

With changing times in education, the Oklahoma State Department of Education would like to inform parents about child find opportunities. "All children with disabilities, residing in the State, whether attending public or private schools, should be identified, located, and evaluated."

In Oklahoma we require that Child Find applies to all children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education and related services. We want to make everyone aware of this service that is provided to children with disabilities free of charge throughout the State of Oklahoma. If you would like more information on child find, contact Sherrie Webb at Navajo Public School District (580) 482-7742 or the Oklahoma State Department of Education, Special Education Services at (405) 522-3248 for more information. Help to find our children the education they deserve.



**Navajo Public School-**

**15695 South County Road 210, Altus, Oklahoma**

**NOTICE TO PARENTS REGARDING CHILD IDENTIFICATION, LOCATION, SCREENING, EVALUATION**

This notice is to inform parents of the child identification, location, screening, and evaluation activities to be conducted throughout the year by the local school district in coordination with Oklahoma State Department of Education. Personally identifiable information shall be collected and maintained in a confidential manner in carrying out the following activities:

**REFERRAL:** Preschool children ages 3 through 5 and students enrolled in K-12 who are suspected of having disabilities which may require special and related services may be referred for screening and evaluation through local schools. Local school districts and the Regional Education Service Centers coordinate with the Sooner Start Early Intervention Program in referrals for identification and evaluation of infants and toddlers who may be eligible for early intervention services from birth through 2 years of age or for special education and related services beginning at 3 years of age. The Oklahoma Area wide Service Information System (OASIS), through a toll free number (1-800-42-OASIS), also provides statewide information and referrals to local schools and other service providers.

**SCREENING:** Activities may include vision, hearing and health. Other screening activities may include: review of records and educational history; interviews; observations; and specially developed readiness or educational screening instruments. The Regional Education Service

Centers provide assistance and consultation to local schools in these efforts.

(1) **Readiness Screening...** Personally identifiable information is collected on all kindergarten students participating in school-wide screening to assess readiness prior to entry into first grade. Results of the screening are made available to parents or legal guardian or whose parent or legal guardian has filed written objection with the local school district.

(2) **Educational Screening...** Includes accepted procedures for the identification of children who may have special learning needs and may be eligible for special education and related services in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Each school district in the State provides educational screening. No child shall be educationally screened without prior notice to the child's parent or legal guardian or who parent or legal guardian has filed written objection with the local school.

. Educational screening is implemented for all first grade students each year.

. Second through twelfth grade students shall be screened as needed or upon request of the parent, legal guardian, or teacher.

. Students entering the public school system from another state or from within the state without previous educational screening, shall be educationally screened within six (6) months from the date of such entry.

**EVALUATION:** Means procedures used in accordance with Federal laws and regulations to determine whether a child has disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services that the child needs. The term means a procedure used selectively with an individual child and does not include basic tests administered or procedures used with all children in a school, grade, or class. Written consent of the parent or legal guardian for such evaluation must be on file with the local school district prior to any child receiving an initial evaluation for special education and related services purposes.

**..... COLLECTION OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION .....**

Educational records containing personally identifiable information collected by schools in the identification, location, screening, and evaluation of children shall be maintained in accordance with Family Educational Rights and privacy Act (FERPA) and the Policies & Procedures for Special Education in Oklahoma. School districts develop and implement a local policy regarding the collection, storage, disclosure, and destruction of confidential student records. Parents may obtain a copy of the local policy from the local school district's administrator.

These are the right of parents and children regarding personally identifiable information in accordance with FERPA.

. To inspect the students educational records; To request the amendment of education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the students privacy or other right;

. To consent to disclose education records, except where consent is not required to authorize disclosure; To file complaints with the Family Policy and Regulations Office, United States Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202, concerning the alleged violations of the requirements of FERPA (34 CFR S 99.I.99.67); and . To obtain a copy of the FERPA policy adopted by the local school district upon request being made to the local school administrator.

Before any major identification, location, or evaluation, schools shall provide notice to parents. Accommodations for other languages or means of communications may be provided upon request. Such notice shall occur at least annually prior to conducting these activities and shall include the right of parents under FERPA. For further information, contact: Vicki Nance, Superintendent of Navajo Public Schools at 580/482-7742 or come by his office in the high school building.