

**PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS ACT (PPRA), STUDENT PRIVACY, AND
PARENTAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

The Protection of Pupil Rights Act (PPRA) affords certain rights to parents and students eighteen (18) years of age or older (“eligible students”) with regard to surveys, if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education that ask questions of a personal nature.

In an effort to protect and honor expectations of student privacy, Mountain Home School District No. 193 (MHSD) will ensure that student information is safeguarded and used only by appropriate educational authorities to serve the best interest of the student.

DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

Parent – Includes a natural parent, guardian, or an individual acting in the absence of a parent or a guardian, who is providing the student with food, clothing, discipline, and guidance on a day-to-day basis in the home environment.

Eligible Student or Appropriate Student – A student who has attained 18 years of age, or is married, or is attending an institution or post-secondary education.

Instructional Material – Instructional material that is provided to a student, regardless of format, including printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet). This does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

PPRA requires schools and contractors make instructional materials available for inspection by parents if those materials will be used in connection with a Department of Education funded in whole or part, survey, analysis, or evaluation in which their children participate, and that schools and contractors obtain prior written parental consent before minor students are required to participate in any U.S. Department of Education funded survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning the eight areas identified below.

Protected Areas – Surveys that contain questions about one or more of the eight protected areas, and are funded in whole or in part by Department funds, must obtain prior written consent from parents before students are required to submit to the survey. The eight protected areas are:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parent(s);
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student’s family, or potentially embarrassing to the student or the student’s family;