

Policy

Videography, Photography and Audio Recording Policy

The Chariho Regional School District uses photographs, videos and audio recordings of students and adults for educational purposes. Video is also used for reasons related to school security and safety and to prevent vandalism and other criminal acts or prohibited conduct. All other purposes are prohibited, unless prior written permission is granted by the Superintendent. Guidelines offered in this policy shall govern the use of photography, videography and audio recordings on school grounds and at school-sponsored activities. Events that are open to the public, such as plays, School Committee meetings, and athletic events, are not governed by this policy.

Opt-Out Provision

The District shall provide annual notice to parents/guardians of the right to exclude their child(ren) from activities involving photography, videography and audio recordings and the publication of the same.

Conduct of Videography, Photography, and Audio Recordings

Pictures, videos and audio soundtracks which must be recorded on district devices may only be displayed or published by District employees and students in or on District-sponsored publications or sites. For educational reasons related to implementation of the Chariho curriculum and with the permission of the building principal or director, photographs, video and audio recordings may also be displayed on those digital sites approved by the committee charged with implementing the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). The Standards for Student Behavior shall apply when students video, photograph or audio record for other than approved educational reasons. Employees of the District will be disciplined, up to and including discharge, for violations related to the inappropriate videography, photography, audio recording or related display or publication of other individuals.

Media Requests

This policy is not intended to discourage the media from fulfilling its obligations to provide a fair and accurate account of events to the community. The media is, however, subject to reasonable restrictions on the basis of time, place, and manner, and the media may not disrupt the operation of the schools or school activity. All media requests for school entry and related photography, videography and audio recording of students and adults shall be approved in advance by the Superintendent.

Security and Safety

Security cameras are in place at schools and on buses. The purposes of these cameras are to (1) improve conditions related to safety and security and (2) monitor areas prone to vandalism. Cameras may not be located in areas where a person has a reasonable expectation of privacy, such as in locker rooms and lavatories, and will not be used to audio record. Video equipment may capture a disciplinary incident or crime. The School Resource Officer and local and state law enforcement agencies may view and monitor "live" video

images ~~with cause to~~ for the sole purpose of further enhancing the safety and security of the campus schools. Previously recorded video will be retrieved and viewed by district staff and the School Resource Officer, with the permission of the Director of Technology, and by transportation staff, with the permission of the Manager, only when there is a reasonable suspicion that a violation of school policy or crime has occurred. A video may not be viewed by parents/guardians unless their child is the only individual captured in the video, unless the parents/guardians of all children captured in the video agree to an individual viewing or agree to view the video at the same time, or unless editing technology exists to obscure personal identifying features of other students. Video is not a student record and will not be provided to any individual. Video will not be edited (except to obscure features, as noted above); it will be destroyed after a period of one month from recording, except when the video constitutes evidence of a criminal or civil violation, in which case the video shall be retained and, upon written request, provided to law enforcement agencies until the respective matter has been adjudicated.

Adopted and Effective 12/10/13; Revised and effective 3-27-18