

activities and sports programs.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-5-201 et seq

A.C.A. § 6-21-204

20 U.S.C. 4071 Equal Access Act

Board of Education of the Westside Community Schools v.

Mergens, 496 U.S. 226

(1990)

A.C.A. § 6-18-601 et seq.

Act 1160 of 2011

Date Adopted: 8-28-03

Last Revised: 6-24-10

Last Revised: 9-22-11

5.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Except when a court order regarding a student has been presented to the district to the contrary, all students' educational records are available for inspection and copying by the parents of his/her student who is under the age of eighteen (18). At the age of eighteen (18), the right to inspect and copy a student's records transfers to the student. A student's parents or the student, if over the age of 18, requesting to review the student's education records will be allowed to do so within no more than forty five (45) days of the request. The district forwards education records, including disciplinary records, to schools that have requested them and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll.

The district shall receive written permission before releasing education records to any agency or individual not authorized by law to receive and/or view the education records without prior parental permission. The District shall maintain a record of requests by such agencies or individuals for access to, and each disclosure of, personally identifiable information from the educational records of each student. Disclosure of education records is authorized by law to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A personal record kept by a school staff member is not considered an educational record if it means the following tests:

- it is in the sole possession of the individual who made it;
- it is used only as a personal memory aide; and
- information contained in it has never been revealed or made available to any other person, except the maker's temporary substitute.

For the purposes of this policy, a school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on

an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

For the purposes of this policy a school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility, contracted duty, or duty of elected office.

The District discloses personally identifiable information from an education records to appropriate parties, including parents, in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals. The superintendent or designee shall determine who will have access to and the responsibility for disclosing information in emergency situations.

When deciding whether to release personally identifiable information in a health or safety emergency, the District may take into account the totality of the circumstances pertaining to a threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals. If the District determines that there is an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals, it may disclose information from education records to any person whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

For purposes of this policy, the Fayetteville School District does not distinguish between a custodial and noncustodial parent, or a non-parent such as a person acting in loco parentis or a foster parent with respect to gaining access to a student's records. Unless a court order restricting such access has been presented to the district to the contrary, the fact of a person's status as parent or guardian, alone, enables that parent or guardian to review and copy his child's records.

If there exists a court order which directs that a parent not have access to a student or his records, the parents, guardian, person acting in loco parentis, or an agent of the Department of Human Services must present a file-marked copy of such order to the building principal and the superintendent. The school will make good-faith efforts to act in accordance with such court order, but the failure to do so does not impose legal liability upon the school. The actual responsibility for enforcement of such court orders rests with the parents or guardians, their attorneys and the court which issued the order.

A parent or guardian does not have the right to remove any material from a student's records, but such parent or guardian may challenge the accuracy of a record. The right to challenge the accuracy of a record does not include the right to dispute a grade, which must be done only through the appropriate teacher and/or administrator, the decision of which is final. A challenge to the accuracy of material contained in a student's file must be initiated with the building principal, with an appeal available to the Superintendent or his designee. The challenge shall clearly identify the part of the student's record the parent wants changed and specify why he/she believes it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school determines not to amend the record as requested, the school will notify the requesting parent or student of the decision and inform them of their right to a hearing

5.9—SCHOOL CHOICE

Standard School Choice

The superintendent will consider all applications for School Choice postmarked no later than July 1 preceding the fall semester the applicant would begin school in the District. The superintendent shall notify the parent or guardian and the student's resident district, in writing, of the decision to accept or reject the application within 30 days of its receipt of application.

The District shall advertise in appropriate print and broadcast media to inform students and parents in adjoining districts of the range of possible openings available under the School Choice program. The public announcements shall state the application deadline and the requirements and procedure for participation in the program. Such announcements shall be made in the spring, but in no case later than June 1.

When considering applications, priority will be given to applications from siblings or stepiblings residing in the same residence or household of students already attending the District through school choice.

The District may reject a nonresident's application for admission if its acceptance would necessitate the addition of staff or classrooms exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building, or cause the District to provide educational services not currently provided in the affected school. The District shall reject applications that would cause it to be out of compliance with the applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation. Letters of rejection shall state the reason(s) for the rejection.

The Board of Directors reserves the right to not allow any person who is currently under expulsion from another district to enroll in a District school.

Students admitted under this policy shall be entitled to continued enrollment until they graduate or are no longer eligible for enrollment in the District's schools. Any student admitted to this district under the provision of this policy who chooses to return to his/her resident district during the school year voids the transfer and must reapply for a school choice admission if desiring to return to this district in the future.

Opportunity School Choice

Unless there is a lack of capacity at the District's school or the transfer conflicts with a federal desegregation order applicable to the District, a student who is eligible for transfer from a school identified under A.C.A. § 6-1-5-2103Q(1) may enroll in a District school that has a performance category level 3 or higher as defined by A.C.A. 6-1-5-2103(a) provided the student's parent or guardian, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18) has successfully completed the necessary application process by July 30 preceding the year of desired enrollment.

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5.15—CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL

CONTACT BY PARENTS

Parents wishing to speak to their children during the school day shall register first with the office.

CONTACT BY NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

If there is any question concerning the legal custody of the student, the custodial parent shall present documentation to the principal or his/her designee establishing the parent's custody of the student. It shall be the responsibility of the custodial parent to make any court ordered "no contact" or other restrictions regarding the non-custodial parent known to the principals by presenting a copy of a file-marked court order. Without such a court order on file, the school will release the child to either of his/her parents. Non-custodial parents who file with their principal a date-stamped copy of current court orders granting visitation may eat lunch, volunteer in their child's classroom, or otherwise have contact with their child during school hours and the prior approval of the school's principal. Such contact is subject to the limitations outlined in Policy 5.16 (Admitting Visitors to School Buildings), Policy 6.5, (Visitors to Schools) and any other policies that may apply.

Unless prior arrangements have been made with the school's principal, Arkansas law provides that the transfer of a child between his/her custodial parent and non-custodial parent, when both parents are present, shall not take place on the school's property on normal school days during normal hours of school operation.

CONTACT BY LAW ENFORCEMENT, SOCIAL SERVICES, OR BY COURT ORDER

State Law requires that the Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, may interview students without a court order for the purpose of investigating suspected child abuse. Instances where the interviewers deem it necessary, they may exercise a "72-hour hold" without first obtaining a court order. Other questioning of students by non-school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student if above eighteen (18) years of age) or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant.

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal's designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parents identified on student enrollment forms. The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, guardian, custodian, or person standing in loco parents is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests

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4. To visit his/her parent or legal guardian who is a member of the military and been called to active duty, is on leave from active duty, or has returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting; and
5. For purposes pre-approved by the school administration such as visiting prospective colleges, to obey a subpoena, or to attend at an appointment with a government agency.

The District shall notify the Department of Finance and Administration whenever a student fourteen (14) years of age or older is no longer in school. The Department of Finance and Administration is required to suspend the former student's operator's license unless he/she meets certain requirements specified in the code.

Applicants for an instruction permit or for a driver's license by persons less than eighteen (18) years old on October 1 of any year are required to provide proof of a high school diploma or enrollment and regular attendance in an adult education program or a public, private, or parochial school prior to receiving an instruction permit. To be issued a driver's license, a student enrolled in school shall present proof of a "C" average for the previous semester or similar equivalent grading period for which grades are reported as part of the student's permanent record.

ABSENCE PROCEDURES

1. "Absence" means a student was not present at a roll call or during some portion of the school day.
2. Anything this regulation requires The Principal to do may be delegated; however, the Principal shall maintain supervisory control and accountability for proper performance by the delegate.
3. If formal arrangements are granted, they shall be formalized into a written agreement which will include the conditions of the agreement and the consequences for failing to fulfill the agreement's requirements. The agreement shall be signed by the student, the student's parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis, and the school or district administrator or designee.
4. Principals are authorized to deny academic credit after 2 absences. Principals are authorized to convene a student attendance committee to assist in the implementation of this administrative regulation.
5. Principals shall provide parents a copy of the District policy on excessive absences.
6. When a student has 6 absences, his/her parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis shall be notified that the student has missed half the allowable days for the semester. Notification shall be by telephone by the end of the school day in which such absence occurred or by regular mail with a return address sent no later than the following school day. In addition, when a student has accumulated 9 absences his/her parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis shall be notified by telephone by the end of the school day in which such absence occurred or by regular mail with a return address sent no later than the following school day.

environment conducive to student learning. The Superintendent, principals, and their designees have the right to inspect and search school property and equipment. They may also search students and their personal property in which the student has a reasonable expectation of privacy, when there is reasonable suspicion to believe such student or property contains illegal items or other items in violation of Board policy or dangerous to the school community. School authorities may seize evidence found in the search and disciplinary action may be taken. Evidence found which appears to be in violation of the law shall be reported to the appropriate authority.

School property shall include, but not be limited to, lockers, desks, and parking lots, as well as personal effects left there by students. When possible, prior notice will be given and the student will be allowed to be present along with an adult witness; however, searches may be done at any time with or without notice or the student's consent. A personal search must not be excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.

The Superintendent, principals, and their designees may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to help conduct searches. Such searches may include the use of specially trained dogs.

A school official of the same sex shall conduct personal searches with an adult witness of the same sex present.

State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, may interview students without a court order for the purpose of investigating suspected child abuse. In instances where the interviewers deem it necessary, they may exercise a "72-hour hold" without first obtaining a court order. Other questioning of students by non-school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student, if above eighteen [18] years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant.

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal's designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis on student enrollment forms. The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, guardian, custodian, or person in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests made by a law enforcement officer, an investigator of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

Department of Education for academic credit. Such classes may include special interest, fine arts, technical, scholastic, intramural, and interscholastic opportunities.

Course Enrollment Outside of District

Enrollment and attendance in vocational-educational training courses, college courses, school work programs, and other department-sanctioned educational programs may be used to satisfy the student attendance requirement even if the programs are not located at the public schools. Attendance in such alternative programs must be pre-approved by the school's administration. The district shall strive to assign students who have been dropped from a course of study or removed from a school work program job during the semester into another placement or course of study. In the instances where a subsequent placement is unable to be made, the district may grant a waiver for the student for the duration of the semester in which the placement is unable to be made.

In rare instances, students may be granted waivers from the mandatory attendance requirement if they would experience proven financial hardships if required to attend a full day of school. For the purpose of this policy, proven financial hardships is defined as harm or suffering caused by a student's inability to obtain or provide basic life necessities of food, clothing, and shelter for the student or the student's family. The superintendent shall have the authority to grant such a waiver, on a case-by-case basis, only when convinced the student meets the definition of proven financial hardships.

In any instance where a provision of a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) conflicts with a portion(s) of this policy, the IEP shall prevail.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-210, 211

Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Mandatory Attendance Requirements for Students in Grades Nine through Twelve

Date Adopted: 11-18-04

Revised: 9-22-11

5.7—ABSENCES

Education is more than the grades students receive in their courses. Important as that is, students' regular attendance at school is essential to their social and cultural development and helps prepare them to accept responsibilities they will face as an adult. Interactions with other students and participation in the instruction within the classroom enrich the learning environment and promote a continuity of instruction which results in higher student achievement. In recognition of the need for students to regularly attend school, the district's policy governing student absences is as follows.

Students shall not be absent, as defined in this policy more than 12 days in a semester. When a student has 6 absences, his/her parent, guardian, or person in loco parents shall be notified that the student has missed half the allowable days for the semester. Notification shall be by telephone by the end of the school day in which such absence

Any course work completed by the foster child prior to a school enrollment change shall be accepted as academic credit so long as the child has satisfactorily completed the appropriate academic placement assessment.

If a foster child was enrolled in a District school immediately prior to completing his/her graduation requirements while detained in a juvenile detention facility or while committed to the Division of Youth Service of DHS, the District shall issue the child a diploma.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 9-28-113

Date Adopted: 9-22-11

5.53—PLACEMENT OF MULTIPLE BIRTH SIBLINGS

The parent, guardian or other person having charge or custody of multiple birth siblings in grades pre-K through 6 may request that the multiple birth siblings are placed in either the same or separate classrooms. The request shall be in writing not later than the 14th calendar day prior to the first day of classes at the beginning of the academic year. The school shall honor the request unless it would require the school to add an additional class to the sibling's grade level. If one parent of multiple birth siblings requests a placement that differs from that of the other parent of the same multiple birth siblings, the school shall determine the appropriate placement of the siblings.

The school may change the classroom placement of one or more of the multiple birth siblings if:

- There have been a minimum of 30 instructional days since the start of the school year, and
- After consulting with each classroom teacher in which the siblings were placed, the school determines the parent's classroom placement request is:
 - Detrimental to the educational achievement of one or more of the siblings,
 - Disruptive to the siblings' assigned classroom learning environment, or
 - Disruptive to the school's educational or disciplinary environment.

If a parent believes the school has not followed the requirements of this policy, the parent may appeal the multiple birth siblings' classroom placement to the Superintendent. The Superintendent's decision regarding the appeal shall be final.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-106

Date Adopted: 9-22-11

5.55—GRADING

The Fayetteville School Board recognizes that a system for reporting pupil progress is a vital part of communication between the home and the school. An adequate progress reporting plan should assist students in recognizing their own potential and self worth,

Date Adopted: 8-28-03

Revised: 5-26-05
Revised: 6-24-10
Revised: 9-22-11

5.3—COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Every parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of any child age five (5) through seventeen (17) years on or before August 1 of that year who resides, as defined by policy 5.1-RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS, within the District shall enroll and send the child to a District school with the following exceptions:

The child is enrolled in private or parochial school.

The child is being home-schooled and the conditions of policy 5.6-HOME SCHOOLING have been met.

The child will not be age six (6) on or before August 1 of that particular school year and the parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of the child elects not to have him/her attend kindergarten. A kindergarten waiver form prescribed by regulation of the Department of Education must be signed and on file with the District administrative office.

The child has received a high school diploma or its equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education

The child is age sixteen (16) or above and is enrolled in a post-secondary vocational-technical institution, a community college, or a two-year or four-year institution of higher education.

The child is age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) and has met the requirements to enroll in an adult education program as defined by A.C.A. § 6-18-201 (b).

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-201
A.C.A. § 6-18-207
Date Adopted: 8-28-03
Revised: 6-24-10 Revised: 9-22-11

5.4—STUDENT TRANSFERS

The Fayetteville District shall review and accept or reject requests for transfers, both into and out of the district, on a case by case basis.

Any student transferring from a school accredited by the Department of Education to a school in this district shall be placed into the same grade the student would have been in had the student remained at the former school.

Percent	Letter Grade	Descriptor	Quality Points Regular, Honors & College Placement
100%-90%	A	Excellent	4
89%-80%	B	Good	3
79%-70%	C	Marginally Satisfactory	2
69%-60%	D	Unsatisfactory	1
59%-	F	Failing	0

Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Grading

Although Fayetteville School District is not a member of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program, students transferring into the District from another Advanced Placement (AP) or IB program will be awarded credit as outlined by the Arkansas Department of Education.

Weighted Credit for designated AP and IB courses will be contingent upon the AP/IB teacher obtaining applicable training; the student taking the entire AP/IB course offered in a particular subject; the student completing the applicable test offered by the College Board for AP at the end of the AP course or the applicable test offered by IB at the time prescribed by IB. For students who transfer into FPS and who have credit for ADE Approved Honors Courses in their previous school as reflected on the incoming transcript, these students will receive the additional quality points (same as for AP and IB) for GPA purposes.

Quality Points Advanced Placement/ International Baccalaureate	Descriptor	Percent	Adopted: Amended:	Amended: Amended:	Amended: Amended:
5	Excellent	100%-90%	6-19-89	8-6-91	6-29-93
4	Good	89%-80%	10-28-04	2-24-05	2-28-08
3	Marginally Satisfactory	79%-70%	9-22-11		
2	Unsatisfactory	69%-60%			
0	Failing	59%-			

The children or wards of any person who is at least a half-time employee of this district or of the education coop to which the district belongs but reside in another district are eligible to enroll in District schools.

The Fayetteville School Board, on March 16, 1965, agreed to approve as policy the assignment of all elementary pupils to attend the school in the attendance area in which they live.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-202

A.C.A. § 6-18-203

A.C.A. § 6-27-112

A.C.A. § 9-28-13

Date Adopted: 8-28-03

Date Revised: 9-22-11

5.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

To enroll in a school in the District, the child must be a resident of the District as defined in District policy 5.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS or meet the criteria outlined in policy 5.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS or in policy 5.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN, be accepted as a transfer student under the provisions of policy 5.4—STUDENT TRANSFER, or participate under a school choice option and submit the required paperwork as required by the choice option.

Students may enter kindergarten if they will attain the age of five (5) on or before August 1 of the year in which they are seeking initial enrollment. Any student who has been enrolled in a state-accredited or state-approved kindergarten program in another state for at least sixty (60) days, who will become five (5) years old during the year in which he/she is enrolled in kindergarten, and who meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten upon written request to the District.

Any child who will be six (6) years of age on or before October 1 of the school year of enrollment and who has not completed a state-accredited kindergarten program shall be evaluated by the district and may be placed in the first grade if the results of the evaluation justify placement in the first grade and the child's parent or legal guardian agrees with placement in the first grade; otherwise the child shall be placed in kindergarten.

Any child may enter first grade in a District school if the child will attain the age of six (6) years during the school year in which the child is seeking enrollment and the child has successfully completed a kindergarten program in a public school in Arkansas.

Any child who has been enrolled in the first grade in a state-accredited or state-approved elementary school in another state for a period of at least sixty (60) days, who will become age six (6) years during the school year in which he/she is enrolled in grade one

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FAYETTEVILLE HONORS GRADUATE *SEE BELOW	
English - 4 credits	
Math - 4 credits - Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, 4 th math beyond Algebra II	
Science - 3 credits: 1 credit of Biology, 2 credits from Physical Science, Chemistry or Physics	
Social Studies - 3 credits - 1 credit of American History, 1 credit of World History and 1/2 credit of Civics/1/2 credit of Economics	
Physical Education - 1/2 credit PE	
Health - 1/2 credit	
Fine Arts - 1/2 credit (art, music, fine arts drama)	
Oral Communications - 1/2 credit	
Career Focus Area - 8 credits (2 credits must be in same foreign language)	
Total - 24 Credits	

*Honors Graduate - students must maintain a 3.5 GPA and meet the Honors Graduate Diploma requirements, with 10 credits completed from the qualifying courses listed below.

*High Honors Graduate - students must maintain a 3.75 GPA, meet the Honors Graduate Diploma requirements, with 10 credits completed from the qualifying courses listed below.

*Distinguished-12 credits completed from the qualifying courses listed below.

Qualifying Courses for High/Distinguished Honors Graduates				
Math	English	Science	History	Other
Honors Graduate - students must maintain a 4.0 GPA, meet the Honors Graduate Diploma requirements, with Honors Algebra I	Pre-AP English (9)	Pre-AP Physical Science (9)	AP World History	Spanish III, IV, Honors Spanish
Honors Algebra II	Pre-AP English (10)	Pre-AP Biology	AP Comparative Politics	AP Spanish Language
Honors Geometry	AP English Language/Composition	AP Biology	AP European History	French III, French IV, AP French Language
AP Calculus AB	AP English Literature	AP Physics B	AP Macroeconomics AP	German III, AP German Language
AP Calculus BC	English Composition I	AP Physics C	AP Psychology	AP Studio Art
AP Statistics	English	AP	AP U.S.	AP Music Theory,

