

CUSTODIAL AND NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the intent of the Augusta School Department to promote the best interests of each student enrolled in its schools in partnership with both parents of each student. It shall be the policy of the ASD to maintain strict neutrality between parents who are involved in an action affecting the family.

When parents of a student are separated, involved in divorce proceedings, or are divorced, the building principal will respect the rights of custodial, joint custodial and non-custodial parents equally except when a court order exists concerning special restrictions. It is the responsibility of the residential parent to provide the school principal with a copy of such a court order if restricted access to students or student information is requested.

In family arrangements where there is no marriage or the marriage is not recognized, the biological parent(s), adoptive parent(s), or legal guardians(s) will be recognized as parents(s) of custody except when a court order exists to the contrary.

Parent rights include access to students, student records, assessment information, attendance at parent/teacher conferences and Individual Educational Program (IEP) meetings.

It is the responsibility of the non-custodial and/or non-residential parent to inform the school office of his/her name, address, and phone number if he/she wishes to be consulted regarding the educational progress of his/her child and/or wishes to be placed on the school's mailing list.

Definitions

As used herein, the following terms have the following meanings:

- A. Action affecting the family means an action for divorce, legal separation, annulment, custody, or child support whether pending or completed.

- B. Court order means any order, adjudication, or decree; temporary, interlocutory, or permanent; entered by a judge of competent jurisdiction within Maine or any other state as a result of an action affecting the family.
- C. Custodial parent means the natural or adoptive parent having sole legal custody of a child by virtue of the court order.
- D. Joint custodial parent means a parent who has legal custody of a child, jointly with the child's other parent, by virtue of a court order.
- E. Residential parent means the custodial or joint custodial parent with whom the child is residing during the school year by virtue of a court order.

Adopted: _____