HOPE for Hyndman Charter School 130 School Drive Hyndman, PA 15545

Annual Notification of Rights under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) for the 2014-2015 School Year /Notice to Parents and Guardians Regarding the Disclosure of Student "Directory Information"

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law, affords parents, legally emancipated students, and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records.

These rights are briefly summarized below and are explained more fully in the Board's Student Records Policy which is on file at the school and is available upon request:

- 1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day HOPE for Hyndman Charter School ("Charter School") receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to Charter School's Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. Charter School official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- 2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask Charter School to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write Charter School's CEO, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If Charter School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, Charter School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise him or her of the right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- 3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official may include a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health

Annual FERPA Notice March 2012 Page 1 Latsha Davis & McKenna, P.C. Attorney Client Privilege or medical staff and law unit personnel); a person serving on the Board; a person or company with whom the School has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); contractors, consultants, volunteers, and other outside service providers used by the school; or a parent or student serving on official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his/her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, Charter School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school, school district, school system, or institution of higher learning in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue SW Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

Directory Information

Directory information includes information contained in the educational record of a student, which is not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed, so that it may be disclosed without prior parental consent, unless you have advised the School to the contrary in accordance with Charter School procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow Charter School to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school-related publications or notices.

As part of Charter School's annual notification under FERPA, we designate for the school year 2014-2015 the following types or categories of information as "directory information":

- Student Name
- Participation in officially recognized activities, clubs and sports
- Naming of Student to the Honor Roll, National Honor Society or as Valedictorian
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Electronic Mail Address

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- Photograph
- Degrees, honors, awards received
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended

Examples of how and where Charter School may disclose directory information include disclosing the directory information in the following, by way of example:

- Newsletters
- A playbill, showing student's role in a drama production
- The annual yearbook
- Honor Roll or other recognition lists
- Graduation programs
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members
- Companies or outside organizations that manufacture class rings or yearbooks
- Newspapers or other news sources
- Class Lists
- Staff and/or Student Directories and/or listings
- School Website
- School Bulletin Boards
- Organizations conducting studies
- Military recruiters requesting directory information
- Institutions of Higher Learning requesting directory information

These examples are for illustration only and are not an exclusive list of the manner in which directory information may be disclosed. This notice provides you as a parent or eligible student with an opportunity to object in writing to any or all of those types of information that the School has designated as directory information. You have the right to refuse to permit the release by notifying the School in writing that you do not want any or all of those types of information to be designated as directory information for your child or yourself.

Please indicate whether or not your child's directory information may be disclosed by checking the appropriate box on the Student Code of Conduct acknowledgement form. This form must be returned to school within 3 days of receipt. <u>If</u> you do not submit the acknowledgement form indicating your desire to opt out, then the School may disclose directory information without your prior consent.

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Please note that an opt out of directory information disclosures does not prevent Charter School from identifying a student by name or from disclosing a student's electronic identifier or institutional e-mail address in class. The right to opt out of directory information disclosures does not include a right to remain anonymous in class, and may not be used to impede routine classroom communications and interactions, whether class is held in a specified physical location or on-line through electronic communications.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call or write the CEO of Charter School at: 130 School Drive Hyndman, PA 15545 (814) 842-3918.

THE CONTENT OF THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN WRITTEN IN STRAIGHTFORWARD, SIMPLE ENGLISH. IF A PERSON DOES NOT UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS NOTICE, HE OR SHE SHOULD ASK THE CEO OF HOPE FOR HYNDMAN CHARTER SCHOOL FOR AN EXPLANATION. THE SCHOOL WILL ARRANGE FOR AN INTERPRETER FOR PARENTS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY. IF A PARENT IS DEAF OR BLIND OR HAS NO WRITTEN LANGUAGE, THE SCHOOL WILL ARRANGE FOR COMMUNICATION OF THIS NOTICE IN THE MODE NORMALLY USED BY THE PARENT (E.G., SIGN LANGUAGE, BRAILLE, OR ORAL COMMUNICATION). IF A STUDENT HAS A DISABILITY, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN THE SCHOOL'S ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AND PROGRAMS AND RIGHTS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.