



Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School

185 Pecan Street, Shellman, GA 39886 | P.O. Box 300

Fax: 229.679.2018 | Phone: 229.345.3033

Ginger Almon, School Leader

galmon@sowegastemcharter.org

August 7, 2023

Notice of Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Policy to Parents

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School to the contrary in accordance with Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School to include 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, as amended (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their scholar's information disclosed without their prior written consent. [Note: These laws are Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. § 7908) and 10 U.S.C. § 503(c).] If you do not want Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School to disclose any or all of the types of information designated below as directory information from your child's education records without



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your prior written consent, you must notify Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School in writing by August 31, within two weeks of receiving notice of updated directory/FERPA policies, or—if your child is not enrolled on the first day of class— within one week of enrollment. Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School has designated the following information as directory information:

- Scholar's name.
- Address 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.
- Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a PIN, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.
- A student ID number or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student ID badge, but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a PIN, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.

Again, if you do not want Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School to disclose any or all of the types of the information designated as directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School in writing by August 31, 2023. If you have any questions about this notice, please contact the school - 229.345.3033.