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RECORDINGS IN SCHOOL CLASSROOMS

The Rochester School Board appreciates that there are many reasons why educators would use or allow the use of recordings in classrooms. Some of these valuable uses include, but are not limited to:

- Recording classes when students are absent or unable to take notes;
- Student practice work in a photography and videography course;
- Recording a speech therapy session to evaluate a student's progress;
- Creating a video presentation as part of any academic class;
- Videotaping student teachers for teacher education coursework;
- Videotaping a drama class (play) or music class for instructional purposes;
- Recording an awards presentation in a class that could be posted on the school/district website;
- Instructional or assessment support for students with disabilities and/or students needing accommodations.

This policy does not prohibit these uses. However, the law requires that prior to such recordings taking place there must be a public hearing, followed by School Board approval. Additionally, written consent must be granted by all parents/legal guardians of affected students, as well as written consent from affected teachers.

The School District must continue to follow the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, ensuring that students who need to use and or participate in accommodations (i.e. recordings) for educational purposes per their Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 plan, continue to have that ability. IEP or 504 Teams, that include parents, determine if recordings are necessary for the delivery of a free appropriate public education (FAPE) or to access an educational program.

The law or policy does not affect recordings outside of a classroom setting.

For recordings within the classroom setting that are not for the purposes of supporting students that require supports and/or accommodations, the NH Department of Education recommends the following:

If a teacher (or other school district personnel) or student intends to video and/or audio record the classroom, the teacher and parent/legal guardian of every student affected by this record must consent to being recorded, prior to the recording occurring.

Legal Reference: RSA 189:68, IV

*"No school shall record in any way a **school classroom** for any purpose without School Board approval after a public hearing, and without written consent of the teacher and the parent or legal guardian of each affected student."*

Adopted: January 7, 2016