WILLIAMSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

All students will be given the opportunity to succeed in a changing world and become positive contributors to society.

Williamsburg Elementary School

607 Sage Hill Drive Williamsburg, PA 16693 Phone: 814-832-2125 Fax: 814-832-3042



Williamsburg Jr./Sr. High School

515 West Third Street Williamsburg, PA 16693 Phone: 814-832-2125 Fax: 814-832-0115

Lisa M. Murgas Superintendent Jennifer A. Metzler Elementary Principal Kalie R. Zabrosky Business Manager Jennifer L. Frederick High School Principal

Notice to Parents: Student Health Exams, Privacy, and Surveys

August 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents and students who are 18 years old or emancipated minors (i.e., "eligible students") certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection, and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

- <u>Consent</u> before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas (i.e., "protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (USDoE)—
 - 1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parents;
 - 2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
 - 3. Sex behavior or attitudes:
 - 4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
 - 5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
 - 6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
 - 7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parents;
 - 8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of the following:

- 1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
- 2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening as a required condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under state law; and
- 3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

- *Inspect*, upon request and before administration and use:
 - 1. Protected information surveys of students;
 - 2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
 - 3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

The Williamsburg Community School District will develop and adopt policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The Williamsburg Community School District will directly notify parents and eligible students of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. The school district will also directly notify parents and eligible students, such as through U.S. mail or email, at least annually at the start of each school year of the specific or approximate dates of the following activities and provide an opportunity to opt a student out of participating in:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by the USDoE.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening described above.

Parents and/or eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with the:

Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202-4605

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact me at 814-832-2125.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Murgas Superintendent

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Lisa M. Murgas Superintendent Jennifer A. Metzler Elementary Principal Kalie R. Zabrosky Business Manager Jennifer L. Frederick
High School Principal

Notice to Parent of Unsafe School Choice

August 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (Section 9532) requires that all children who attend a persistently dangerous school or become the victim of a violent criminal offense while at school have the opportunity to transfer to another school building within the district (including a public charter school), that is not a persistently dangerous school.

According to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a "violent criminal offense" includes the following offenses set forth in Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes: kidnapping; robbery; aggravated assault (upon the student); rape; involuntary deviate sexual intercourse; sexual assault; aggravated indecent assault; indecent assault; or attempt to commit homicide, murder, or voluntary manslaughter. A "victim" is defined by the state of PA as the student against whom a violent criminal offense has been perpetrated.

Under these standards, a "persistently dangerous school" means any public school that meets the following criteria in the most recent school year and in one additional year of the two years prior to the most recent school year: (1) for a school whose enrollment is 250 or less, at least 5 dangerous incidents; (2) for a school whose enrollment is 251 to 1,000, a number of dangerous incidents that represents at least 2% of the school's enrollment; and (3) for a school whose enrollment is over 1,000, 20 or more dangerous incidents.

All school districts that have a school building designated as persistently dangerous under these standards must submit a corrective action plan to the PA Department of Education, and they will provide assistance to those districts and monitor their progress in implementing the corrective action plans. The PA Department of Education will reassess each school building's designation as "persistently dangerous" at the end of the school year during which the corrective action plan is completed.

In Pennsylvania, if your child has been a victim of a violent crime while in or on school grounds of the public elementary or secondary school be or she attends, he or she must be offered the opportunity to transfer to a safe public school building within the district, including a public charter school. In order for a student victim to be entitled to a transfer, the violent criminal offense first must be reported to law enforcement authorities by the student, the student's parent or guardian, or school officials.

Within ten (10) calendar days of receiving notice of the violent criminal offense, the school district will notify the student victim that he or she has the right to transfer to a safe public elementary or secondary school within the district, including a public charter school. The notification and offer to transfer shall state that no student is required to transfer to another school, but has the option to do so.

The student victim or his/her parent or guardian must apply to the district to transfer within 30 calendar days after the incident is reported to school authorities. Upon receipt of an application to transfer, the school district will transfer the student as soon as possible, but in no more than ten (10) calendar days after receiving the application.

When considering a student's request to transfer to another school, the school district will take into account the particular needs of the student and the parent. To the extent possible, the school district will allow the student to transfer to a school building that is making adequate yearly progress, and one that is not identified as being in school improvement, corrective action, or restructuring.

A charter school only has to accept a student who meets its admission criteria if space is available.

If there is not another safe school within the school district to which students may transfer, the school district is encouraged, but not required, to establish an agreement with a neighboring school district to accept the transfer of students.

If you have any questions regarding student transfer from a persistently dangerous school or because your child has been the victim of a violent crime, please contact me at 814-832-2125. There are no schools in the Williamsburg Community School District that are considered "unsafe" or "persistently dangerous".

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Murgas Superintendent

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