

## OPT IN Parent/Legal Guardian Consent form

For many years, the Knox County Schools has utilized an automated parent notification system to quickly and efficiently notify parents of important school and district information – important information such as school closures/delays, security alerts, absence notifications, cafeteria balances, upcoming school activities and more.

Recent updates to the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) will require school systems and organizations across the nation to potentially modify the ways in which it contacts consumers via their mobile device.

In the Knox County Schools, updates to the TCPA law will now **require all parents to “opt in” to receive automated communications on their mobile device** – this means parents must provide written permission to receive automated calls and SMS text messages on their mobile device(s). An exception to this updated law is if the call or text is for emergency purposes, in which consent is not required. Additionally, revisions to the law do not require a parent to “opt in” to receive non-automated calls directly from a principal, teacher or other staff member.

Please take a moment to fill out this very important consent form so that we can obtain your permission, as well as contact you according to your preferences.

Instead of filing out this form, parents can take action now through the SchoolMessenger InfoCenter. Simply go to [schoolmessenger.com/start](http://schoolmessenger.com/start) – create an account by clicking “Sign Up” on the top right menu, and use the email address that you have provided the school. Parents or legal guardians can choose how to be contacted based on the category of message (from emergencies to school activities) and provide contact permission. There is also a SchoolMessenger InfoCenter app that can be used directly from your mobile device. *If you provide consent through the online SchoolMessenger InfoCenter, you do not need to fill out this consent form.*

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### PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN CONSENT:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (PRINTED parent/guardian name) give the Knox County Schools and its schools permission to contact me via my cellular device for automated phone calls and SMS text messages for general messages. I understand that emergency notifications are excluded from this permission and will be sent as normal. By signing, I certify that I am the owner of this cellular device and its user contract.

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Parent/legal guardian signature AND date

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Cellular number

**PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED PAPER FORMS TO THE IT DEPARTMENT, ATTN. JULIE WOLFENBARGER**