

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dorma Baker Superintendent

February 25, 2016

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT DATA AND YOUR RIGHT AND OPPORTUNITY TO OPT-OUT

Please read this message carefully as you may want to take action regarding your student's education records.

A recent lawsuit against the California Department of Education (CDE) is impacting all school districts across the state, including ours. The case has received significant attention from the media, so we want to provide you with more information on how it might affect families in our district.

In April 2012, two organizations, the Morgan Hill Concerned Parents Association and the Concerned Parent Association, filed a lawsuit against the CDE alleging widespread, systemic non-compliance by local education agencies with special education laws. The suit also alleges the CDE fails to monitor, investigate and correct such non-compliance in accordance with the law. The CDE denies these allegations and is actively defending the litigation.

Our district is not involved in the lawsuit and is not the subject of any of the suit's allegations. Nonetheless, as a part of this lawsuit, CDE has been ordered by the court to release all data it has collected on general and special education students statewide since Jan. 1, 2008 and PVUSD must comply with such order.

For more information regarding the release of this data, visit <u>this CDE</u> <u>website</u>. You may also contact the California Department of Education at 916-319-0800.

OBJECTION FORM S MUST BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE COURTS NOT THE DISTRICT

Parents/Guardians may complete and mail in an Objection Form to prevent the release of student data:

http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/ws/documents/form2016jan26.pdf. This must be done by April 1, 2016.

A firm, F3, has published a NewsFlash with more information on this lawsuit: <u>http://www.f3law.com/newsflash.php?nf=491</u>

And lastly, you can find Superintendent Torlakson's messages regarding this matter at the following web address: http://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr16/yr16rel15.asp

For your convenience, this letter is posted on the district's website for access to the links and objection forms.

Board of Education

Maria Orozco President

Leslie DeRose Vice President/Clerk

Kim De Serpa

Karen Osmundson

Dr. Lupe Rivas

Jeff Ursino

Willie Yahiro