APPENDIX B

Notification of Rights Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) for Elementary and Secondary Schools

The Family Educational Rights Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students may ask the school to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading.

If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; or a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist) or a parent or student serving on an official committee such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing their tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill their professional responsibility.

In addition, the student Aid Commission may have access to the grade point average (GPA) of all district students in grade 12 and, when required, verification of high school graduation or its equivalent of all students who graduated in the prior academic year, for use in the Cal Grant postsecondary financial aid program. However, such information shall not be submitted when a student, or their parent or guardian if the student is under 18 years of age, "opts out" or is permitted by the rules of the Student Aid Commission to provide test scores in lieu of their GPA. (EC 69432.9, 69432.92). No later than January 1st each year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify each student in grade 11, and the student's parents/guardians If the student is under 18 years of age, that the student's GPA will be forwarded to the Student Aid Commission by October 1st unless the student opts out within a period of time specified in the notice, which shall not be less than 30 days. (EC 69432.9)

Upon request, the school discloses education records, without prior consent, to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-5920

(Annual Notification)