

Annual District Notifications Master Document

Minnesota Statute requires that we provide annual notifications to district residents and students regarding the following topics. If you have any questions regarding these topics, Please contact the identified personnel or the district office at (218)246-8241

Safety Notices

Annual Asbestos Notification

The following asbestos management plan activities have been or are currently being completed: The activities are pursuant to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 40 CFR Part 763 “Asbestos Containing Materials in Schools”. The plan is available for public review by contacting David Daigle at (218)246-2016 or daviddaigle@isd317.org

- Re-inspection and clearance of an abatement project in Room 227 of Deer River High School completed by Advanced Health, Safety, and Security on July 17, 2021.
- Annual review of the Asbestos Management Plan was conducted by IEA, Inc. on May 5, 2021.
- There are currently no asbestos abatement projects planned for the 2021-2022 school year.

Indoor Air Quality

The Deer River Schools will follow EPA guidance to provide indoor air quality through proactive strategies and quick response to any indoor air quality issues. Specific strategies related to COVID-19 are highlighted in the Safe Schools Plan [Deer River Safe Schools Plan](#). Families can also request information about school facility construction, maintenance and housekeeping practices, professional chemicals used, lab courses which may produce chemicals, mold, and Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) related information to determine the extent to which school activities may contribute to any symptoms a student may be experiencing. The Deer River Schools District Indoor Air Quality contact person is Brent Schimek.

Lead Testing of Drinking Water

Minnesota Statute (M.S. 121A.335) requires public schools to test for lead in water every five years and to make the results available to the public. An annual review of the Deer River Public Schools testing plan was reviewed by IEA, Inc. on May 3, 2021. There are currently no water sources within the district exceeding EPA standards.

Pesticide Use Notice

All Minnesota schools are required to inform families and school employees that they may request to be notified prior to pesticide application on school property (M.S. 121A.30 Pesticide Application at Schools). Pesticides include chemicals which are used to control insects, weeds, rodents or other pests as defined by law. ISD 317 (Deer River) and ISD 6070 (Itasca Area Schools Collaborative) contract with a pest control firm that implements a method referred to as “Integrated Pest Management”. This method

attempts to minimize the use of pesticides by using traps and baits, and applying pesticides only if those methods are unsuccessful. A site inspection is completed initially and if necessary an application may be conducted in areas where pests are prevalent. If it is determined after inspection that it is necessary to apply pesticides at a site, the families, students, and employees at that site will be notified. Statute requires that you be informed about the long-term health effects on children from application of such pesticides or the class of chemicals to which they belong and may not be fully understood. If you would like to be notified about pesticide applications or have questions about the district's integrated pest management please contact Building and Grounds Director Brent Schimek at (218)246-2420 or bschimek@isd317.org.

Student Accident Insurance

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has significantly impacted the ways that families pay for healthcare. The introduction of exchanges for purchasing health insurance and flexible options for employer provided health plans have created unique circumstances. Many families have found that some events requiring urgent or emergency medical response have considerable out of pocket costs. This is particularly true for injuries or incidents in school settings. The school district does carry sufficient liability coverage, however it does not cover accidental student injury under many circumstances. Parents are encouraged to review their own insurance coverage and consider the options available to them for supplemental coverage.

Academic Notices

Background Checks

All Deer River Public Schools employees and regular or overnight trip volunteers are subject to a criminal background check prior to interacting with students.

Military Recruiters

Federal (P.L. 114-95, Section 8028) and state laws (M.S. 13.32) require that all school districts provide U.S. Military recruiters, upon their request, with the name, address and telephone number of all 11th and 12 grade students within 60 days of the request. A parent or a non-dependent adult student may request that the information not be provided. If you do not want a student's directory information released to a military recruiter, you must specifically deny access in writing to the school principal.

Special Services Programs

Deer River Public Schools and the Itasca Area Schools Collaborative provide support to students through a full range of special service programs. Students with special needs may be provided services in the regular classroom, through individualized instruction in a resource room, in special classes, in special day schools, or in residential programs or hospitals.

A team of regular and special education personnel works with parents to determine the type of education best fitted to meet the learner's individual needs. For those students who qualify, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) is developed cooperatively between parents and school staff.

State of Minnesota and federal funds, as directed by Public Law 108-446, and the Individual with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 are used to help support these special programs. Parents and community members may review applications, reports, and evaluations of district activities supported by these funds. For general information, or if you suspect that your child (age birth through 21) may be in need of special services, please contact your child's principal or early childhood education coordinator.

Data Privacy

Pursuant to the requirements of state and federal law: Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) & Minnesota Data Practices Act M.S. 13.02 Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), the following constitutes the Deer River Public Schools annual notification to parents and students regarding data privacy practices.

Privacy Rights: Educational records that identify or could be used to identify a student other than directory information, are not released to members of the public without the written permission of the parent or guardian of the student or of a student, age 18 or older, or if the student attends a post-secondary institution.

Directory Information includes the following categories; Student's and parent/guardian's names, address and telephone number, student's date of birth, most recent educational agency or institution and field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees, honors, and awards received, dates of attendance, grade level, enrollment status, and athletic physical examination expiration date.

Passive consent is also given to photographs, video recordings, or other visual representations for school-approved publication, yearbooks, newspapers, public presentation and web pages.

Inspection of Records: Parents or a student, age 18 or older, may request to inspect and review any of the student's educational records except those which are, by state and federal law, made confidential. Copies of the record may be obtained at a reasonable fee.

Challenge of Accuracy of Records: A parent or a student, age 18 or older who believes that specific information in the student's educational record is inaccurate, misleading, incomplete, or violates the privacy or other rights of the student may request the school district amend the record in question in accordance with district policy 515.

Transfer of Records to Other Schools: The school district forwards educational records of students to other schools in which a student seeks or intends to enroll upon request of that school. A parent or adult student may request and receive a copy of the records that are transferred. The district does not routinely notify parents prior to the transfer.

Complaints of Non-Compliance: Parents or adult students who believe that there has been a violation of the rights accorded them, may submit written complaints to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act Office, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20201.

This review of the data privacy rights of students in the educational records of the Deer River Public Schools is intended only to be a summary of the provisions of the district policy and applicable state and federal law. All district policies are available for review on the district website <https://www.isd317.org>. Questions about policy should be addressed to the Office of the Superintendent.

Minnesota Student Survey: In accordance with the PPRA the district is providing initial notice of its intent to partner with the Minnesota Departments of Education, Corrections, Health, Human Services and Public Safety to administer the Minnesota Student Survey this school year. This survey has been the most comprehensive source of data about the health and well-being of students in Minnesota for the last 30 years. The survey will be conducted between January and May 2022. Participation is optional, but encouraged. A comprehensive notification letter will be distributed to families prior to the local administration of the survey.

Home School Requirements

Minnesota Statutes M.S. 120A.22 to A.26 & 121A.15 require the person responsible for providing instruction to a child to submit the Minnesota Compulsory Instruction Report to the superintendent of the school district in which the student resides. The report is available from the Minnesota Department of Education or the district office.

The full Compulsory Attendance Report is due to the district office by October 1 of the first year and the Letter of Intent to Continue is required each subsequent year. Students between the ages of seven and sixteen must be reported in attendance at a school or they are subject to Minnesota truancy laws. Home schooled students that are not reported by October 1 are not eligible to receive state educational funds.

Vocational Opportunities

Deer River High School and the Itasca Area Schools Collaborative offer a variety of vocational opportunities through industrial technology, family and consumer science, FFA, computer science, and NEXT career pathways programs. These opportunities are offered to all students regardless of race, national origin, sex, or disability. Admission to specific courses is determined by grade level, and in some circumstances completion of prerequisite courses. Course offerings can be viewed at the high school website <https://www.isd317.org/deer-river-high-school>

The district has designated the following individuals to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972.

High School Section 504 Coordinator: Lael Storlie lstorlie@isd317.org

Title IX Coordinator: Jeff Pesta jpesta@isd317.org

Post Secondary Enrollment Options Act

Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) is a program that allows public and nonpublic students in 10th, 11th and 12th grades to earn college credit while still in high school, through enrollment in and successful completion of college nonsectarian courses at eligible postsecondary institutions. Students generate both college credit and high school credit by successful completion of the course. Most PSEO courses are offered on the campus of the postsecondary institution; some courses are offered online. Each participating college or university sets its own admissions requirements for enrollment into the PSEO courses. Eleventh and 12th-grade students may take PSEO courses on a full- or part-time basis; 10th-graders are eligible to enroll in PSEO on a more limited basis. Students must meet the PSEO residency and eligibility requirements and abide by participation limits specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.09. More information is available at the MDE website <https://education.mn.gov/mde/fam/dual/pseo/>

Inquiries regarding PSEO for Deer River High School students can be directed to the licensed school counselors <https://sites.google.com/a/isd317.org/drhs-counseling/>