

Students

Parental/Guardian Notification During the School Year

The Orange Unified School District Board of Education strives to foster on-going communications between the District and parent(s)/guardian(s). To that end, the Board of Education supports the fundamental rights of parent(s)/guardian(s) to be informed of and involved in all aspects of their pupil's education to promote the best outcomes.

It is the intent of the Orange Unified School District in enacting this parental notification policy to do all of the following:

(I) Provide procedures designed to clarify communications between the School District and parent(s)/guardian(s) of pupils.

(II) Bring parent(s)/guardian(s) into the decision-making process for mental health and social-emotional issues of their children at the earliest possible time in order to prevent or reduce potential instances of self-harm.

(III) Promote communication and positive relationships with parent(s)/guardian(s) of pupils that promote the best outcomes for pupils' academic and social-emotional success.

(IV) It is the policy of the Orange Unified School District that District employees, administrators and certificated staff collaborate with parent(s)/guardian(s) in evaluating the needs of students having academic, attendance, social, emotional, or behavioral difficulties and in identifying strategies and programs that may assist such students in maximizing their potential.

(V) Nothing in this policy affects the obligations of the District's employees, administrators, and certificated staff as mandated reporters under Article 2.5 of the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act Sections 11164-11174.3 of the Penal Code, and the District Board Policies 5141 and 5141.4.

(VI) This policy is subject to the confidentiality and limited disclosure provisions in Education Code Section 49602 for pupils 12 years of age or older in the process of receiving counseling from a school counselor.

Consistent with these requirements, the District will provide the following notifications to parents/guardians:

1. The School District through the principal/designee, certificated staff, or school counselor, shall notify the parent(s)/guardian(s), in writing, within three school days from the date any District administrator or certificated staff becomes aware that a student is:
 - (a) Requesting to be identified or treated, as a gender (as defined in Education Code Section 210.7) other than the student's biological sex or gender listed on the student's birth certificate or any other official records. This includes any request by the student to use a name that differs from their legal name (other than a commonly recognized diminutive of the child's legal name) or to use pronouns that do not align with the student's biological sex or gender listed on the student's birth certificate or other official records.

- (b) Accessing sex-segregated school programs and activities, including athletic teams and competitions, or using bathroom or changing facilities that do not align with the student's biological sex or gender listed on the birth certificate or other official records.
 - (c) Requesting to change any information contained in the student's official or unofficial records.
- 2. The principal/designee, or staff shall notify the parent(s)/ guardian(s) of the student immediately or as soon as reasonably possible, that the student has experienced any significant physical injury while on school property or participating in a school sponsored activity.
- 3. All District employees shall take every student's statement regarding suicidal intent seriously. To this end and in accordance with Board Policy 5141.52,
 - (a) Whenever an employee, administrator or certificated staff member suspects or has knowledge of a student's suicidal intentions based on the student's verbalizations or act of self-harm, the employee, administrator or staff member shall promptly notify the principal or school counselor, who shall implement District's intervention protocols, as appropriate, and shall notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) immediately, or as soon as reasonably possible.
 - (b) When a suicide attempt or threat is known, the principal or designee shall ensure student safety by taking the following actions:
 - (I) Immediately secure medical treatment and/or mental health services as necessary;
 - (II) Keep the student under continuous adult supervision until the parent/guardian and/or appropriate support agent or agency can be contacted and has the opportunity to intervene;
 - (III) Notify law enforcement and/or other emergency assistance if a suicidal act is being actively threatened and remove other students from the area in the event of an active suicidal act.
 - (c) The principal or designee shall document the incident in writing, including the steps that the school took in response to the suicide attempt or threat.
 - (d) School employees shall act only within the authorization and scope of their credential or license. An employee is not authorized to diagnose or treat mental illness unless specifically licensed and employed to do so. (Education Code 215).
- 4. The principal/designee or certificated staff shall notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) of any incident or complaint of a verbal or physical altercation involving their student, including bullying by or against their student, within three school days of the occurrence. Any student, parent/guardian, or other individual who believes that a student has been subjected

to bullying or who has witnessed bullying may report the incident to the principal, assistant principal, or teacher.

Any complaint of bullying, whether it is discriminatory or nondiscriminatory, shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with law and in accordance with Board Policy 5131.2.

5. The notification required in sections 1 through 4 above can be by telephone, mail, email or conference. The District employees who make such notification shall either keep a record of such notification (if written) or document such notification (if verbal).
6. For purposes of this Board policy, Education Code Section 49602, Family Code Section 6924, and Health and Safety Code Section 124260, notification of parent(s)/guardian(s) is appropriate, unless specifically prohibited by law.

Fiscal Impact: The Fiscal Impact for implementing this policy will be reported annually and updated as part of the Board of Education's approval and adoption of the District budget.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE:

35160 Authority of Governing Board

49602 Confidentiality of pupil information

51100-51102 Parent/guardian rights

FAMILY CODE:

6924 Counseling Services

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE:

124260 Counseling Services