



PALMERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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FERPA Notice for Virtual Education

During this difficult time, the Palmerton Area School District is committed to making a good faith effort to provide continuity of education, planned instruction, and appropriate and reasonable services for students while our school district is closed due to COVID-19. One method of doing so is providing instruction, counselling services provided by school counselors or third parties with whom the District contracts (i.e. Concern), related services, and specially designed instruction, to the extent it is appropriate, through video conferencing and other virtual/online platforms. The Palmerton Area School District has made reasonable efforts to ensure that such conferencing is confidential and access is limited to students in the assigned groups. However, some of these services will be provided in a group format and when this occurs, students will be able to see other students in the group. In addition, the Palmerton Area School District is unable to control who else may be in the room in which a student is receiving these services remotely, including but not limited to other family members, who may observe the session, who the other students are in the group and what they are doing.

Therefore, the Palmerton Area School District expects that all families will review and implement the following guidelines and expectations to ensure the confidentiality rights of all students are protected during instructional methodologies which will include group communications, and/or video conferencing.

1. Palmerton Area School District, parent, or any other person within the home at the time the student is receiving services remotely shall not make or maintain recordings of the course content or classroom activity or other group communication that is conveyed via the virtual attendance services.
2. Parents shall make every effort to ensure that no one other than the student scheduled to participate in a virtual attendance service can see or hear the virtual attendance service.
3. If parental or other third-party involvement in a virtual attendance service is necessary to enable a student to participate, the individual assisting the student shall not re-disclose any personally identifiable information about any student involved in the virtual attendance activity.
4. If the parent's electronic equipment malfunctions in any way, the planned virtual attendance services will continue as scheduled.
5. The parties agree that this Agreement does not apply to the video- or audio-taping of any course material by teachers that have been or may be made available to students from time to time.

Suzanne Rentschler

Director of Special Education

Palmerton Area School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and handicap in its activities, programs, services or employment practices as required by Title VI, title IX, and Section 504