

2017 Annual Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) Notification

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) 20 U.S.C. § 1232 (h) applies to the programs and activities of a school district, or other recipient of funds under any program by the U.S. Department of Education. It governs the administration to students of a survey, analysis, or evaluation that concern one of the more of the following eight protected areas:

- Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
- Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
- Sexual behavior or attitudes;
- Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
- Critical appraisals of others with whom the student has close family relationships;
- Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, medical personnel or ministers;
- Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
- Income, except as required by law.

PPRA also concerns marketing surveys and other areas of student privacy, parental access to information, and the administration of certain physical examinations to minors. The rights under PPRA transfer from parents/legal guardians of a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

Privacy Protection and Parental Notification

1. Canyons School District will obtain prior written consent from parents or legal guardians before students are asked to complete written assignments, answer questions, complete questionnaires, or take psychological or psychiatric examinations, tests, or treatments which reveal any of the above eight protected areas about the student, or student's family, whether such information is personally identifiable or not.
2. A parent or legal guardian will receive written notice at least two weeks before any planned activities or assignments involving information outlined in eight protected areas. This notice will provide a parent/legal guardian with an opportunity to obtain written information about the information requested, including: the purpose of the information; how the information will be gathered and reviewed; a way for you to grant permission to access personally identifiable information; and the individual or entities who will have access to any personally identifiable information.
3. School staff will provide consent forms and will monitor student participation so only students with prior written consent will participate.
4. Unless otherwise agreed to the parent/legal guardian and the person requesting consent, the consent is valid only for the activity/assignment for which it is granted.
5. The two-week prior parental/legal guardian notification requirement is not applicable in a situation which a school employee reasonably believes to be an emergency, in relation to child abuse or neglect reports, or by order of the court.
6. Canyons School District will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202-8520