

POLICY

NORTHVALE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY
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Rights of Parents

9240 RIGHTS OF PARENTS

The Board of Education recognizes that the parents or legal guardians of each child are ultimately responsible for the care and custody of that child, and that both parents or legal guardians share that responsibility equally. The Board recognizes as well that, where only one parent has legal custody of a child, the rights and responsibilities of the other parent may be limited. The Board believes that the interests of the child are best served by the continuing involvement of both parents in the child's life and well-being.

The Board will presume that each natural or adoptive parent or legal guardian of a pupil enrolled in this district possesses full parental rights of access to the pupil and to information about the pupil, notwithstanding any separation of the parents or legal guardians or dissolution of their marriage. Accordingly, and in the absence of notice to the contrary, the Board directs that school administrators accommodate the needs of both parents or legal guardians for access to their child, to their child's teachers, and to information about their child.

The Board's presumption of the equal rights and responsibilities of parents or legal guardians may be set aside only upon the presentation to the Superintendent of proper notice that custody of a pupil resides in only one parent and that the custodial rights of the other parent have been limited. When such notice is duly presented, the Superintendent will be directed by the terms of that notice to limit the access of the noncustodial parent to the child or to information about the child. Proper notice consists of the custodial parent's sworn affidavit or certification supported by a copy of the pertinent portion of a legal agreement or court order that awards custody and establishes the rights and limitation of the noncustodial parent or terminates the parental rights of the noncustodial parent.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed as limiting in any way the rights of the noncustodial parent whose parental rights have not been terminated to full access to his or her child's records.

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.6 et seq.; 18A:47-4;
18A:47-8
N.J.A.C. 6:28-2.9; 6:3-6.1; 6:3-6.5

Adopted: 28 September 1998

