

BETHEL SCHOOL DISTRICT #52
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY STATEMENT

Subject: Public Records Request

Policy Number: KBA Effective Date: 10/2024

Date of Original Policy and Revisions: 11/08, 12/10, 1/15, 11/20

Cancels Policy No.: _____ Dated: _____

Date of Next Review: 10/2027

POLICY

A request to inspect or receive a copy of a public record shall be in writing and will be presented to the district office.

A “public record” includes any writing that contains information relating to the conduct of the public’s business, prepared, owned, used or retained by the District regardless of physical form or characteristics, unless otherwise exempted by law¹. “Writing” means handwriting, typewriting, printing, photographing and every means of recording, including letters, words, pictures, sounds, or symbols or combination thereof and all papers, maps, files, facsimiles or electronic recordings. Public record does not include any writing that does not relate to the conduct of the public’s business and that is contained on a privately owned computer²

All such information will be made available to individuals with disabilities in an accessible format, upon request and with appropriate advanced notice. Auxiliary aids and services available to ensure equally effective communications to qualified persons with disabilities may include large print, Braille, audio recordings, readers, assistance in locating materials or other equally effective accommodations.

The Board supports the right of the people to know about programs and services of their schools and will make reasonable efforts to disseminate information. Each principal is authorized to use available means to keep parents and others in the particular school’s community informed about the school’s program and activities.

The Board reserves the right to establish a fee schedule which will reasonably reimburse the district for the actual cost of making public records available pursuant to law. The District will not be obligated to complete a request for which the requester has not paid the fee as permitted by state law. There will be no additional charge for auxiliary aids and services provided for persons with disabilities.

Employee and volunteer personal residential addresses, personal electronic mail addresses, social security numbers, dates of birth and personal telephone or cellular numbers, and other information listed in Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 192.355 as exempt, contained in personnel records maintained by the District are exempt from public disclosure pursuant to ORS 192.363 – 368 and ORS 192.355(3). District electronic mail addresses assigned by the District to district employees are not exempt. This exemption does not apply to a substitute teacher, as defined in ORS 342.815, when requested by a professional education association of which the substitute teacher may be a member.

¹ There are multiple definitions for “public record” in ORS 192. This definition comes from ORS 192.311 and applies to the inspection of records.

² In accordance with Bialostosky v. Cummings, 319 Or. App. 352 (2022), an individual board member may be considered a public body for public record purposes. Consequently, records created and retained solely by individual board members may be considered public records.

BETHEL SCHOOL DISTRICT #52
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY STATEMENT

The District will not disclose the identification badge or card of an employee without the employee's written consent if the badge or card contains the employee's photograph and the badge or card was prepared solely for internal use by the District to identify district employees. A duplicate of the photograph used on the badge or card shall not be disclosed.

The District shall not, in accordance with state law, disclose personal information for the purpose of enforcement of federal immigration laws.

The District shall retain and maintain its public records in accordance with Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 166-005-0010 and Chapter 166, Division 400 and ORS Chapter 192.

REPORTS

None.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

END OF POLICY

REFERENCES / COMMENTS

[ORS Chapter 192](#)

[OAR 137-004-0800\(1\)](#)

[OAR 166-400](#)

[ORS 180.805](#)

[OAR 166-005-0010](#)

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213 (2018); 29 C.F.R. Part 1630 (2021); 28 C.F.R. Part 35 (2021).

Or. Dep't of Justice, Or. Attorney General, *Public Record and Meetings Manual*.

Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12133 (2018).

[Bialostosky v. Cummings](#), 319 Or. App. 352 (2022).

[Bethel Administrative Rule KBA: Public Records](#)