



# SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

1345 Wilson Hall Road • PO Drawer 2039 • Sumter, South Carolina 29151-2039 • (T) 803.469.6900 • (F) 803.469.3769

## *FERPA Notification for the 2017-2018 School Year*

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) allows schools to release “directory information,” *i.e.*, student’s name, address, photograph, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, diploma or certificate, awards received, and other similar information. The District considers photographs to include digital images, including digital photographs and recordings related to school or district-sponsored events, activities, and special recognition, as “directory information.” In addition, federal laws require schools to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories—names, addresses, and telephone listings—unless parents have advised the school that they do not want their student’s information disclosed.

During the course of your child’s school career, he or she will participate in a variety of academic, athletic, fine arts, and other events and activities in which he or she may be photographed or interviewed by district or school staff or news media. Information about your child may appear in newspaper articles, on television, in radio broadcasts, on displays, on the website, on social media, or in district or school promotional pieces (yearbooks, honor roll programs, newsletters, etc.) The release of “directory information” allows us to publicize your child’s accomplishments.

Please note that individual student records including scholastic information, standardized test data, health records, and other similar information are **not** available for public inspection. This information is only available to the student’s parents/guardians or to the student of legal age.

If you object to the release of this information, please notify me in writing at 1345 Wilson Hall Road, Sumter, SC 29150, within 15 days of receipt of this notice. If you do not submit a written objection, the district will be able to release this information as appropriate.

The use of any “directory information” by Sumter School District is for the promotion of our students and district. Any questions concerning student records should be addressed to the guidance office of the individual school.

Sincerely,

Debra W. Hamm, Ph.D.  
Interim Superintendent