

STUDENT AND FAMILY PRIVACY RIGHTS**Surveys Requesting Information about Beliefs and Practices**

Note: Education Code 51513 provides that districts shall not administer exams, surveys, or questionnaires containing questions about a student's or his/her family's personal beliefs or practices in sex, family life, morality, and religion unless the student's parent/guardian has provided prior written consent (i.e., "active consent"). The following paragraph regarding surveys is for use by all districts and is **mandated**, pursuant to 20 USC 1232h, for districts receiving funds from a program administered by the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE).

A student's parent/guardian, or a student who is an adult or emancipated minor, shall provide prior written consent before the student is required to participate in a survey inquiring about one or more of the following: (Education Code 51513; 20 USC 1232h)

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or his/her parent/guardian
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or his/her family
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes or personal beliefs and practices in family life or morality
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student has close family relationships
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, or ministers
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or his/her parent/guardian
8. Income, except to the extent that income is required to be disclosed by law for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

Note: Pursuant to 20 USC 1232h, districts receiving funds from a USDOE-administered program are **mandated** to adopt a policy regarding the district's arrangements to protect student privacy in the event that a student participates in a survey requesting information about beliefs and practices as defined above.

If a student participates in such a survey requesting information about personal beliefs and practices, school officials and staff members shall not request or disclose the student's identity.

(cf. 6162.8 - Research)

STUDENT AND FAMILY PRIVACY RIGHTS (continued)

Note: Education Code 51938 creates an exception to the requirement for prior written consent for districts that administer to students in grades 7-12 anonymous, voluntary surveys regarding student health behaviors and risks upon providing written parent/guardian notification and allowing a parent/guardian to opt his/her child out of participation (i.e., "passive consent"). See sections below entitled "Parent/Guardian Access to Surveys and Instructional Materials" and "Notifications."

Notwithstanding the above requirements for prior written consent, the district may administer to students in grades 7-12 anonymous, voluntary, and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure student health risks and behaviors, including tests and surveys about student attitudes or practices related to sex as long as parents/guardians are provided written notice and given an opportunity to request, in writing, that their child not participate. (Education Code 51938)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 51514, as added by AB 677 (Ch. 744, Statutes of 2017), districts that administer a voluntary survey that includes questions pertaining to sexual orientation and/or gender identity are prohibited from removing such questions.

If the district administers a voluntary survey that already includes questions pertaining to sexual orientation and/or gender identity, the Superintendent or designee shall not remove such questions. (Education Code 51514)

Parent/Guardian Access to Surveys and Instructional Materials

Note: 20 USC 1232h **mandates** that districts receiving funds from a USDOE-administered program adopt a policy detailing a parent/guardian's right to inspect (1) survey instruments requesting information about the parent/guardian's or his/her child's personal beliefs and practices and (2) instructional materials used as part of the educational curriculum of the parent/guardian's child, as specified below. Under California law, Education Code 51101 authorizes parental inspection of instructional materials; see AR 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities. In addition, pursuant to Education Code 51938, districts that administer to students in grades 7-12 anonymous, voluntary surveys regarding health behaviors and risks must allow parents/guardians the opportunity to review the instrument and to request that their child not participate.

Pursuant to 20 USC 1232h, those districts that authorize the collection of personal information for marketing or sale (Option 2 in the accompanying Board policy) are **mandated** to adopt a policy concerning a parent/guardian's right to inspect any instrument used for the collection of a student's personal information for purposes of marketing or selling the information.

The parent/guardian of any district student, upon his/her request, shall have the right to inspect: (Education Code 51938; 20 USC 1232h)

1. A survey or other instrument to be administered or distributed to his/her child that either collects personal information for marketing or sale or requests information about beliefs and practices
2. Any instructional material to be used as part of his/her child's educational curriculum

STUDENT AND FAMILY PRIVACY RIGHTS (continued)

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

Note: 20 USC 1232h **mandates** districts receiving funds from a USDOE-administered program to adopt a policy which includes procedures for providing parents/guardians reasonable access to surveys, instruments, and instructional materials within a reasonable amount of time after the request has been received. The following paragraph may be modified to reflect the district's definition of a reasonable timeline and reasonable access.

Within a reasonable period of time after receiving a parent/guardian's request, the principal or designee shall permit the parent/guardian to view the survey or other document he/she requested. A parent/guardian may view the document any time during normal business hours.

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

Note: The following paragraph is **optional**.

No student shall be subject to penalty for his/her parent/guardian's exercise of any of the rights stated above.

Health Examinations

Note: 20 USC 1232h **mandates** a district receiving funds from a USDOE-administered program to adopt a policy on certain physical examinations or screenings that the school may administer to students. The administration of nonemergency, invasive physical examinations requires prior parental notification, as provided below. This requirement does not apply to any physical examination or screening that is permitted without parental notification by an applicable state law.

Authorized school officials may administer to any student any physical examination or screening permitted under California law. However, no student shall be subjected to a nonemergency, invasive physical examination without prior written notice to his/her parent/guardian, unless an applicable state law authorizes the student to provide consent without parent/guardian notification. (20 USC 1232h)

Invasive physical examination means any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts or any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body, but does not include a properly authorized hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening. (20 USC 1232h)

(cf. 5131.61 - Drug Testing)

(cf. 5141.21 - Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)

(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)

STUDENT AND FAMILY PRIVACY RIGHTS (continued)

Notifications

Note: 20 USC 1232h requires that districts receiving funds from a USDOE-administered program notify parents/guardians of the following. A sample notification letter is available on the web site of the USDOE's Family Policy Compliance Office.

At the beginning of the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians of: (20 USC 1232h)

1. The district's policy regarding student privacy
2. The process to opt their children out of participation in any activity described in this administrative regulation and the accompanying Board policy
3. The specific or approximate dates during the school year when the following activities are scheduled:
 - a. Survey requesting personal information
 - b. Physical examinations or screenings

Note: Item #c below is for districts that permit the collection of personal information for marketing or sale (Option 2 in the accompanying Board policy).

- c. Collection of personal information from students for marketing or sale

Prior to administering any anonymous and voluntary survey regarding health risks and behaviors to students in grades 7-12, the district shall provide parents/guardians with written notice that the survey is to be administered. (Education Code 51938)

Parents/guardians shall also be notified of any substantive change to this policy and administrative regulation within a reasonable period of time after adoption of the change. (20 USC 1232h)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)