

CONFIDENTIALITY OF STUDENT COMMUNICATIONS

The Board of Education recognizes that a reasonable expectation of privacy in communications is desirable in order to encourage students with problems to seek appropriate aid from qualified District professional personnel. The Board also recognizes that parents/guardians have an expectation that they will be notified in the event their child is engaging in at-risk behavior or conduct that implicates the child's health, safety and welfare, such as unprotected sexual activity and pregnancy.

Student communications to staff members regarding sensitive issues, such as sexual activity and pregnancy, are not legally privileged; staff shall not promise to hold such information in confidence. It is the policy of the Board of Education that upon learning of a student's at-risk behavior or pregnancy, professional personnel shall notify the building principal and encourage the student to disclose the issue to the student's parent/guardian, including offering to personally meet with the student and his/her parents/guardians. In the event that the student is unwilling or unable to inform his/her parents/guardians, the professional staff member will personally notify the parents/guardians of the pregnancy or at-risk behavior. Where a student's life, physical or mental well being appears to be in danger, the building principal or his/her designee shall be immediately consulted and the parents/guardians will be immediately notified. In the event that a crime has or may have been committed, the police will also be immediately notified.

Adoption date: February 2, 2011