

## DE SOTO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

491

### CHILDREN OF DIVORCED PARENTS

Either parent may view their child's school records, participate in all school activities, including parent/teacher conferences, and visit their child at school, unless they have been denied periods of physical placement with the child or a court order or other document provides otherwise. It is the responsibility of the parents to notify the District of any such order or document. The terms of the most recent court order shall control.

In the event neither parent to an action affecting the family notifies the principal of the existence of such action, or the principal is advised of the existence of an action affecting the family of a student enrolled in a District school, but neither parent to such action provides the principal with a certified copy of the applicable portion of the most recent court order in such action, neither parent shall be deemed to have rights superior to the other parent with respect to any minor student. In such case, the residence of the parent enrolling the student in a District school shall be considered the student's residence for school purposes.

#### Visiting and Conference Requests

Unless otherwise expressly curtailed or restricted by a provision of a court order with which the principal has been provided, both parents shall be provided all grade reports and teacher conference appointments or summaries and both parents shall be entitled to participate in all school activities, including conferences, in which either parent is permitted to participate. Conferences will be scheduled with the intent that both parents attend at the same time if they wish to participate in the conference. Separate conferences will not normally be scheduled.

Either parent may visit their child at school, unless he/she is prohibited from having contact with a District student under a valid court order, or has been denied all periods of physical placement with his/her child.

A District student may be released from the school to either parent unless the school has been notified that the parent has been denied periods of physical placement with the child or some other court document or order restricts such action by the parent.

LEGAL REF.: Sections 118.125(2)(m) Wisconsin Statutes  
767.24

CROSS REF.: 491-Exhibit, Questionnaire for Parents in an  
Action Affecting the Family

APPROVED:

***NOTE: This policy was found in your district's current policy manual (no code - no approval date). I revised the entire policy freely to emphasize the district's neutrality, the responsibility of parents to provide court documents and to eliminate legal terminology that is no longer current (e.g. "non-custodial parent"). Note that information found in the July 2005 Legal Comment indicates that a policy of neutrality toward parents with regard to parental authority to make educational decisions about their children in the absence of a court order restricting a parent's rights, may facilitate school personnel's efforts to avoid involvement in parental conflicts around school issues. You should review this policy carefully to be sure that it reflects accurately the current position of the board. Also, due to the sensitive nature of this issue, you may wish to have this policy reviewed by district legal counsel. A copy of the Comment is enclosed for your review. (WASB - 11/06)***