

Sevier County Schools
FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)
Notice for Directory Information

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), a federal law, requires that the Sevier County School System, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child’s education records. However, the Sevier County School System may disclose appropriately designated “directory information” without written consent, unless you have advised the system to the contrary in accordance with system procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Sevier County School System to include this type of information from your child’s education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student’s role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent’s prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses, and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student’s information disclosed without their prior written consent.¹ (Release of information to military recruiters is done at the high school level only.)

If you do not want the Sevier County School System to disclose directory information from your child’s education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the system in writing within one week of enrollment in the Sevier County School System. The Sevier County School System has designated the following information as directory information:

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|------------------------|--|
| • Student’s Name | • Participation in Officially Recognized Activities and Sports |
| • Address | • Weight and Height of Members of Athletic Teams |
| • Telephone Listing | • Degrees, Honors, and Awards Received |
| • Photograph | • The Most Recent Educational Agency or Institution Attended |
| • Major Field of Study | |
| • Dates of Attendance | |
| • Grade Level | |

¹These laws are: Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7908), as amended by the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (P.L. 107-110), the education bill, and 10 U.S.C. 503, as amended by section 544, the *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002* (P.L. 107-107), the legislation that provides funding for the Nation’s armed forces.

Please indicate your decision regarding release of information by completing the requested information.

_____ I authorize Sevier County Schools to disclose directory information as defined above.

_____ I do not authorize Sevier County Schools to disclose directory information as defined above without prior written parental consent.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student’s Name _____ Grade Level _____

**Return this form to your child’s principal
within 5 days of enrollment in the Sevier County School System.**