

FERPA Defines an Education Record

Education records include a range of information about a student that is maintained in schools in any recorded way, such as handwriting, print, computer media, video or audio tape, film, microfilm, and microfiche. Examples are:

- Date and place of birth,
- Parent(s) and/or guardian addresses, and where parents can be contacted in emergencies;
- Grades, test scores, courses taken, academic specializations and activities, and official letters regarding a student's status in school;
- Special education records;
- Disciplinary records;
- Medical and health records that the school creates or collects and maintains;
- Documentation of attendance, schools attended, courses taken, awards conferred, and degrees earned;
- Student's identification code,
- Social security number,
- Picture or other information that would make it easy to identify or locate a student.

Personal notes made by teachers and other school officials that are not shared with others are not considered education records. Additionally, law enforcement records created and maintained by a school or district's law enforcement unit are not education records.

Part of the education record, known as **directory information**, includes personal information about a student that can be made public according to a school system's student records policy. Mountain Brook Schools DO NOT make public this information lightly and do not share this information unless approved. Requests for large data exports should be made to the Data Governance Committee for review.