

Student Privacy Statement and Volunteer Confidentiality Agreement

Students in the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District have the right to expect that all volunteers working in its school system will keep information about them confidential. The California Education Code prohibits volunteers from giving out any personal information concerning any pupil who is not his or her own child to any person other than a teacher or administrator in the school. The statute also prohibits the disclosure of any information including discussing a child’s circumstance without using his/her name.

Additionally, the U.S. congress has addressed the privacy-related concerns of educators, parents, and students by enacting the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (known more commonly as “FERPA” or the “Buckley Amendment”). Among other provisions, FERPA allows the government to withdraw federal funds from any educational institution, including the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District, which disseminates a student’s education records without his or her parent’s consent.

- Each student with whom you work has the right to expect that nothing that happens to or about him or her will be repeated to anyone other than authorized school department employees, as designated by the administrators at your school. Even when discussing a student with those who are directly involved in a student’s education, such as a teacher, principal, or guidance counselor, you may not share otherwise confidential information with them unless it is relevant to the student’s educational growth, safety, or well being.
- You may not share information about a student even with others who are genuinely interested in the student’s welfare, such as social workers, scout leaders, clergy, or nurses/physicians (a grave medical emergency, in which confidential information may be necessary for a student’s care, is the only exception). Thus, you must refer all such questions to the school employees so authorized and indicated to you, typically the student’s teacher or principal.
- Parents, friends, or community members may in good faith ask you questions about a student’s problems or progress. Again, you must refer all such questions to the authorized school employees. You may not share information about a student even with members of you own family or the student’s family.
- Remember that violating a student’s confidentiality isn’t just unethical; it is against the law.

AGREEMENT:

I, (print name) _____, as a volunteer for San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District agree to never disclose information either verbal, written, or electronically, about a student to anyone other than an authorized school employee (teacher or administrator). I will refer all requests for such information from those not directly involved in the student’s education to authorized school department employees.

Signature

Date