

Northwest Regional Education Service District

Code: **JOB-AR(1)**

Revised/Reviewed: 2/28/13; 8/08/17; 1/19/2020

Orig. Code(s): JOB-AR(1)

General Use – Opt Out for Interviews/Photos/Recording/Filming with District and/or the News Media

Northwest Regional Education Service District and/or the news media will occasionally take photographs, record or film and/or interview children/students enrolled in programs. Photos, recordings and audio interviews could be used in a variety of ways, including NWRESD's websites, promotional and educational flyers and fact sheets, news releases, promotional and educational videos, social media channels and other promotional and educational projects as well as in news broadcasts and news articles.

NWRESD has an opt-out form for families who choose not to allow their child's likeness to be released. The attached opt-out form does not opt your child out of photos that are used for instructional or security purposes (e.g. district transportation requests).

Students in Day Treatment Program and Levi Anderson Learning Center are automatically opted out of all media unless they otherwise opt in.

Information about why we are using an opt-out system

Background

At Northwest Regional Education Service District, we like to showcase our students and all the positive things they do. We enjoy sharing our stories with our students, families and communities in Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook and Washington counties and beyond. Our agency shares about program, school and student life in a variety of ways, including but not limited to print, video, and web. Parents and community members use these resources as a great way to stay connected and see what is happening inside our schools and district.

Special security concerns

We realize that there are situations where the sharing of simple student information (name, photo, age, etc.) could pose a security risk (custody issues, witness protection, etc.). We work with families to help protect students in any case where certain issues are present.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

We adhere to the FERPA guidelines and allow for student privacy when requested with this form by parents or legal guardians of students less than 18 years of age. Students over 18 years of age can fill out this form on their behalf.

Managing the release of student information

While it is technically impossible to prevent your student from being seen in a public setting, we take student privacy and safety seriously. Please note that we do not send out or publish your home address or phone numbers. The only exception, which is federally mandated, includes sharing information with Military Recruiters along with qualifying agencies and colleges. In years past, managing thousands of students with a variation of different releases for different communications have proven to be nearly impossible. To this end, we have decided the only logical and manageable way to handle this is an “all in” or “all out” student release of information.

Opting out means privacy at the cost of exclusion

If you need to protect your student’s privacy, it will mean that your student is excluded from appearing in various media and communication channels. Opting out means the student will be excluded from pictures, websites, yearbooks, newspapers, videos, flyers and anything else that is easily shared. Opting out also means exclusion from team pictures, activity pictures and anything else that could compromise privacy.

How we manage privacy and exclusion

If you need to opt out your student from appearing in various publications and outlets, it will mean they are either blurred out of pictures or quietly asked to remove themselves from scenes that are to be photographed, etc. If you decide to have your child or student excluded from these various forms of communication, it is strongly recommended that you talk with your student (if age-appropriate) about your decision so that they can fully understand the reasoning behind it. Furthermore, we ask that you tell your student to try to remember to remove themselves from situations that are being photographed to help avoid your student from having to be singled out.

Student Photo Sharing Opt-Out Form

Complete a digital version of this form >> (bit.ly/33SvPmO)

By opting out you understand that your student will be:

- Excluded from class pictures, activity pictures, team pictures, theater pictures, etc.
- Excluded from showing off student work
- Excluded from special interest stories and articles
- Excluded from school videos
- Excluded from appearing alongside classmates on school/district website(s)
- Excluded from school yearbook

Name of student: _____

School: _____

Student age/grade: _____ School year: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Your reason for opting out:
(optional): _____

Name of parent(s) or legal guardian(s): _____

Signature of parent(s) or legal guardian(s): _____ Date: _____

_____ Date: _____

Deliver the completed form to the office for the program or school your child attends. Please note that this form does not opt your child out of photos that are used for instructional or security purposes (e.g. district transportation requests).