OLD TAPPAN BOARD OF EDUCATION Old Tappan, NJ 07675

FILE CODE: 4117.5

Policy

STANDARDS FOR CONFIDENTIALITY-- CERTIFIED STAFF

The Board of Education recognizes that in the course of employment in the School District, it is likely that staff will become aware of personal information about the District's students, as well as about other staff members. Federal law and state law include very specific prohibitions regarding the disclosure of student record information. In addition, the law protects the privacy interests of all individuals.

In order to maintain a collegial and professional workplace, it is essential that all staff remain mindful of the harm that can befall the school community when the privacy of communications is not respected by staff. Even the disclosure of accurate, but private, information can be harmful to individuals and the school in the same way as rumors and innuendo are harmful.

The District must operate as a sensitive and caring place. Every District employee is expected to respect the privacy of students and their families, community volunteers, other staff members, and whomever else the employee encounters in the course of District employment. Failure to abide by these basic rules will be deemed conduct unbecoming and appropriate discipline will be imposed.

Legal References:	N.J.S.A.18A:40A-7.1	Confidentiality of certain information provided	by
--------------------------	---------------------	---	----

student

N.J.S.A.18A:6-I0 Dismissal and reduction in compensation

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19 Student records; creation, maintenance and retention,

security and access; regulations; non-liability Student Records

N.J.A.C. 6A: 32-7.1 et. seq.

See particularly:

N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1(g), -7.8

20U.S.C.A. }l232g Family educational records privacy act

20 U.S.C.A. } 1232h Protection of student rights amendment

42U.S.C.A. }1983 Civil rights act of 1964

Cross References: *3570 District Records and Reports

*4115 Supervision *4116 Supervision *4117.41 Nonrenewal

4117.52 Dismissal/Suspension

*4119.26 Conduct

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.

Key Words

Confidentiality, Staff Confidentiality

Approved: January 28, 2002 Revised: March 24, 2008,