

PUBLIC NOTICE

SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

SCHOOL DISTRICT: Corsica-Stickney School District

DATE: October 2020

Section 504 is an Act which prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in any program receiving federal financial assistance. The Act defines a person with a disability as anyone who:

1. has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities (major life activities include activities such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working);
2. has a record of such impairment; or
3. is regarded as having such impairment.

In order to fulfill obligations under Section 504, the Corsica-Stickney Public School District 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 program and practices of the school system.

The school district has responsibilities under Section 504, which include the obligation to identify, evaluate, and if the student is determined to be eligible under Section 504, to provide appropriate educational services. If the parent or guardian disagrees with the determination made by the professional staff of the school district, he/she has a right to a hearing with an impartial hearing officer.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) also specify rights related to educational records. This Act gives the parent or guardian the right to: 1) inspect and review his/her child's educational records; 2) make copies of these records; 3) receive a list of all individuals having access to those records; 4) ask for an explanation of any item in the records; 5) ask for an amendment of 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 questions, please feel free to contact Scott Muckey, Section 504 Coordinator for the school district, at phone number (605) 946-5475.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Model Notice for Directory Information

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that the Corsica-Stickney School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Corsica-Stickney School District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Corsica-Stickney School District 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

If you do not want the Corsica-Stickney School District to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing. The Corsica-Stickney School District has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's Name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Electronic mail address
- Photograph
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended.

¹These laws are: Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7908)

The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School 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, DC 20202

[NOTE: In addition, a school may want to include its directory information public notice, as required by 99.37 of regulations, with its annual notification of rights under FERPA]

CHILD FIND NOTIFICATION PUBLIC NOTICE

Education Act for All Handicapped Children Act (EAHCA), P.L. 94-142 and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), P.L.101-476, 1997.

Scott Muckey, Superintendent of the Corsica-Stickney School District, in order to fulfill obligations of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act (EAHCA, P.L. 94-142) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA, P.L. 101-476) is required to inform and provide full educational opportunities to all individuals with disabilities ages birth through twenty-one.

The Corsica-Stickney School District, in conjunction with the CORE Educational Cooperative, has developed a system to identify, locate and evaluate individuals in need of special education or special education and related services. This Public Awareness Notice is to inform Parents and other interested individuals/agencies that individuals residing within the Jurisdictions of the Corsica-Stickney School District, age's birth through 21, are to be included regardless of the severity of their disability. This includes individuals in all public and private agencies and institutions within the legal boundaries of the Corsica-Stickney School District.

Anyone that is aware of a child who may benefit from special education and related services is encouraged to call or write the Corsica-Stickney School District Superintendent.

CORE Educational Cooperative personnel specialize in assisting Corsica-Stickney School District in the delivery of special education and related services.

The Birth to Three Service Coordinator, in conjunction with child identification process with the local school district, announces child identification awareness for children Birth through age two. These referrals should be directed to Holly Mosterd, Single Point of Contact, at (605)-680-1949 or (605) 337-3178. The purpose of the child identification process is to identify children, birth through age two, which may need services due to a disability or developmental delay.

Anyone who would like assistance with a possible referral or services should contact the Corsica School District, 120 S Napoleon Ave, phone number (605) 946-5475. You may also contact Valerie Johnson, the Director of the Core Educational Cooperative, at P.O. Box 518, Platte, South Dakota, 57369, phone number (605) 337-3178.

If you have a child who has delays which would qualify him/her for this program, please contact your school administration. The school believes that through early intervention a child may be better able to reach his/her potential.