Parental Inspection of Student Records

Each parent or guardian of a child presently enrolled within the school system shall be provided full access to student educational records upon reasonable notice at a time designated by the school principal. If the records contain information relating to another student, such information regarding any other student shall not be made available for inspection or review except to the parents or guardian of that student. Each parent regardless of custody arrangement or Orders shall be entitled to inspect and review the educational records of the child or to be provided information concerning their child's progress.

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Cherokee County Board of Education