

Parental involvement is a key indicator of a student's success. Our Team of Teams at Bay District is committed to doing all we can to ensure you are as informed about your child's education as possible.

This week, I am writing to inform you about a recent development in education policy that will impact our schools and your child's participation in special events. Florida has recently passed a new parental notification bill (see attached) that requires signed parent permission forms for students to participate in special events at school. We understand that this legislation may raise questions and concerns, so I want to provide you with a clear understanding of what this means for our students and families.

Key Points about the Parental Notification Bill:

- **Purpose:** The primary goal of this bill is to ensure that parents or legal guardians are informed and have consented to their child's participation in certain school activities, particularly those considered special events or extracurricular in nature.
- **Scope:** The bill covers many special events and activities, including field trips, school assemblies, guest speaker presentations, and other similar events outside the regular classroom curriculum.
- **Permission Forms:** Schools will provide permission forms for parents or legal guardians to review and sign to comply with this new law. These forms will outline the details of the event, its purpose, date, time, location, and any associated costs. It will also include a section for you to provide your consent or not.
- **Notification:** Schools will make every effort to provide timely notification about upcoming special events, including distributing permission forms well before the event date. We will use various communication channels to ensure you receive the necessary information.
- **Opt-Out:** If you choose not to grant permission for your child's participation in a specific event, alternative educational activities will be provided to ensure that your child is safe and supervised. Please note, the absence of a signed form will automatically imply your preference for your child not to attend the event..
- **Privacy and Security:** Your child's privacy and safety are our top priorities. The information provided on the permission forms will be handled with the utmost care and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

We understand this new requirement may add a layer of complexity to your involvement in your child's education. However, please know that it is designed to strengthen the lines of communication between our schools and our families, ultimately ensuring that your child's educational experiences are aligned with your expectations and values.

Thank you for your continued support and collaboration in providing the best educational experiences for our students. We value your partnership and look forward to working together to navigate this new requirement in a way that benefits all members of our school community.