

BOARD POLICY

Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

Instruction

6164.3 - BP

PARENTAL NOTIFICATION POLICY

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District Board of Education strives to foster trust and communication between the District and the parent(s)/guardian(s) of its students. To that end, the Board supports the fundamental rights of parent(s)/guardian(s) to direct the care and upbringing of their children, including the right to be informed of and involved in their child's education to promote positive educational outcomes.

Due to the current nationwide mental health crisis exacerbated by the global pandemic, the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District recognizes the need for frequent, ongoing and oftentimes immediate communication between school administration, staff, and parents/guardians. Furthermore, with reports of depression, anxiety and suicide rates at an all-time high among public school students, action is needed to address this emerging crisis and support the health and welfare of district students.

California Education Code Section 49602(c) permits school counselors to release confidential information when "Reporting information to the principal or parents of the pupil when the school counselor has reasonable cause to believe that disclosure is necessary to avert a clear and present danger to the health, safety or welfare of the pupil or the following other persons living in the school community: administrators, teachers, school staff, parents, pupils and other school community members."

Therefore, all school counselors within the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District shall comply to the fullest extent with California Education Code Section 49602(c) regarding all non-academic related counseling services with students, within 24 hours when they have reasonable cause to believe that doing so will avert a clear and present danger to the health, safety, or welfare of those identified in Section 49602(c).

Furthermore, Board Policy 2440 provides that, "In any situation in which immediate action is needed to avoid any risk to the safety and security of district students, staff, or property or disruption to student learning, the superintendent or designee shall have the authority to act on behalf of the district."

Furthermore, the Superintendent directs all non-school counselors to notify parents within 24 hours of all non-academic related communications which would "avoid any risk to the safety and security of district students, staff, or property or disruption to student learning as set forth in BP 2440".

It is the intent of Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District in enacting this parental notification policy to integrate parent(s)/guardian(s) into the decision-making process for mental health and social-emotional issues of their children arising at school at the earliest possible time in order to prevent or reduce potential instances of harm to self or others as well as promote communication and positive relationships with parent(s)/guardian(s) of pupils that promote positive educational outcomes for pupils' academic and social-emotional success.

Board Policy Adopted: 10/10/2023