

## STUDENTS \* PARENTS \* TEACHERS!

### How well does your High School teach and promote the promise of a Peaceful Tomorrow in our communities and in our world?

Check which policies and practices your school has in place to teach peace and support mutual respect, human rights, and exploration of ideas for a better future for all. Those that are UNCHECKED are your plan of action for moving your school forward!

#### Your school supports Peace Education if it.....

- supports the formation of peace clubs.
- has a model UN program, an O-Ambassador Club.
- offers classes, activities, plays, speech/essay contests, community service projects, etc. that promote peace building ideals in the school community, nation, and world.
- practices and celebrates diversity.
- has an anti-bullying policy. See [www.bullypolice.org/bullying\\_policy.html](http://www.bullypolice.org/bullying_policy.html) for a sample policy and a listing of states with anti-bullying laws schools should follow – 75% of all states have such laws.
- has an Alternatives to Violence Program (AVP) or other conflict resolution program to encourage students to engage in respectful dialogue with one another.

#### Your school supports Student Rights if it.....

- has explicit guidelines about how students can exercise their basic free speech rights in the school context.
- has policies and practices that encourage a free flow of ideas among students about important issues of the day.
- places no additional limits on the content of materials for distribution to students, beyond the usual prohibition of “obscene” or “libelous” materials, materials that advocate breaking the law or school rules, or materials that cause a *substantial* “disruption” of the orderly operation of the school.
- has *reasonable* regulations in place about when and where students can distribute materials.

Freedom of speech is protected in the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights and is guaranteed to all Americans. An ongoing dialogue between students and administrators is crucial. At times schools have been known to limit student rights for various reasons, and some of these limitations have been challenged in court and student rights have prevailed; at other times limitations have been upheld. See [www.aclu.org/standup/index.html](http://www.aclu.org/standup/index.html).

#### Your school supports Truth-in-Recruitment if it....

- allows distribution of materials that help and encourage students to carefully evaluate the truthfulness of military recruiter promises, statements, and policies.
- allows distribution of materials about alternatives to military service that promote service, education, and job skills.
- restricts military recruiters to “the same access to secondary school students as is provided generally to post secondary educational institutions or to prospective employers of those students.” NCLB 9528(c)
- has clear guidelines established for all “institutional recruitment visits,” and does not allow for the removal of students from classes for the purpose of meeting with military recruiters.
- charges the military for costs incurred related to the production of student directory information lists.

### Your school supports Student Privacy if it.....

- has explicit procedures that allow students and parents to annually “opt out” of sending student’s personal information to military recruiters. This includes every reasonable effort to notify students/parents of their rights to privacy, and includes prominent displays of the “opt-out” option on school websites and in every HS office in English, Spanish, and other commonly used languages.
- has “opt-out” forms and language that make it easy for students/parents to “opt-out” of having personal information released to military recruiters, **but still allows release of information** to colleges and prospective employers.
- limits directory information releases to include ONLY the student’s name, phone number, and address; NOT ethnicity, clubs, grades, etc.
- releases student directory information to military recruiters ONLY for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders.
- uses ONE opt-out form to last for both junior and senior year so as not to require students to opt-out every year.

Under the current NCLB law (9528(a)(2)), public schools must comply with a request by a military recruiter for secondary students' "directory information." However, the law also says that a “secondary school student or the parent of the student may request that the student's name, address, and telephone listing **not be released** without prior written parental consent, and the local educational agency or private school shall notify parents of the option to make a request and shall comply with any request.”

In other words, students or parents can *opt out of providing personal information of the student*. The law is explicit, but **it is up to each high school** to clearly ensure that all students know it is legal to “opt out” of providing personal information to military recruiters.

BUT, even if you or your parent “opt-out” at the beginning of each school year, the military recruiters can still obtain your personal information if you take the ASVAB test - UNLESS your school has chosen Option 8 for releasing private information. So, your school supports Student Privacy if it also..

- chooses Option 8 for releasing private information obtained on the ASVAB test (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery). That is, only students requesting to take the ASVAB are administered the test, and the school does not release private information about the test taker to military recruiters without the **active consent of parents**. (School Recruiting Program Handbook USAREC Pamphlet 350-13, Chapter 6 – ASVAB).

### Your school supports true Vocational Exploration if it.....

- fully discloses the underlying purpose and military sponsorship of the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) to teachers, students, and parents.
- offers at least one alternative career exploration test to the ASVAB among the many which are currently available.
- limits the administration of the ASVAB test to those students explicitly expressing an interest in military service.
- provides equal “real estate” for career materials on college, alternative service, gap year options, opportunities for career training, as well as military options.

Now prioritize, strategize, act !