

Release of Directory Information and Other Student Data

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

Defining Directory Information

In this law schools may disclose, without parental consent, Directory Information. Davenport Community School District has designated specific items as Directory Information as follows:

- student name
- student address and telephone number
- date of birth
- years of attendance
- schools attended

Legitimate Education Interest

The law allows for the release of student information without permission under certain circumstances. Such circumstances include, but are not limited to, the release to school officials with a legitimate educational interest. School officials include those consultants, volunteers, or other parties the District has contracted with to provide educational service(s) or function(s) such as the Iowa Department of Education, the Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency, our literacy collaboration with Scholastic Inc. and other education partners. A legitimate educational interest includes the need for such information to fulfill the school official's professional responsibilities to the District and is consistent with the purpose for which the information is maintained. The District may release student information for this reason without explicit parent permission.

Commercial Purposes Opt-Out

Regardless of the Directory Information provision, the Davenport Community Schools allows families the choice to opt out of sharing Directory Information with any private or commercial concerns such as yearbook publishers, high school class rings, etc. Every year your registration materials will include a section for Directory Information that allows you to request that the district NOT release this information to these vendors or for any commercial purpose.

Military and College Opt-Out

Finally, the Davenport Community Schools receives funds from the federal government under No Child Left Behind act of 2001. These funds are used in a variety of ways to provide additional help to students in greatest academic need. The law also requires that district receiving these funds must, upon request, provide military recruiters, colleges and universities, access to the names, addresses and telephone listings of secondary students. It is important for you to know that a parent/guardian may request that the student's information not be released by the district. The Directory Information section of your registration materials will also include the ability to opt-out of sharing this information to either or both types of organizations.