

Windham Cooperative Kindergarten & Nursery

Volunteer Program

Federal Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

The Federal Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 makes a very clear and strong statement concerning school children and their rights as US Citizens. The law says, simply stated, that what happens to children in their school and academic pursuits on a day to day as well as on an overall basis, is confidential. Only the parties who have a “right” to that information (i.e.: the student, parent, child, teacher, guidance counselor, etc.) may discuss that individual child and his or her difficulties. The obvious intent of the law, for our volunteer purpose, is to insure that our youngsters do not become the topic of discussion throughout the community. Not only is this a legal issue, but even more importantly, it is an ethical one.

This is not presented to our volunteers as an attempt to inhibit them from observing our program as a whole. Schools are “fair game” for whatever constructive criticism parents would like to share with us or their neighbors. If you leave the school, and then talk about the school, its programs, or whatever, we have no problems! But, if you leave the school and talk about an individual child (or children), you are making a serious breach of ethical and legal rules.

I have read the above regarding the Federal Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, and I agree to follow the guidelines.

Signature

Date

Print Name

Child(ren)’s Class

AM

PM

(circle one)