



**FFLIC**

**ISSUE: THE SCHOOL FAILED TO NOTIFY ME ...**



In accordance with state law, RS 17:406.9 and RS 17:416 the school should notify you in the below instances. If the school does not notify you, you may file a complaint with the LA Dept. of Ed. Contact OPSB at 504-304-5675 for complaint procedures and your BESE member and state representative. You may also want to talk to other parents in your school and consider organizing efforts if issues appear to be happening regularly. You may also want to speak with a lawyer.

**MEDICAL SERVICES RENDERED**

You have the right to be notified when medical services are being offered to your child, unless emergency medical treatment is required. In cases where emergency medical treatment is required, you must be notified as soon as practical after the treatment is rendered.

**CHILD'S INVOLVEMENT IN A CRIME OR CRIMINAL MATTER**

You have the right to be notified if a criminal action is deemed to have been committed against your child or by your child. You have the right to be notified if law enforcement personnel question your child, except in cases where you have been accused of abusing or neglecting the child.

**SEX EDUCATION TOPICS**

You have the right to receive written notice and have the option to opt your child out of instruction on topics associated with sexual activity.

**POSSIBILITY OF THE CHILD NOT BEING PROMOTED**

You have the right to be informed about your child's school performance if it is such that it could threaten the child's ability to be promoted to the next grade level. The school must offer you an in-person meeting with the child's classroom teacher and school leader to discuss any resources or strategies available to support and encourage the child's academic improvement.

**A CHANGE RELATED TO THE CHILD'S IEP OR 504 PLAN.**

Schools are required to notify parents about their rights under special education laws, which includes parental/guardian notice and consent of many actions the school might take. For example, prior notice must be given before conducting an assessment, changing the current education program, or if there is "change in placement," which includes any proposed disciplinary action. Laws are less strict about parental involvement in small changes to 504 plans, but it is still not best practice for a school to make these changes without parental notice and consent. See Section 2.3 of the *Advocacy Center's "Education Rights of Children with Disabilities in Louisiana: A Guide for Parents"* for sample letters to the school notifying them of a violation of rights. If the issue cannot be resolved with the school, you may want to contact **OPSB at 504-304-5675**. Also, see section 5 of the Advocacy Center's Guide, "Solving Problems" for options for mediation or filing a complaint.

**REMOVAL FROM CLASSROOM AND SCHOOL GROUNDS**

You have the right to be notified if your child is taken or removed from the school campus without parental permission (17:406.9). This includes discipline such as in-school and out-of-school suspensions. (R.S. 17:416).

**COLLECTION OF SURVEY INFORMATION**

You have the right to receive written notice and the option to opt your child out of any surveys that include questions about any of the following:

- (a) Your child's sexual experiences or attractions.
- (b) Your family beliefs, morality, religion, or political affiliations.
- (c) Any mental health or psychological problems of your child or a family member.



**Need help advocating for your child? Call FFLIC 504.708.8376.**