



School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast)

Administrative Regulations

ADMINISTRATION

1808

SINGLE/SPLIT PARENT FAMILY INFORMATION

The school act defines “parent” as:

- a) the **guardian*** of the student or child (***Legal Guardian:** A legal guardian of a child is defined within the meaning established in the *Family Relations Act* and is the person who has legal control of the child as designated by a governmental ministry or a Canadian court order issued by a judge),
- b) the person legally entitled to **custody** of the student or child, or
- c) the person who usually has the **care and control** of the student or child.

The parent of a school-aged student is entitled to be informed of the student’s attendance, behaviour and progress in school. The parent may consult with the teacher or principal with respect to the student’s educational program, however at the request of a teacher, principal or vice-principal the parent must consult with the teacher or principal.

When parents are living separate and apart, determination of guardianship, custody or usual care and control of the student is defined by other legislation, such as the *Family Relations Act*, the *Divorce Act* or a court order.

The school principal determines who is “parent” by a review of the documentation that is provided to the school until such time as the school receives notice from one or other of the parents or the Ministry of Children and Family Development that the situation has changed. In this event, the school principal requires written confirmation of the change, i.e. a copy of the legal court order or agreement relating to the change in custody / guardianship or usual care or control.

The primary contact with the school is the person who has legal custody of the child. The day-to-day contact between school and home will be with the custodial parent. When the school principal requires information or direction regarding the child, the contact will be with the custodial parent, whenever possible.

If the custodial and noncustodial parent disagree about the course of action related to the child, then the school principal will take direction from the custodial parent until the matter is clarified by a court order. The school principal may not do all of what a custodial parent may request in relation to the child, and will only have an obligation to comply with requests which are reasonable in the particular circumstances

Schools will not provide verbal or written documentation to support or deny any custodial or proposed arrangements between parents.

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Date adopted: January 12, 2010
Revised:

Reference: Board Policy 4.2

Supt. Signature: