

**NORTHWEST TECHNOLOGY CENTER
2025-2026 POLICY MANUAL
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

POLICY	PAGE NUMBER
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SECTION 9 – RECORDS

Student Records.....	1
Notification of Rights Under FERPA.....	14
Directory Information Notice	16
Agreement for Receipt of Records	17
Document Retention	18
Transfer and Release of Confidential Information.....	21
Open Records.....	23
Open Records Act Schedule of Fees	27

STUDENT RECORDS

Purpose

This policy and the procedures included within it are intended to satisfy the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Oklahoma law. The board of education authorizes the superintendent to inform parents of minor students, adult students and the public of the policy and to take appropriate action to implement the policy and procedures.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

Student - Any individual who attends or has attended a program of instruction sponsored by the board of education of the technology center and for whom it maintains education records.

Eligible student - A student who has reached age 18 or is attending a postsecondary school.

Parent – A parent of a student, including a natural parent, a guardian or an individual acting as a parent in the absence of a parent or guardian. The technology center will assume that either parent has a right of access to records regardless of custody orders unless the technology center has been provided with evidence that the right of access has been revoked. Documents such as a court order or other legally binding document relating to such matters as divorce, separation or custody that specifically revoke the right to inspect and review records must be provided to the technology center to prevent parent access to student records.

Education records - Any record (in handwriting, print, computer media, video or audio tape, film, microfilm, microfiche or other method of recording information) directly related to a student and maintained by the technology center or a party acting for the technology center, except:

1. Records that are kept in the sole possession of the maker, are used only as a personal memory aid, and are not accessible or revealed to any other person except a temporary substitute for the maker of the record.
2. Records of a law enforcement unit of the technology center, but only if education records maintained by the technology center are not disclosed to the unit, and the law enforcement records are maintained separately from education records; maintained solely for law enforcement purposes; and disclosed only to law enforcement officials of the same jurisdiction.

3. An employment record made and maintained in the normal course of business that is not available for use for any other purpose and that relates exclusively to a student in his or her capacity as a technology center employee. (This provision does not include employment activities for which a student receives a grade or credit in a course.)
4. Records on an eligible student that are:
 - A. Made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in a professional capacity or assisting in a paraprofessional capacity;
 - B. Made, maintained or used only in connection with treatment of the student (treatment does not include remedial educational activities or activities that are part of the program of school instruction); and
 - C. Disclosed only to individuals providing the treatment.
5. Alumni records that relate to the student after he or she no longer attends classes provided by the technology center that are not directly related to the individual as a student.
6. Grades on peer-graded papers before they are collected and recorded by a teacher.

Personally identifiable information – The term includes, but is not limited to any information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances to identify the student with reasonable certainty. The term also includes information requested by a person who the technology center reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the education records relate. Personally identifiable information includes the student's name; the student's parents' or other family member's name; the student's or family's address; a personal identifier such as the student's social security number, student number or biometric record; and other indirect identifiers such as the student's date of birth, place of birth and mother's maiden name.

Dates of attendance -

1. The period of time during which a student attends or attended an educational agency or institution. Examples of dates of attendance include an academic year, a spring semester or a first quarter.
2. The term does not include specific daily records of a student's attendance at an educational agency or institution.

Directory information - Information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. Student identification numbers, if displayed on school ID badges, are also considered directory

information *unless* the use of a password or PIN is required to authenticate the use of the ID number.

Authorized representative – An individual directly employed by a local or state educational agency, an entity designated by the local or state educational agency, or an individual employed by such entity engaging in audits, evaluations or any other compliance or enforcement activity.

Early childhood education program – Head Start or Early Head Start programs, state licensed or regulated childcare programs, and other similarly situated programs.

Education program – Elementary, secondary, postsecondary, career and technical institutes and schools or any program that is principally engaged in the provision of education.

Annual Notice

The technology center will notify parents of minor students and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA by means of a technology center newsletter, newspaper notice, school handbook or individual notice. The notice will inform parents of minor students and eligible students that they have the right to:

1. Inspect and review the student's education records. The notice will also identify the procedure for exercising this right.
2. Seek amendment of the student's education records that the parent of a minor student or eligible student believes to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. The notice will also identify the procedure for requesting amendment.
3. Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA and its implementing regulations authorize disclosure without consent. The technology center will also include in the notice its policy for disclosing education records to schools in which the student subsequently seeks or intends to enroll, its criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest.
4. File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning the technology center's alleged failure to comply with FERPA.

The technology center will arrange to provide translations of its annual notice to non-English speaking parents of minor students in their native language and to effectively notify parents of minor students or eligible students who are disabled.

All rights and protections given parents under FERPA and this policy transfer to the student when he or she reaches age 18 or enrolls in a postsecondary school. The student then becomes an "eligible student."

The Right to Inspect and Review the Student's Education Records

Parents of minor students and eligible students may inspect and review the student's education records upon request. In some circumstances, it may be mutually more convenient for the record custodian to provide copies of records. The parent of a minor student or eligible student may also provide consent to have a representative inspect and review the records. Access will be provided during school hours and within no more than 45 days of the request.

Access to a student's confidential records will be provided upon request before any IEP meeting or hearing relating to the identification, evaluation or educational placement of a student or the provision of a free and appropriate education to the student and in all cases within no more than 45 days of a request.

The technology center will not withhold a parent's or eligible student's right to inspect and review student records because of debts owed the technology center.

The right to inspect education records also includes the right to an explanation and interpretation of the records by school officials.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the student's campus director a written request that identifies as precisely as possible the records he or she wishes to inspect. Since a student's records may be maintained in several locations, the campus director should offer to collect copies of records or the records themselves from site locations, so they may be inspected at one site. However, if parents of a minor student and eligible students wish to inspect records where they are maintained, the campus director will make every effort to accommodate their wishes. The campus director will make the needed arrangements as promptly as possible and notify the parent of a minor student or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

When a record contains information about students other than the eligible student, the parent of a minor student or eligible student may not inspect and review the records of the other students.

The technology center is not required to give an eligible student access to treatment records (as defined by the term "education records" in the Definitions section of this policy), but the student may have those records reviewed by a physician or other appropriate professional of the student's choice.

Provision of Records to Receiving Virtual Charter School

The technology center shall transmit a student's records to a virtual charter school within three (3) school days after receiving notice that the student has transferred to the virtual charter school.

Copies of Records

The technology center will provide the parent of a minor student or eligible student with a copy of the student's education records under the following circumstances:

1. If mutually agreed by both the parent of a minor student or eligible student and the technology center.
2. If failure to provide copies would effectively prevent the parent of a minor student or eligible student from exercising the right to inspect and review the records. This may arise when a valid reason, such as working hours, the distance between record location sites or health, prevents a parent of a minor student or eligible student from personally inspecting and reviewing a student's education record.
3. At the request of the parent of a minor student or eligible student when the technology center has provided the records to third parties by the prior consent of the parent of a minor student or eligible student.
4. At the request of the parent of a minor student or eligible student when the technology center has forwarded the records to another school where the student seeks or intends to enroll.

The technology center will charge a fee for copies of education records. When a fee represents an unusual hardship, the record custodian may waive it in part or entirely. However, the technology center reserves the right to make a charge for copies such as transcripts it forwards to potential employers or to colleges and universities for employment or admissions purposes.

The technology center's fee for copies provided under FERPA will range from no cost to .25 per page (actual copying cost less hardship factor). The technology center will not charge for the costs of search and retrieval.

Types and Locations of Education Records in the Technology Center

TYPES	LOCATION	CUSTODIAN
Cumulative Records (current students)	Office of Assistant Superintendent	Central Office Administrative Professional
Cumulative Records (former Students)	Office of Assistant Superintendent	Central Office Administrative Professional
Occasional Records (Student Education Records not identified above, such as those in superintendent's office, in the technology center attorney's office or in the personal possession of instructors)	Office of the Superintendent	Director of Finance

Directory Information

The technology center designates the following information contained in a student's record as "directory information," and it will disclose that information without the prior written consent of the parent or eligible student:

1. The student's name;
2. The student's address;
3. The student's telephone listing;
4. The student's dates of attendance;
5. The student's grade level (i.e., 11th, 12th grade, etc.);
6. The student's participation in officially recognized activities;
7. The student's degrees, honors and awards received;
8. The most recent educational agency or institution attended;

The technology center will notify parents of minor students and eligible students annually of the designated items of directory information by means of a technology center newsletter, newspaper notice, school handbook or individual notice. Parents of minor students and eligible students have the right to exclude directory information from public access by notifying the superintendent's office in writing of any or all of the items they refuse to permit the technology center to designate as directory information about that student. The student's records will be marked to indicate the items the technology center will designate as directory information about that student. This designation will remain in effect until it is modified by the written direction of the minor student's parent or the eligible student.

Use and Disclosure of Student Education Records

Technology center officials may release information from a student's education record if the minor student's parent or the eligible student gives his or her signed and dated prior written consent for the disclosure. The written consent must:

1. Specify the records that may be disclosed;
2. State the purpose of the disclosure; and
3. Identify the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made.

The technology center will only release information from or permit access to a student's education record with a minor student's parent or eligible student's prior written consent, except in the following instances permitted by FERPA:

1. The disclosure is to other technology center officials, including instructors, within the technology center whom the technology center has determined to have legitimate educational interests.

A technology center official is a person employed by the technology center as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member, including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel; a person serving on the board of education; a person or company with whom the technology center has contracted to perform a special task, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant or therapist; or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another technology center official in performing his or her tasks.

A technology center official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. The technology center will use reasonable methods to ensure that officials obtain access to only those education records in which they have legitimate educational interests. The technology center will ensure that its policy for controlling access to education records is effective and remains in compliance with the legitimate educational interest requirement of the FERPA regulations.

A contractor, consultant, volunteer or other party to whom the technology center has outsourced institutional services or functions may be considered a technology center official, provided that the outside party performs an institutional service or function for which the technology center would otherwise use employees; is under the technology center's direct control concerning the use and maintenance of education records; and is subject to the requirements of FERPA regulations governing the use and re-disclosure of personally identifiable information from education records.

2. The disclosure is to officials of another school, school system or institution of post-secondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll or where the student is already enrolled so long as the disclosure is related to the student's enrollment or transfer. (Parents of minor students and eligible students have a right to obtain copies of the records disclosed under this provision).
3. The disclosure is to authorized representatives of the Comptroller General of the United States, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and Local Educational authorities. Military services representatives shall have access to student directory information unless the parent, legal guardian or the student age 18 or older specifically denies such access in writing. Military services representatives have the same access to secondary school students as is generally provided to post-secondary institutions or prospective employers unless denied in writing by the parent, legal guardian or student age 18 or older.
4. The disclosure is in connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or that the student has received, if necessary, to determine eligibility

for the aid, the amount of the aid, the conditions for the aid, or to enforce the terms and conditions of the aid.

5. The disclosure is to organizations conducting studies for or on behalf of the technology center to develop, validate or administer predictive tests, administer student aid programs or improve instruction in compliance with Section 99.31(a)(6) of the FERPA regulations.
6. The disclosure is to accrediting institutions to carry out their accrediting functions.
7. The disclosure is to parents of a student if the parents claim the student as a dependent as defined in Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.
8. The disclosure is to comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. The technology center will make a reasonable effort to notify a minor student's parents or the eligible student before making a disclosure under this provision unless:
 - A. the disclosure is in compliance with a federal grand jury subpoena and the court or other issuing agency has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena or the information furnished in response to the subpoena not be disclosed;
 - B. the disclosure is in compliance with any other subpoena issued for a law enforcement purpose and the court or other issuing agency has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena or the information furnished in response to the subpoena not be disclosed;
 - C. the disclosure is in compliance with an ex parte court order obtained by the United States Attorney General (or designee not lower than an Assistant Attorney General) concerning the investigation or prosecution of an offense listed in the Patriot Act or an act of domestic or international terrorism as defined by law;
 - D. the technology center initiates legal action against a parent or student, the technology center may disclose to the court, without a court order or subpoena, the education records of the student that are relevant for the technology center to proceed with the legal action as plaintiff; or
 - E. the parent or eligible student initiates legal action against the technology center, the technology center may disclose to the court, without a court order or subpoena, the student's education records that are relevant for the technology center to defend itself.
9. The disclosure is to appropriate parties in connection with a health or safety emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals. In making this determination, the technology center may take into account the totality of the circumstances pertaining to a threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals. If the technology center determines that there is an articulable and significant

threat, it may disclose information from education records to any person whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

10. The disclosure contains only “directory information” as defined in this policy, and the parent of a minor student or eligible student has not refused to allow the technology center to designate that item as directory information for the student.
11. The disclosure is made directly to the parent of a minor student or eligible student.
12. If a state law adopted before November 19, 1974, allows certain specific items of information to be disclosed in personally identifiable form from student records to state and local officials or authorities concerning the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve the student whose records are released or if a state law adopted after November 19, 1974, allows such information to be disclosed to state or local officials concerning the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records are released.

Prior to the release of education records without a parent or eligible student’s advance written consent, the technology center will require an authorized representative of the entity receiving the records to complete a written agreement. The agreement will state, at a minimum:

- the identity of the authorized representative
- the specific personally identifiable information that is to be disclosed
- a clear description of the activity and purpose for the disclosure
- the authorized representative will not re-disclose the personally identifiable information
- the authorized representative will destroy the personally identifiable information within the time set forth in the agreement

The technology center will use reasonable methods to identify and authenticate the identity of parents, students, school officials and any other parties to whom the technology center discloses personally identifiable information from education records.

Upon request, the minor student's parent or eligible student may obtain a copy of any records disclosed under this provision.

Record of Requests for Access and Disclosures Made From Education Records

The technology center will maintain an accurate record of each request for access to and each disclosure of personally identifiable information from the education records of each student. The technology center will maintain this record with the student’s education records as long as the records are maintained.

For each request or disclosure the record will include:

1. The name of the party who requested or received personally identifiable information from the education records; and
2. The party's legitimate interests in requesting or obtaining the information.

The technology center will record the following information when it discloses personally identifiable information from education records under the health or safety emergency exception in FERPA:

1. The articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals that formed the basis for the disclosure; and
2. The parties to whom the technology center disclosed the information.

As permitted by FERPA, the technology center may disclose personally identifiable information from an education record only on the condition that the party to whom the information is disclosed will not disclose the information to any other party without the prior consent of the minor student's parent or eligible student. The technology center will inform a party to whom such disclosure is made of this nondisclosure requirement.

In the alternative, the technology center may disclose personally identifiable information with the understanding that the party receiving the information may make further disclosure of the information on the technology center's behalf if:

1. The disclosures meet the requirements of the Use and Disclosure of Student Education Records section of this policy (§99.31);
2. The technology center makes a record of the disclosure that includes the names of the additional parties to whom the receiving party may disclose the information on the technology center's behalf and the legitimate interests each additional party has in requesting or obtaining the information (§99.32(b)); and
3. The technology center maintains a record of the names of state and local educational authorities and federal officials and agencies that may make further disclosures of personally identifiable information from the student's education records without prior written consent and maintains this record with the student's education records as long as the records are maintained (§99.32(b)(2)).

Procedures to Seek to Correct Education Records

Parents of minor students and eligible students have a right to seek to change any part of the student's record they believe is inaccurate, misleading or in violation of student rights. The technology center will not use this procedure to consider a request to change the grade a teacher assigns for a course. Absent authorization from the State Board of Education, the technology center will not modify sex or gender designations on any prior year records.

For purposes of outlining the procedure to seek to correct education records, the term "incorrect" will be used to describe a record that is alleged to be inaccurate, misleading or

in violation of student rights. The term "correct" will be used to describe a record that is alleged to be accurate, not misleading and not in violation of student rights. Also, in this section, the term "requester" will be used to describe the parent of a minor student or the eligible student who is asking the technology center to correct a record.

To establish an orderly process to review and correct an education record for a requester, the technology center may make a decision to comply with the request for a change at several levels in the procedure.

First level decision - When a parent of a minor student or eligible student finds an item in the student's education record that he or she believes is incorrect, he or she should immediately ask the record custodian to correct it. If the record is incorrect because of an obvious error and it is a simple matter to make the record change at this level, the record custodian will make the correction. However, if the record is changed at this level, the method and result must satisfy the requester.

If the custodian cannot change the record to the requester's satisfaction or the record does not appear to be obviously incorrect, the custodian will provide the requester a copy of the questioned record at no cost; ask the requester to initiate a written request for the change; and follow the procedure for a second level decision.

Second level decision - The written request to correct a student's education record through the procedure at this level should specify the correction the requester wishes the technology center to make. It should at least identify the item the requester believes is incorrect and state whether he or she believes the item: is inaccurate and why; is misleading and why; or violates student rights and why. The requester must sign and date the request.

Within two weeks after the record custodian receives a written request, he or she will: study the request, discuss it with other school officials (such as the person who made the record or those who may have a professional concern about the technology center's response to the request), make a decision to comply or decline to comply with the request and complete the appropriate steps to notify the requester or move the request to the next level for a decision.

If, as a result of this review and discussion, the record custodian decides the record should be corrected, he or she will effect the change and notify the requester in writing that he or she has made the change. Each such notice will include an invitation for the requester to inspect and review the student's education record to make certain the record is in order and the correction is satisfactory.

If the custodian decides the record is correct, he or she will make a written summary of any discussions with other officials and of his or her findings in the matter. He or she will transmit this summary and a copy of the written request to the superintendent.

Third level decision - The superintendent or designee will review the material provided by the record custodian and, if necessary, discuss the matter with other officials (such as the technology center attorney or the board of education (in executive session)). He or she will then make a decision concerning the request and complete the steps at this decision level. Ordinarily, this level of the procedure should be completed within two weeks. If it will take longer, the superintendent or designee will notify the requester in writing of the reasons for the delay and a date when the decision will be made.

If the superintendent or designee decides the record is incorrect and should be changed, he or she will advise the record custodian to make the changes. The record custodian will advise the requester of the change as he or she would if the change had been made at the second level.

If the superintendent or designee decides the record is correct, he or she will prepare a letter to the requester which will include:

1. The technology center's decision that the record is correct and the basis for the decision;
2. A notice to the requester that he or she has a right to ask for a hearing to present evidence that the record is incorrect and that the technology center will grant such a hearing;
3. Instructions for the requester to contact the superintendent or designee to discuss acceptable hearing officers, convenient times and a satisfactory site for the hearing. (The technology center will not be bound by the requester's positions on these items, but will, so far as possible, arrange the hearing as the requester wishes.); and
4. Advise that the requester may be represented or assisted in the hearing by other parties, including an attorney at the requester's expense.

Fourth level decision - After the requester has submitted (orally or in writing) his or her wishes concerning the hearing officer and the time and place for the hearing, the superintendent or designee will, within a week, notify the requester when and where the technology center will hold the hearing and who it has designated as the hearing officer.

At the hearing, the hearing officer will provide the requester a full and reasonable opportunity to present material evidence and testimony to demonstrate that the questioned part of the student's education record is incorrect, as shown in the requester's written request for a change in the record (second level).

Within one week after the hearing, the hearing officer will submit to the superintendent or designee a written summary of the evidence submitted at the hearing. Along with the summary, the hearing officer will submit his or her recommendation, based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing, that the record should be changed or remain unchanged.

The superintendent or designee will prepare the technology center's decision within two weeks of the hearing. That decision will be based on the summary of the evidence presented at the hearing and the hearing officer's recommendation. However, the technology center's decision will be based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing. Therefore, the superintendent or designee may overrule the hearing officer if he or she believes the hearing officer's recommendation is not consistent with the evidence presented. As a result of the technology center's decision, the superintendent or designee will take one of the following actions:

1. If the decision is that the technology center will change the record, the superintendent or designee will instruct the record custodian to correct the record. The record custodian will correct the record and notify the requester as at the second level decision.
2. If the decision is that the technology center will not change the record, the superintendent or designee will prepare a written notice to the requester, which will include:
 - A. The technology center's decision that the record is correct and will not be changed;
 - B. A copy of a summary of the evidence presented at the hearing and a written statement of the reasons for the technology center's decision; and
 - C. A notice that the requester may place in the student's education record an explanatory statement that states the reasons he or she disagrees with the technology center's decision and/or the reasons he or she believes the record is incorrect.

Final administrative step in the procedure - When the technology center receives an explanatory statement from a requester after a hearing, it will maintain that statement as part of the student's education record as long as it maintains the questioned part of the record. The statement will be attached to the questioned part of the record, and whenever the questioned part of the record is disclosed, the explanatory statement will also be disclosed.

Complaints

If a parent of a minor student, an eligible student or a citizen of the technology center believes that the technology center is violating FERPA, that person has a right to file a complaint with the Department of Education. The contact information is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-5091
Telephone: (202) 260-3887

Availability of policy

Copies of this policy will be available for the parent of a minor student and eligible student review in the campus director's office of each technology center site and in the superintendent's office.

Reference: O.A.C. 210: 10-1-24

Notification of Rights Under FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that affords parents of minor students and “eligible students” over 18 years of age certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days from the day the technology center receives a request for access.

Parents of minor students or eligible students must submit a written request to the campus director or appropriate technology center official that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. This administrator will make arrangements for access to the education records and will notify the parent of a minor student or eligible student of the time and place where these records may be inspected.

2. The right to request correction of the student's education records that the parent of a minor student or eligible student believes inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights.

Parents of minor students or eligible students may ask the technology center to amend a record they believe is inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. They must submit a written request to the campus director or appropriate technology center official, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights.

If the technology center decides not make changes in the record as requested, the technology center must notify the minor student's parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for correction. Additional information about hearing procedures will be provided to the minor student's parent or eligible student at the time of this notification.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent (34 CFR § 99.31).

Technology center officials with legitimate educational interests are permitted disclosure without consent. An official is a person employed by the technology center as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member, including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel; a person serving on the board of education; a person or company with whom the technology center has contracted to perform a special task, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant or therapist; or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another official in performing his or her tasks.

An official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the technology center will disclose education records without consent to officials of another technology center in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

Technology centers may disclose, without consent, “directory” information; however, the technology center must inform parents and eligible students about directory information, allowing them a reasonable amount of time to request that the technology center not disclose directory information about that student.

Technology centers must notify parents of minor students and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA by means of a special letter, bulletin, student handbook and/or other means left to the discretion of each technology center.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the technology center to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

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

DIRECTORY INFORMATION NOTICE

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

- Recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Press releases.

Two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) as reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 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 minor child's information disclosed without their prior written consent. Directory information will not be released to outside organizations for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

If you do not want the technology center to disclose directory information from your or your minor child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the superintendent in writing. The technology center has designated the following information as "directory information," and it will disclose that information without prior written consent:

1. The student's name;
2. The student's address;
3. The student's telephone listing;
4. The student's dates of attendance;
5. The student's grade level (i.e., 11th grade, 12th grade, etc.);
6. The student's participation in officially recognized activities;
7. The student's degrees, honors and awards received;
8. The most recent educational agency or institution attended;

No parent or eligible student can opt out of the requirement that a student wear his or her ID badge which shows the student's school ID number.

**Agreement for Receipt of
Records Containing Personally Identifiable Information**

Name of Entity Receiving Records: _____

Authorized Representative: _____

Activity or research being conducted which necessitates the disclosure of records:

Records to be disclosed:

Personally identifiable information contained in disclosed records:

Initials

_____ I acknowledge that the records being released to me contain personally identifiable information regarding a student of the school district.

_____ I agree, as a representative of _____ that this information will not be re-disclosed.

_____ I further agree, as a representative of _____ that this information will be destroyed on or before _____. The method of destruction will be: _____.

I certify that I am an authorized representative of: _____
On behalf of the entity, I agree to abide by the terms and conditions set forth in this agreement.

Signature

Date

DOCUMENT RETENTION

The district will maintain all documents and records in a manner consistent with current legal requirements and administrative best practices. School employees are required to treat confidential information appropriately and to take reasonable precautions to ensure that private information is not unnecessarily disclosed to those who do not need such access. Health records will always be stored separately from other student and employee files.

Paper records will be stored in secure locations based on the sensitivity of the information. Electronic records will be properly secured and will be archived with adequate safeguards implemented to ensure that technological advancements do not cause the records to become inaccessible. The district's technology director will regularly evaluate the district's overall document retention program to determine whether the district's retention practices are current. The technology director is responsible for making recommendations regarding the program as needed to the superintendent.

No document will be destroyed if it pertains to a pending claim, even if the document was otherwise scheduled for destruction.

Education Operations

The Superintendent is responsible for maintaining adequate records to effectively plan, operate, evaluate, and make required reports on the district's education program. These records will be maintained as long as the Superintendent determines appropriate based on the specific records.

Student Records

All student education records will be maintained in compliance with the district's policy regarding FERPA. In addition to those standards, school personnel will comply with the following document retention standards:

- Student Transcripts

The Assistant Superintendent is responsible for maintaining student transcripts for 80 years from the student's last day of enrollment in the district. The transcript shall contain the following information:

- Name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Date / place of birth
- Inventory of courses taken, with grades
- GPA and/or class rank

- All academic and extracurricular honors and awards received

- Medical

The Assistant Superintendent is responsible for maintaining medical records. Medical records include items such as immunization verifications, allergy or diabetes plans, and child abuse reports. These records will be maintained 5 years from the student's last date of enrollment.

- Special Education

The special education director is responsible for maintaining special education records. All special education records will be retained for 5 years from the student's last date of special education services. Sixty days prior to destroying any special education record, the district will notify parents and eligible students of their right to retrieve the records rather than having the records destroyed.

- Other

All other student records will be retained for 5 years from the student's last day of attendance in the district. The Assistant Superintendent is responsible for overseeing maintenance and destruction of these records. Thirty days prior to destroying these records, the district will notify parents and eligible students of their right to retrieve the records rather than having the records destroyed. This notification will occur by notice to the parent/student's¹ last known email or physical address.

Board Records and District Financial Records

The Director of Finance is responsible for permanently maintaining all board agendas and minutes, as well as the deeds and titles to all district owned real property.

The Director of Finance is also responsible for maintaining records related to the district's banking transactions and all federal and state program expenditures. The duration of records retained under this section will be determined by the schedule maintained in The Director of Finance's office.

Employee Records

The Director of Finance is responsible for retaining employee records. These records include wage and hour information, routine personnel records, and drug/alcohol testing records. The duration of records retained under this section will be determined by the schedule maintained in The Director of Finance's office.

¹ Destruction notices will be sent to the parent/guardian if the records pertain to a minor. Notices will be sent to the student if the records pertain to an individual who is over age 18.

Electronic Records

All district emails will be retained as long as is practical given the district's technology constraints.

**TRANSFER AND RELEASE
OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

The technology center adopts this policy pursuant to OKLA. STAT. tit. 10 § 620.5.

For purposes of this policy, "confidential information" means any information regarding a student receiving services supported in whole or in part by state or federal funds, a family member of such student, or other persons residing in the home of such student, and which is required by state or federal law or regulation to be maintained in a confidential manner.

The technology center will transfer and release confidential information in accordance with this policy to:

1. The Department of Human Services;
2. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services;
3. The State Department of Health;
4. The State Department of Education;
5. The State Department of Vocational and Technical Education;
6. The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth;
7. The J.D. McCarty Center for Handicapped Children;
8. The Department of Corrections;
9. Private agencies receiving public funds pursuant to a grant or contract with one of the agencies listed in (1) through (8) and providing institutional, community residential or community-based services to children and families as defined by OKLA. STAT. tit. 10 § 1101;
10. Persons and agencies subject to the rules promulgated by the agencies listed in (1) through (8); and
11. Statutorily-constituted juvenile bureaus.

Unless otherwise permitted by state or federal law or regulation, confidential information will only be released to the above-described entities pursuant to (1) a court order or (2) an informed consent that has been executed by (a) the parent or guardian of the minor student or other person authorized by state or federal law to execute such consent, if the subject of the confidential information is a student or (b) the individual who was the subject of the confidential

information or other person authorized by law to execute such consent on his or her behalf, if the subject of the confidential information is an adult. The technology center will use the State of Oklahoma Standard Form Consent for the Release of Confidential Information.

The technology center will follow the rules promulgated by the State Department of Education or the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education for authorizing access to confidential information for the purpose of gathering statistical information or conducting studies or researches otherwise authorized by law.

The technology center shall charge \$.25 per page for all copies made pursuant to this policy plus the actual cost of mailing the copies.

OPEN RECORDS

The board of education adopts this policy in connection with the Oklahoma Open Records Act (the "Act").

Philosophy

The technology center, as a tax supported institution, recognizes that the public has a right to be fully informed concerning its operations. The board strongly believes that informed citizens are vital to the successful functioning of the democratic government process which this technology center desires to exemplify to its students.

In order to achieve these goals, the board of education hereby states that all records of the technology center, except those records designated as confidential in this policy, or, otherwise, as required by federal or state law, shall be open to any person for inspection, copying and/or mechanical reproduction during regular business hours. All persons requesting the right to inspect non-confidential records of the technology center shall be accorded prompt access to those records.

Confidential Records Not Available for Inspection

As permitted by the Act, the technology center hereby designates the following records as confidential and not open for public inspection:

1. Records which can be kept confidential under federal or state law.
2. Personnel records which relate to internal personnel investigations including examination and selection material for employment, hiring, appointment, promotion, demotion, discipline or resignation.
3. Personnel records where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy such as employee evaluations, payroll deductions, and employment applications submitted by persons not hired, and transcripts from institutions of higher education.
4. Bid specifications for competitive bidding prior to publication; contents of sealed bids prior to bid opening; computer programs or software (but not the data thereon); and appraisals relating to the sale or acquisition of real estate prior to the award of a contract – if disclosure would give an unfair advantage to competitors or bidders.
5. Personal communications received from a person exercising rights secured by the Oklahoma or United States Constitution, except for the fact that a

communication has been received and that it is or is not a complaint. Any response to such personal communications shall be confidential only to the extent necessary to protect the identity of the person exercising the right.

6. Individual student records, except for: (a) statistical information not identified with a particular student if such information is maintained in a composite form and (b) directory information as defined in the Act, if, pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act that information (i) has been designated by the school district as directory information and (ii) parents have been notified of and have not exercised their non-release rights.
7. Instructor lesson plans, tests and other teaching materials.
8. Personal communications concerning individual students.
9. Personal notes and personally created materials, when made prior to taking action, making a recommendation or issuing a report. Confidentiality does not extend to departmental budget requests prepared as an aid to memory or research leading to the adoption of a public policy or the implementation of a public project.
10. The home address of any person employed or formerly employed by the technology center.
11. The home telephone number of any person employed or formerly employed by the technology center, where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Records Custodian

The board of education hereby designates its Director of Finance or if such person is not available during regular business hours, then its superintendent as the person authorized to release non-confidential public records for inspection, copying or mechanical reproduction.

Under Oklahoma law, the board clerk is the custodian of the technology center's copy of required school board election related filings. Copies of these documents can be obtained by making a request through the clerk's designee, the Director of Finance.

Fees for Records and for Search for Records

See the Open Records Act Schedule of fees in the Policy Manual and/or in the office of the Director of Finance.

In addition to the costs noted in the Open Records Act Schedule of Fees when a request for public records would clearly cause excessive disruption of the technology center's essential functions or is solely for commercial purpose the technology center will charge a reasonable search fee equaling the actual hourly cost to the technology center. This cost includes the base salary, benefits, taxes, burdens, and retirement contributions paid by the technology center for the employee(s) involved in the search. The requestor will be

charged this hourly rate for all search time, review time, and, if necessary, time spent redacting records prior to production.

The technology center does not consider publication in a newspaper or broadcast by news media as resale or use of data for trade or commercial purposes. However, the technology center shall charge the news media and others the direct cost of copying electronic data.

A search fee shall not be charged when the release of documents is in the public interest, including, but not limited to, release to the news media, scholars, authors and taxpayers seeking to determine whether those entrusted with the affairs of the government are honestly, faithfully, and competently performing their duties as public servants.

Costs associated with reproduction of public records shall be paid by, or on behalf of the requestor, at the time documents requested are to be picked up. In the event of a large records request or a request that involves an outside cost to the technology center, the school may request a deposit, to be set by the records custodian, to be made at the time of the request.

The technology center may require advance payment of the estimated fees when the estimated cost exceeds \$75.00 or if the requestor has outstanding fees from previous requests. Any portion of an advance payment that exceeds the cost of responding to the request shall be returned to the requestor.

Request for Records

Requests for public records shall be made to the attention of the superintendent or the records custodian. The request shall identify with specificity the record or records sought. Where the request for records is unclear or confusing, the records custodian may request that the requestor provide a more precise explanation or description of the records requested. The technology center shall produce records requested promptly, taking into consideration the accessibility of the record, the number and type of records requested, and the press of school business.

An individual requesting public records may be required to requested to use the technology center's request form. If a records request does not describe the requested records with reasonable specificity, the technology center will require the requestor to clarify the request. To have reasonable specificity, a request shall:

- a. specify a general time frame within which the requested records would have been created or transmitted,
- b. seek identifiable records, rather than general information without any qualifiers or other specifications, and
- c. include search terms that are sufficiently specific to assist the public body in identifying the requested records.

If the technology center has engaged with the requestor to seek the information needed to fulfill the request and to identify the records sought by the requestor, including providing the requestor with general topics or a specific list of records related to the request, the request may be denied if it is still not reasonably specific.

Appeal of Denial of Records

If inspection of documents designated as confidential is denied, the person requesting access to such documents shall have a right to appeal the denial to the superintendent.

Appeals Process

If a request for search or copy is denied, or if a requesting party objects to a copy or search fee, then the requesting party may make written appeal within five (5) working days of the denial or objection to the Superintendent or his/her designee.

1. Advise the person making the request of the time and place at which he/she may inspect and/or copy the records and/or the appropriate copy and search fee, or
2. Deny the request.

Reference: OKLA. STAT. tit. 51, §§ 24A.16; 51, 24A.5

OPEN RECORDS ACT SCHEDULE OF FEES

Black & white copy (not exceeding 8.5 x 14" in size)	<i>\$0.25 per page</i>
Black & white copy (11" x 14")	<i>\$0.50 per page</i>
Color copy (not exceeding 8.5 x 14" in size)	<i>\$0.50 per page</i>
Color copy (11" x 14")	<i>\$0.75 per page</i>
Mailing fee (if mail delivery is requested)	<i>Actual cost</i>
Research fee (for research, review, and redacting which exceeds 15 minutes)	<i>\$25.00 per hour</i>
Electronic data conversion (TIFF or PDF)	<i>\$.25 per page</i>

In addition to the costs noted above, when a request for public records would clearly cause excessive disruption of the technology center's essential functions or is solely for commercial purposes the technology center will charge a reasonable search fee equaling the actual hourly cost to the technology center. This cost includes the base salary, benefits, taxes, burdens, and retirement contributions paid by the technology center for the employee(s) involved in the search. The requestor will be charged this hourly rate for all search time, review time and, if necessary, time spent redacting records prior to production.