

LEAVE MY CHILD ALONE!



A Family Privacy Project of Working Assets, the MMOB, and ACORN



School Board Outing

Top 5 to Know About a School Board Outing

- 1. Contact your District Superintendent's office** (searchable at www.leavemychildalone.org/supes) to find out when and where your next School Board meeting will be held. Ask your District Superintendent's office how and when community members may submit requests to get a Resolution on the Board's agenda for discussion and vote.
- 2. Research your District's current policy**, and more importantly, find out about your District's current implementation of the Opt Out requirements
- 3. Submit your request in advance** with the Opt Out Resolution attached
- 4. Arrive a few minutes early** prepared with additional copies of your Opt Out Resolution to distribute to Board members. When it is your time to speak, be clear, brief, and constructive.
- 5. Use a sample statement** if it's useful for you: "I was surprised to learn that No Child Left Behind requires districts to release personal student information to military recruiters. I am urging this school board to review and vote on a Resolution committed to protecting family privacy through simple improvements such as: ample parent notification; translation (if applicable); a standalone Opt Out/Opt In form, and requiring the return of the Opt Out/Opt In form for registration

School Board Background

(With thanks to the Illinois Association of School Boards)

Perhaps the single most important job of a school board is to employ a superintendent and to hold him or her responsible for managing the schools in accordance with state law and the school board's policies. The board also should set educational goals for the schools based upon state laws and community values and see that the superintendent and the total staff vigorously pursue those goals.

Because a school board is a governmental body, it can take action only by majority vote at a public meeting. The individual board member has no authority other than the right to cast a vote at such a meeting...The school board is required to meet in public. Except at time set aside for public input, however, citizens normally do not take part in discussions. Because the school board needs to understand what the community thinks, most boards provide time at meetings for citizens to be heard.

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Download a copy at:
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Visit our website for more information:
www.leavemychildalone.org/schoolboard.

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**Optimum
Opt Out for
School Boards**

School Board Resolution Protecting Family Privacy

WHEREAS: Student records are now accessible to the U.S. military's recruiting efforts through the military's new "open door" access to student names, addresses and telephone listings based on Section 9528 of the 2001 No Child Left Behind law; and

WHEREAS: It is essential that parents and students of the district be well-informed of their rights to privacy from military recruiters, in addition to information about the practices of military recruiters and student alternatives to military.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Board of Education _____, in conjunction with community based groups, counselors, and educators, develop a packet of community resources for every secondary school site with information for parents and students on their rights to privacy from military recruiters and information about the practices of military recruiters and student alternatives to military service, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: In accordance with Section 9528 of the No Child Left Behind Act, _____ is notifying parents and students of their rights to request that the individual student's name, address and telephone listing not be released without prior written parental consent and that the district comply with each parental or student request for non-release of student information, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That information about this privacy policy be presented and discussed to all high school students in the first week of each school semester; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education directs the Superintendent and staff to develop a standalone opt-out/opt-in card in multiple languages as applicable to be signed by and included in the personnel files of all high school students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Board of Education requires such a signed card be required from all students as part of their high school registration.



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Opt Out My Child

Opt Out Form

Date: _____

Superintendent's Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Dear Superintendent _____ **and Board,**

Section 9528 of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires schools to release our family's private information to military recruiters unless we "opt out" in writing.

As a parent, I am exercising the right to request that you do not turn over the name, address, telephone listing and school records to the Armed Services, Military Recruiters, or Military Schools of the following student.

As a student of the age of majority, I request my own name, address, telephone number and school records not be released to the Armed Forces, Military Recruiters, or Military Schools.

Student Name: _____

Name of School: _____

Having defended my own family, I believe other families deserve protection as well. I object to releasing a family's private information to military recruiters without explicit written permission. This is an important student and family privacy issue, and I urge you to support a change in current law providing for an "opt in" policy where interested students and families can instead choose to request contact from military recruiters.

I urge you to do everything in your power to educate students and parents of their rights under Section 9528 (as it currently stands), and to make the process of opting out as straightforward as possible. Here are examples of district procedures I think exemplify the best practices in notification and opt out:

1. Publicize Opt Out policy at staff & family orientations, in publications, and on the school district's Web site
2. Attach Opt Out form to the school's required emergency information form, or print the Opt Out form as a standalone form, and require its return as part of student registration
3. Translate the Opt Out form into multiple languages, as appropriate for our school community web site

Sincerely,

Signature _____

Date: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____



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Put This School Board on the Optimum Opt Out HONOR ROLL

Please Adopt Best Policy & Practices Regarding Military Recruiters and Section 9528 of No Child Left Behind

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To nominate this School Board to the Optimum Opt Out Honor Roll, email honorroll@workingassets.com

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