

## Struthers City School District Bylaws & Policies

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### 2261.02 - TITLE I – PARENTS’ RIGHT TO KNOW

In accordance with the requirement of Federal law, for each school receiving Title I funds, the Superintendent shall make sure that all parents of students in that school are notified that they may request, and the Board will provide the following information on the student's classroom teachers:

- A. whether the teacher(s) have met the State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas they are teaching  
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- B. whether the teacher(s) is teaching under any emergency or provisional status in which the State requirements have been waived  
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- C. the undergraduate major of the teacher(s) and the area of study and any certificates for any graduate degrees earned  
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- D. the qualifications of any paraprofessionals providing services to their child(ren)  
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In addition, the parents **shall** be provided:

- A. information on the level of achievement of their child(ren) on the required State academic assessments;  
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- B. timely notice if the student is assigned to a teacher who is not "highly qualified" as required, or if the student is taught for more than four (4) weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified.  
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The notices and information shall be provided in an understandable and uniform format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parent(s) understand.

20 U.S.C. 6311

[Date]

Dear Parent,

On January 8, 2002, the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (NCLB) was signed into law. Section 1111(h)(6)(A) states that as a parent of a student in *[school name]*, receiving Title I funds, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers instructing your child. Federal law requires the school division to provide you this information in a timely manner if you request it. Specifically, you have the right to request the following information about each of your child's classroom teachers:

- Whether the teacher meets the state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status because of special circumstances.
- The teacher's college major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if so, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please contact *[name]*, *[title]*, either by phone at *[telephone number]*, or in writing at *[address]*.

Sincerely,

*[Name]*

*[Title]*

## **NOTICE TO PARENTS REGARDING TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS**

Sandy Valley Local Schools receives Federal Title I funding and as a parent, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct your child. Federal law allows you to ask for certain information about your child's classroom teacher and requires us to give you this information in a timely manner, if you ask for it. Specifically, you have the right to ask for the following information about each of your child's teachers:

3 If the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas taught

3 If the teacher is teaching under emergency or temporary status in which State qualifications or licensing criteria are waived because of special circumstances

3 The teacher's college major; whether the teacher holds any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees

3 Whether any teachers' aides or similar paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please call the Superintendent's Office, Sandy Valley Local Schools, 330-866-3339.

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### **HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER INFORMATION – HQT**

Currently, all teachers in the Sandy Valley Local School District have college degrees with most possessing Masters degrees. All of our schools are staffed by fully trained and dedicated teachers. In the event that your child has been assigned to be taught, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who has not met the Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) requirements, we will notify you.

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### **NOTIFICATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS UNDER SECTION 504**

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act is a non-discrimination statute barring discrimination on the basis of one's disability. It is the policy of the school district not to discriminate on the basis of disability in its educational programs, activities or employment policies as required by the Act. The Act requires the school district to locate, evaluate and determine if the student is a qualified individual requiring accommodations necessary to provide access to educational programs. Parents are entitled to have the opportunity to review relevant education records under

the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Parents or guardians disagreeing with the decisions reached by school personnel for accommodations necessary for access to educational programming and/or facilities, may request a hearing before an impartial hearing officer by notifying the superintendent. The designated District 504 Coordinator is: Patty Main, who can be reached at Sandy Valley Local Schools at 330-866-3339.

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## **NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and student over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) 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 of the day the District receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the amendment request. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
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.

One exception that permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District 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 school official in performing his or her tasks.

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

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202-4605

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## **CHILD FIND/EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IDEIA**

### **IDEIA**

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA) provides for a free appropriate public education for all individuals with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21. In order to be responsive to the diverse educational needs of all its students, the Special Education Department of Sandy Valley Local Schools provides a continuum of services to be considered in determining the appropriate educational services for each student. The level of need of the student determines the services.

### **Child Find**

Each year school districts throughout Ohio participate in an effort to identify, locate and evaluate all children with disabilities, birth through 21. A disability means there are conditions such as a multihandicap, hearing, visual, orthopedic, and/or other health handicap, severe behavior disorder and/or speech/language handicap. Many times children with disabilities are not visible because they do not function in the mainstream of a community. Parents are not always aware that there are programs and services available for these children. If you know of a child who may have one or more of the suspected disabilities, including pre-school age children, please contact Special Education Department at Sandy Valley Elementary at 330-866-2376.

### **How is eligibility determined for children?**

A child must be evaluated by a school-based team and identified as having a disability to be eligible for special education programs and related services.

### **How can children be referred?**

A referral may be made by a parent or by any person concerned about a child. Parent involvement and consent is obtained prior to any further action. Information is confidential and the privacy of children and parents is protected. Call the Special Education Department at Sandy Valley Elementary School at 330-866-2376 for more information.

## **PUBLIC VIEW ON FUNDS FOR HANDICAPPED STUDENTS – IDEIA-B**

Public comment is solicited on the proposed budget for the expenditure of IDEIA-B funds granted to the Sandy Valley Local School District under provisions of Public Law 94-142 the Education of All Handicapped Act. These monies are to be used for the education of identified handicapped students. Each school district in Ohio is entitled to funds for every identified handicapped child served by the district. The money is used to provide services and to buy equipment and materials. Budget proposals should be directed to the Sandy Valley Schools Special Education Coordinator at 330-866-2376.

