

<b>Section J:</b>  <b>Students</b>	<b>Knox County Board of Education</b>		
	Descriptor Term:	Descriptor Code:	Issued:
	<b>Child Custody/Parental Access</b>	<b>J-390</b>	<b>10/96</b>
		Reviewed:	Revised:
	<b>7/17</b>	<b>6/08</b>	

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The Board presumes that the person who enrolls a student in school is the student's custodial parent or guardian. Unless a Tennessee court specifies otherwise, the custodial parent/guardian shall be the one whom the school district holds responsible for the education and welfare of that child.

Parents or guardians shall have the right to receive information contained in school records concerning their minor child.<sup>1</sup> The Board, unless informed otherwise, assumes there are no restrictions regarding the noncustodial parent's right to be kept informed of the student's progress through educational records. If restrictions are made relative to the rights of the non-custodial parent, the custodial parent shall be requested to submit a certified copy of the court order which curtails these specific rights.

Unless there are specific court-imposed restrictions, the non-custodial parent, upon request, shall be given access to all of the student's educational records including but not limited to the student's cumulative file and the student's special education file, if applicable.<sup>2</sup>

No principal or teacher shall permit a change in the physical custody of a child at school unless:

1. The person seeking custody of the child presents the school official with a certified copy of a valid court order from a Tennessee court designating the person who has custody of the child; and
2. The person seeking custody gives the school official reasonable advance notice of his/her intent to take custody of the child at school.<sup>3</sup>

Legal References:

1. 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974).  
2. T.C.A. § 49-6-902.  
3. T.C.A. § 36-6-105.