



2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

## Notice to Parents/Guardians

### SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving federal financial assistance. In order to fulfill obligations under Section 504, Compass High School has the responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and students. No discrimination against any person with a disability should knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and practices of the school system.

Compass High School has the responsibilities under Section 504, which include the obligations to identify, evaluate, and if the student is determined to be eligible under Section 504, to afford access to appropriate educational services.

If parents or guardians disagree with the determination made by the professional staff of the school district, they have a right to a hearing with an impartial officer.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), also specifies rights related to educational records. This Act gives the parents or guardians the right to: 1) inspect and review their child's educational records; 2) make copies of these records; 3) receive a list of the individuals having access to those records; 4) ask for an explanation of any item in the records; 5) ask for an amendment to any report on the grounds that it is inaccurate, misleading or violates the child's rights; and 6) a hearing on the issue if the school refuses to make the amendment.

If there are any questions, please contact Kerk Ferguson at 520-296-4070.

Or write: Compass High School  
ATTN: Kerk Ferguson  
P. O. Box 17810  
Tucson, AZ 857



## SUMMARY OF CHILD FIND PROCEDURES FOR PARENTS AND STAFF

In compliance with federal legislation, Compass High School has established the following policies and procedure for Child Find purposes:

Compass Policy assures that:

1. Compass will maintain documentation of the public awareness efforts to inform the public and parents within the district's boundaries, including private and religious schools and the County School Superintendent's office regarding homeless and home-schooled children.
2. Screening activities will be implemented for all newly enrolled students and those transferring in without sufficient records.
3. The screening will be completed within 45 calendar days of school entry.
4. The screening will include consideration of academic or cognitive skills, vision, hearing, communication, and emotional, motor and adaptive development.
5. Review referral and follow-up will be done on screenings and documented in the child's cumulative file, with back up data on the district's Child Find Screening Log.
6. Compass High School will maintain documentation and annually report the number of children with disabilities within each disability category that have identified, located, and evaluated.
7. Compass High School will refer children aged birth through two years suspected of having a developmental delay to the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) to determine eligibility for early services, using the Child Find Tracking Form to ensure follow up within 30 calendar days of initial referral.

### Refer Parents of Children Birth to 3 to:

Arizona Early Intervention Program  
AzEIP Contact: Peggy Brown  
Phone Number: (520) 519-1676 Ext. 1169  
Or (800) 501-2765

### Refer Parents of Youth 3 to 21 to:

Special Education Services  
Child Find Contact: Nanette Newell  
Phone Number: (520) 232-8331



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### Annual Notification to Parents Regarding Confidentiality of Student Education Records

**The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)** is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

- Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school within 45 days of a request made to the school administrator. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records without copies. Schools may charge a fee for copies.
- Parents or eligible students have the right to request in writing that a school correct records that they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.
- Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions:
  - School officials with legitimate educational interest
    - A school official is a person employed or contracted by the school to serve as an administrator, supervisor, teacher, or support staff member (including health staff, law enforcement personnel, attorney, auditor, or other similar roles); a person serving on the school board; or a parent or student serving on an official committee or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks;
    - A legitimate educational interest means the review of records is necessary to fulfill a professional responsibility for the school;
  - Other schools to which a student is seeking to enroll;
  - Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
  - Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
  - Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
  - Accrediting organizations;
  - To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
  - Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
  - State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.

Schools may disclose, without consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, sports participation (including height and weight of athletes) and dates of attendance unless notified by the parents or eligible student that the school is not to disclose the information without consent.

**The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)** is a federal law that protects the rights of students with disabilities. In addition to standard school records, for children with disabilities education records could include evaluation and testing materials, medical and health information, Individualized Education Programs and related notices and consents, progress reports, materials related to disciplinary actions, and mediation agreements. Such information is gathered from a number of sources, including the student's parents and staff of the school of attendance. Also, with parental permission, information may be gathered from additional pertinent sources, such as doctors and other health care providers. This information is collected to assure the child is identified, evaluated, and provided a Free Appropriate Public Education in accordance with state and federal special education laws.

Each agency participating under Part B of IDEA must assure that at all stages of gathering, storing, retaining and disclosing education records to third parties that it complies with the federal confidentiality laws. In addition, the destruction of any education records of a child with a disability must be in accordance with IDEA regulatory requirements.

For additional information or to file a complaint, you may call the federal government at (202) 260-3887 (voice) or 1-800-877- 8339 (TDD) OR the Arizona Department of Education (ADE/ESS) at (602) 542-4013. Or you may contact:

Arizona Department of Education  
Exceptional Student Services  
1535 W. Jefferson, BIN 24  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202-5901

This notice is available in English and Spanish on the ADE website at [www.ade.az.gov/ess/resources](http://www.ade.az.gov/ess/resources) under forms. For assistance in obtaining this notice in other languages, contact the ADE/ESS at the above phone/address.