



### BACKGROUND

Custody and access issues are varied for the students in our schools. We must ensure that issues of this nature are dealt with properly.

### PROCEDURES

When both parents have legal custody and instructions can be taken from either parent, there is a dispute, have parents settle it. If they don't, apply the decision that is based on the best interests of the child.

When one parent has legal custody and instructions can be taken from that parent, the other parent continues to have legal custody of the children. Take instructions from the parent with whom the children are living.

The custodial parent has the right to make educational decisions. The custodial parent has the responsibility to provide a copy of the custodial agreement to the school principal.

Both parents can make decisions so clarify with the parents as early as possible how the arrangement will be working. If there is any dispute between the parents as to who has the decision-making ability with regard to the child, a good rule of thumb is to take instruction from the parent with whom the children are physically residing at the point in time as which the decision takes effect. The parent who sends the child to school will be the parent who can write the note about gym class or who will be called if the child forgets to bring lunch.

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The school should provide the non-custodial who has access to information concerning the educational progress of the children, such as copies of report cards,

