



VILLA MADONNA MONTESSORI **CUSTODIAL/NON CUSTODIAL PARENT INFO**

Villa Madonna Montessori sets as one of its major goals the effective communication among the school, the home and the student. Only when all parties are actively engaged in the educational process can we maximize the benefit to the student entrusted to our care. There are, however, rules and laws that we must observe in carrying out this intercommunication. Of particular concern is the situation of the student whose parents are divorced and for whom custody has been granted to one parent.

The federal Family Rights and Privacy Act (Buckley Amendment) provides that “An educational agency or institution shall give full rights under the act to either parent, unless the agency or institution has been provided with evidence that there is a court order, state statute, or legally binding document relating to such matters as divorce, separation, or custody that specifically revokes these rights.” In Kentucky, the education of the child upon divorce of the parents has been addressed by the state in a way that impacts on the above federal legislation. KRS 403.330(1) provides that “Except as otherwise agreed by the parties in writing at the time of the divorce decree, the custodian may determine the child’s upbringing, including his education, health care, and religious training, unless the court, after hearing, finds upon motion by the noncustodial parent, that in the absence of a specific limitation of the custodian’s authority, the child’s physical health would be endangered or his emotional development significantly impaired.”

We will follow the directives of the custodial parent regarding records and visitation rights. To enable us to do this, we must have on file a copy of the legal document indicating the name of the custodial parent and the specific visitation rights. Send a copy of this to school with this form.

I wish the non-custodial parent to have:

- a copy of report cards
- invitation to school functions
- access to the child’s teachers for information
- other _____

The non-custodial parent may pick up child from school YES NO

We realize that divorce and separation from participation in the life of one’s children can be traumatic and emotional. However, Villa Madonna Montessori will not be put in the middle of disagreements between divorced parents. We ask only that the school be given written instruction by the custodial parent on how we are to proceed with respect to requests from the noncustodial parent. ***Please do not ask the principal or teachers to take sides, to arbitrate familial disagreements or to circumvent the stated instructions of the custodial parent.***