

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

PARENTAL CUSTODY AND ACCESS TO SCHOOL INFORMATION

Name of Student _____

Legal and Physical Custody of child is with: (please check one)

Both Parents ___ Mother Only ___ Father Only ___ Other ___ please explain:

Name & address of Custodial Parent: _____

Name & address of Non-Custodial Parent: _____

Name of Guardian or Foster Parent & address where student resides: _____

If custody is not with both parents, please complete the following:

Have you included legal documentation stating:

Custodial Rights?	_____ yes	_____ no	Court Order? (Please attach)	_____ yes	_____ no
Visitation?	_____ yes	_____ no	Does non-custodial parent have access to child?	_____ yes	_____ no
Restraints?	_____ yes	_____ no	May the child be released to non-custodial parent?	_____ yes	_____ no*

*If no, a copy of the document providing legal justification MUST be supplied to the school office to be kept on file.

Will you provide non-custodial parent with the progress information such as report cards and conference reports? _____

If you answered "no" to any of the above questions, please explain _____

School officials are not permitted to restrict parental custody without proper legal documentation.

Please read carefully and sign the bottom of this form.

Recent court decisions and legal opinions have made it clear that school officials must remain neutral towards parents who are separated or divorced. We may not side with one parent against the other regardless of the child's residence or guardianship. Like you, teachers and school officials hope that children can be protected from emotional stress resulting from parental disagreement over matters involving the school.

If you have a court decree, which establishes you as the legal guardian, please make sure that a copy of that document is forwarded to the school principal to be placed in the child's official school record. In some cases, a document can provide legal basis for working with one parent and the exclusion of the other.

In the absence of such a document, you must be aware that school officials cannot deny either parent access to his/her child, or the child's school records. We cannot refuse to provide information or refuse to meet with or work with the other parent. We cannot prevent the other parent from picking up the child from school property.

Officials of the Springfield Township School District wish to protect all children from emotionally upsetting situations. Separated and divorced parents are urged to communicate frequently about their child's school experiences. It is hoped that "ground rules" for involvement with the school can be decided amiably outside of the school so that most problems are resolved before they arise and so that the likelihood of a confrontation in school is reduced. Should you have any concerns or need assistance, you are urged to contact the school principal or guidance counselor.

If you are involved in a separation or divorce, please sign below to indicate that you have read this statement and understand its content. Thank you.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date