



ARP INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

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Superintendent

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Date: _____

To: Arp ISD Parents/Guardians of Students in Life Skills Classroom

Re: Audio/Video Self-Contained Classroom Recording

From: Principal, Arp Elementary School

This letter is to inform you of action taken by Arp Elementary School to begin using A/V cameras in self-contained classrooms, including your child's classroom, for the benefit and safety of Arp Elementary faculty, staff, and students. We currently use video recordings in all public areas and will now begin to deploy cameras in self-contained classrooms with guidelines from Senate Bill 507, Section 26.009(b) and 29.022 of the Texas Education Code (below):

An employee of a school district is not required to obtain the consent of a child's parent before the employee may make a videotape of a child or authorize the recording of a child's voice if the videotape or voice recording is to be used only for:

(1) Purposes of safety, including the maintenance of order and discipline in common areas of the school or on school buses;

(2) A purpose related to a co-curricular or extracurricular activity;

(3) A purpose related to regular classroom instruction; [or]

(4) Media coverage of the school; or

(5) A purpose related to the promotion of student safety under Section 29.022.

Sec.29.022. VIDEO SURVEILLANCE OF CLASSROOMS: (a) In order to promote student safety on request by a parent, trustee, or staff member, a school district ... shall provide equipment, including a video camera, to each school in the district ... in which a student receiving special education services in a self-contained classroom is enrolled. Each school or campus that receives equipment shall place and maintain the video camera in a self-contained classroom in which the only students in regular attendance:

(1) Are eligible to take an alternative assessment instrument under Section 39.023(b) or would be eligible to take an alternative assessment instrument under Section 39.023

(b) If the students were enrolled in a grade level for which an assessment instrument required under Section 39.023 is administered; and

(2) Are nonverbal or have a limited ability to communicate as those terms are defined by the agency. (b) Video cameras placed under this section must be capable of: (1) Covering all areas of the classroom, except that a bathroom or any area in the classroom in which a student's clothes are changed may not be monitored; and (2) Recording audio from all areas of the classroom covered as required by Subdivision (1). (c) Before a school or campus places a video camera in a classroom under this section, the school or campus shall provide written notice of the placement to the parents of a student receiving special education services in the classroom. For purposes related to this section, but subject to Subsection (d), Parental consent is not required.